

Power Couples

Nick Mitchell

Answer: **BRUCE DARNELL**

Each of the clues describes the marriage history of a world leader. Identify these first.

Someone with the same name as George Eliot	Benjamin Disraeli
Somanat, Debsirindra and 30 others	Mongkut of Siam
At least six, including Sarah who became a hairdresser	Idi Amin
The Kings of France and England	Eleanor of Aquitaine
A Prince of Denmark who became ruler of the Queen's Navy	Queen Anne
A Prince of Denmark and Greece who became ruler of the Queen's Navy	Queen Elizabeth II
Three Catherines, two Annes and one Jane	Henry VIII
Jane; then when she died, Alice	Sir Thomas More
The last Empress of India	George VI
A friend of "dear" Bill	Margaret Thatcher
Darling Clementine, from the Temple of Diana	Winston Churchill
Mary, who enjoyed part of the play	Abraham Lincoln

While these are all important people, no consistent indexing yields anything of value.

Instead, we have to notice these have been roles that have won their actors and actresses Best Actor or Best Actress in a biopic. Consider the role that won the opposite award in that year.

Leader	Oscar-Winning Film	Year	Oscar Winner	Oscar Counterpart	Counterpart Role	Index	Get
Benjamin Disraeli	Disraeli	1929	George Arliss	Norma Shearer	Jerry Bernard Martin	6	B
Mongkut of Siam	The King and I	1956	Yul Brynner	Ingrid Bergman	Anna Koreff	7	R
Idi Amin	Last King of Scotland	2006	Forest Whitaker	Helen Mirren	Queen Elizabeth II	2	U
Eleanor of Aquitaine	The Lion in Winter	1968	Katharine Hepburn	Cliff Robertson	Charly Gordon	1	C
Queen Anne	The Favourite	2018	Olivia Colman	Rami Malek	Freddie Mercury	3	E
Queen Elizabeth II	The Queen	2006	Helen Mirren	Forest Whitaker	Idi Amin	2	D
Henry VIII	Private Life of Henry VIII	1932	Charles Laughton	Katharine Hepburn	Eva Lovelace	3	A
Sir Thomas More	A Man for All Seasons	1966	Paul Scofield	Elizabeth Taylor	Martha	3	R
George VI	The King's Speech	2010	Colin Firth	Natalie Portman	Nina Sayers	3	N
Margaret Thatcher	The Iron Lady	2011	Meryl Streep	Jean Dujardin	George Valentin	2	E
Winston Churchill	Darkest Hour	2017	Gary Oldman	Frances McDormand	Mildred Hayes	3	L
Abraham Lincoln	Lincoln	2012	Daniel Day-Lewis	Jennifer Lawrence	Tiffany Maxwell	14	L

Indexing the given numbers into the other role yields the final answer, **BRUCE DARNELL**.

Author's Notes

Nick: Benjamin Disraeli married Mary Anne Evans; a different person of the same name wrote as George Eliot. "Dear Bill" was a satirical series of letters purportedly written by Margaret Thatcher's husband Denis.