The Clifton Chronicles Series
by Jeffrey Archer

Master story-teller Jeffrey Archer's series tells the story of one family across generations, across oceans, from heartbreak to triumph. From the docks of working-class England to the bustling streets of 1940 New York City, the series brings to life one hundred years of recent history to reveal a family story that neither the reader nor Harry Clifton himself could ever have imagined.

Only Time Will Tell (#1 – 2011) – Harry Clifton is destined to follow in the footsteps of his father and work on the docks until an unexpected gift opens up his world, and his life is changed forever. As Harry enters adulthood, he learns how his father really died as he questions who his father was. Is he the son of a stevedore who spent his whole life on the docks, or the firstborn son of a scion of West Country society, whose family owns a shipping line? His mother knows the truth about Harry’s parentage, and a few people know the truth about Arthur Clifton’s death, but no one tells Harry.

The Sins of the Father (#2 – 2012) - Days before Britain declares war on Germany, Harry joins the Merchant Navy. He is hoping to escape the consequences of long-buried family secrets and to forget the woman he had hoped to marry. When his ship is sunk, Harry assumes the identity of a dead American. But on landing in America, he quickly learns the mistake he has made when he discovers what is awaiting the American in New York. Without any way of proving his true identity, Harry Clifton is now chained to a past that could be far worse than the one he had hoped to escape.

Best Kept Secret (#3 – 2013) - Embarking on a shared family life, Harry, his wife Emma, and their children, Sebastian, and Jessica, find their happiness challenged by Emma’s brother's engagement to a fortune-seeker, Sebastian’s selfish pursuits, and a grudge-bearing enemy from the past who would destroy their careers. After Sebastian is expelled from school, he unwittingly becomes caught up in an international art fraud. Does he become a millionaire? Does he go to Cambridge? Is his life in danger? Best Kept Secret will answer many of these questions but, once again, pose so many more.

Be Careful What You Wish For (#4 – 2014) - Be Careful What You Wish For opens with Harry Clifton and his wife Emma rushing to the hospital to learn the fate of their son Sebastian, who has been involved in a fatal car accident. When Ross Buchanan is forced to resign as chairman of the Barrington Shipping Company, Emma Clifton wants to replace him. But Don Pedro Martinez intends to install Major Alex Fisher in order to destroy the Barrington family firm. To make matters worse, Jessica’s marriage is threatened by hateful Lady Virginia Fenwick.

Mightier Than the Sword (#5 – 2015) – Bestselling novelist Harry Clifton’s is on a mission to free a fellow author who’s imprisoned in Siberia - even as Harry’s own life is in danger. Meanwhile, his wife Emma, chairman of Barrington Shipping, is facing a crisis. Some board members want her to resign. Others will stop at nothing to ensure the Clifton family’s fall from grace. Harry and Emma's son, Sebastian, is establishing his name at Farthings Bank. He’s also just proposed to a beautiful young American. But the despicable Adrian Sloane is only interested in one thing: Sebastian's ruin.

Cometh the Hour (#6 – 2016) - Cometh the Hour opens with the reading of a suicide note, which has devastating consequences for Harry and Emma Clifton, Giles Barrington, and Lady Virginia. Giles must decide if he should withdraw from politics. Lady Virginia is facing bankruptcy, and can see no way out of her financial problems, until she meets Cyrus T. Grant III from America. Sebastian’s life is thrown into disarray when he falls for a beautiful Indian girl. Meanwhile, Sebastian's rivals are still plotting to bring him and his chairman Hakim Bishara down, so they can take over Farthings Bank.

This Was a Man (#7 – 2016) - The final installment of the Clifton Chronicles opens with a shot being fired, but who pulled the trigger, and who lives and who dies? Giles Barrington discovers the truth about his wife. Harry sets out to write his magnum opus, while his wife Emma completes her ten years as Chairman of the Bristol Royal Infirmary. Sebastian becomes chairman of Farthings Kaufman bank. Meanwhile, Lady Virginia is about to flee the country to avoid her creditors when she sees another opportunity to clear her debts and finally trump the Cliftons and the Barringtons.

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