



## Before I Met You

By Lisa Jewell

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An uplifting, warm and unforgettable story of two women in two different times from the Sunday Times Top Ten bestselling author Betty Dean can't wait to leave her quiet upbringing in Guernsey and begin her mission to find Clara Pickle - the mysterious beneficiary in her grandmother's will. She arrives in grungy, 1990s Soho, ready for whatever life has to throw at her. Or so she thinks...As Betty searches for Clara, she is taken on a journey through her grandmother, Arlette's, extraordinary life in 1920s bohemian London, uncovering a tale of love, loss and heartbreak amidst the hedonistic world of the Bright Young People. Will the secrets of Arlette's past help Betty on her path to happiness? This recording is unabridged. Typically abridged audiobooks are not more than 60% of the author's work and as low as 30% with characters and plotlines removed.

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## Before I Met You By Lisa Jewell Bibliography

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## Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

In Jewell's (After the Party) novel, Betty Dean spent her childhood on the Channel Island of Guernsey dreaming of bigger and better things in London, but she stayed there well into her 20s to care for her ailing grandmother, Arlette. When Arlette dies, Betty's family discovers that she has left a large sum of money to a woman named Clara Pickle at a London address. Nobody in the family has heard of Clara, and what's more, Arlette always claimed to hate the big city. Naturally, Betty jumps at the chance to go to London in search of Clara. Though she ends up paying too much for her Soho flat and working a menial job, Betty feels like her life is finally beginning. She strikes up a friendship with rock legend Dom Jones—who just happens to be her neighbor—and gets a gig babysitting his children to supplement her income. As clues lead her closer to the mysterious Clara Pickle, Betty starts to uncover a chapter of proper, taciturn Arlette's life that she never imagined possible—complete with a tragic love story. Told in chapters that alternate between 1919–21 and 1995, Jewell unfolds each detail of Arlette's secret past with impeccable timing. Although the final reveal is a little convoluted, Arlette's tragedy juxtaposed with Betty's journey to maturity and stability takes readers to emotional highs and lows alike. (Oct.)

From [Booklist](#)

Jewell's many fans should eagerly embrace this story about two different women living in two different times whose lives converge in the most unexpected way. When she is a child, Betty first meets Arlette, her mother's boyfriend's mother, and is instantly swept away by the glamorous 84-year-old in red silk shoes and full-length mink coat. When Betty is 22, Arlette dies. Her will unfolds a mystery that grips Betty, who starts off with a hunt for an unknown recipient of Arlette's bequest. The story bounces back and forth between Betty's 1990s London and Arlette's flapper-era London, the lives of both women slowly unfurling as Jewell keeps the pace steady, the plot intriguing, and the characters highly relatable. Family dynamics, the search for love and personal meaning, and the simple yet evocative daily motions of each woman keep the pages turning. Sure to be a popular title. --Julie Trevelyan

Review

'Beautiful, moving and unputdownable' JOJO MOYES 'Jewell has completely upped her game with this beautifully observed novel' HEAT on The Making of Us

## Users Review

**From reader reviews:**

**Dorothy Pearce:**

Here thing why this kind of Before I Met You are different and reputable to be yours. First of all studying a book is good nonetheless it depends in the content of it which is the content is as yummy as food or not. Before I Met You giving you information deeper as different ways, you can find any book out there but there is no e-book that similar with Before I Met You. It gives you thrill reading through journey, its open up your own personal eyes about the thing in which happened in the world which is perhaps can be happened around you. It is possible to bring everywhere like in park, café, or even in your approach home by train. When you are having difficulties in bringing the branded book maybe the form of Before I Met You in e-book can be your substitute.

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