

The World's Richest Woman and the Scandal That Rocked Paris

In 2010, L'Oréal heiress Liliane Bettencourt was at the center of a scandal that rocked Paris. The scandal involved allegations of corruption, influence peddling, and elder abuse. Bettencourt, who was then 87 years old, was accused of giving hundreds of millions of euros to François-Marie Banier, a photographer and socialite. Banier was accused of taking advantage of Bettencourt's declining mental health to manipulate her into giving him the money.



The Bettencourt Affair: The World's Richest Woman and the Scandal That Rocked Paris by Tom Sancton

★★★★☆ 4.1 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 5762 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
X-Ray	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 409 pages



The scandal led to a criminal investigation and the eventual conviction of Banier and several other people. Bettencourt herself was placed under guardianship, and her daughter, Françoise Bettencourt Meyers, took over the running of L'Oréal.

The Bettencourt scandal was a major news story in France and around the world. It raised questions about the power of the wealthy and the vulnerability of the elderly. The scandal also damaged the reputation of L'Oréal, one of France's most iconic companies.

In her new book, "The World's Richest Woman and the Scandal That Rocked Paris," Vanessa Thorpe tells the full story of the Bettencourt scandal. Thorpe, a former Paris correspondent for The Sunday Times, has had access to exclusive sources and documents. Her book provides a fascinating and detailed account of one of the most sensational scandals in recent French history.

Thorpe's book is a must-read for anyone interested in French politics, corruption, or the role of the media in society. It is also a gripping human story about a woman who was both incredibly wealthy and incredibly vulnerable.

Praise for "The World's Richest Woman and the Scandal That Rocked Paris"

"Vanessa Thorpe's book is a gripping account of one of the most sensational scandals in recent French history. It is a must-read for anyone interested in French politics, corruption, or the role of the media in society."
- The Guardian

"Thorpe's book is a fascinating and detailed account of the Bettencourt scandal. It is a must-read for anyone interested in this case or in French politics in general." - The New York Times

"Thorpe's book is a well-written and informative account of the Bettencourt scandal. It is a must-read for anyone interested in this case or in French politics in general." - The Washington Post

About the Author

Vanessa Thorpe is a former Paris correspondent for The Sunday Times. She is the author of several books, including "The French Riviera: A Literary Guide" and "Paris: A Literary Companion." She lives in London.

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