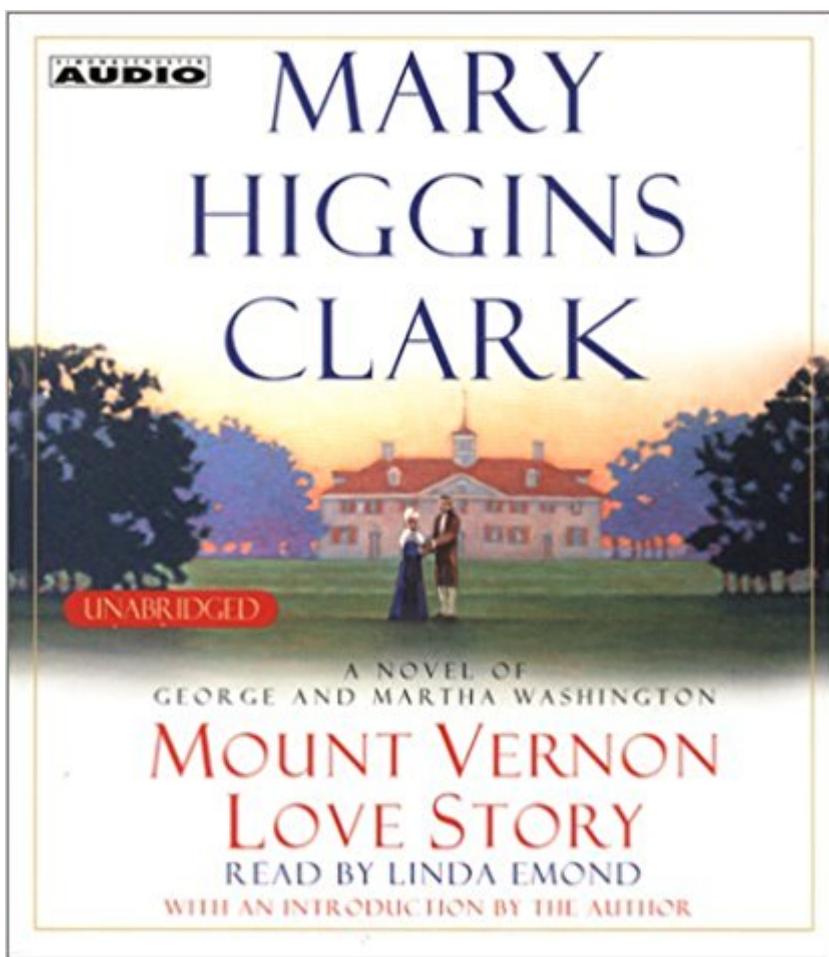


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Mount Vernon Love Story: A Novel Of George And Martha Washington



Synopsis

"Mount Vernon Love Story" was the first novel written by Mary Higgins Clark, the bestselling author of twenty-two novels that have made her America's Queen of Suspense. The role of leader came naturally to George Washington, the man revered as "the father of his Country." But when it came to the social aspects of life in the mid-18th century, he was both awkward and insecure. It was only through the love of a woman that he found the happiness that gave real meaning to his life. In matters of the heart, Washington initially stumbles when he falls in love with Sally Wilcox, his best friend's young bride. But Sally is understanding, and sets out to teach George the art of social graces. When he finds himself attracted to Martha Custis -- a young widow with two children -- he summons the courage to ask her to marry him. As depicted by Clark, their marriage was not without conflict. Their love was strong, and it endured long months of separation and the many dangers that Washington's role as leader of the Army entailed. At the end of his long career, when he and Martha return to Mount Vernon, the fire of their love burns just as brightly as when he took her there as his new bride. Charming, insightful, and immensely entertaining in its unique presentation of one of America's legendary figures, "Mount Vernon Love Story" brings alive the man behind the legend, a man of flesh, blood, and passion.

Book Information

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> Authors, A-Z > (C) > Clark, Mary Higgins #1783 in Books > Books on CD > Romance

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Customer Reviews

Originally published in 1969 under the title *Aspire to the Heavens*, this slim, muted historical romance is the long-out-of-print debut by America's reigning queen of suspense. As the quasi-biographical novel opens, George Washington is preparing to attend the inauguration of his

successor, John Adams; Clark, employing inelegant but efficient transitional techniques (Adams's "rather flat nasal voice seemed to become more clipped and sharp-toned.... It became his mother's voice"), quickly moves the narrative back to George's boyhood. The temporal seesaw continues as she juxtaposes George's trials (his mean mother, his unrequited love for a friend's wife) and triumphs (his land acquisitions, his bravery in battle) with his reflections on the state of the union in the novel's 1797 present. But her focus remains on the domestic (a French and Indian ambush at the Monongahela River in 1755 is rendered with far less care and credibility than scenes of George's skill on the dance floor) and the emotional (George's "mantle of leadership" concerns him much less than the naughtiness of his stepson). What passes for a driving narrative force is George's slow transfer of affection from the beautiful, charismatic Sally Carey to the small, "pretty widow" Martha (known as Patsy) Custis he married, and then the growing bond between "my old man" and "my dearest Patsy." Though it can be argued that Clark's tale is neither sufficiently historical nor romantic and it's definitely "not a suspense story," as Clark allows in a brief prefatory note this is a light read that completists will devour, and that Clark's other fans may appreciate simply because it's a different bill of fare. Copyright 2002 Cahners Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

You probably missed Clark's first effort, which was issued in a limited edition under the title *Aspire to the Heavens*. Her subject? The ongoing romance between George and Martha Washington, post-presidency. Copyright 2002 Reed Business Information, Inc.

I found this an easy and enjoyable read. Mary Higgins Clark is always dependable in that way. I've recently moved to Virginia and I'm a historical fiction fan, so this was an easy way to fill in some gaps in my historical awareness and be entertained at the same time. I'm sure it was not absolutely historical accurate, but it had a good tone and flavor and hit the high spots very well. It gave me some additional insight into Martha Washington and her likely character as well.

Never have been a Mary Higgins Clark fan but thought this departure from her usual story line might be better. It wasn't. The book had no depth, George, Patsy (Martha) and the rest were one dimensional. I really felt the book was a waste of time. Luckily I only paid \$1.99 for it ... and it wasn't worth that.

This is a beautiful story of our first President and his wife as only Mary Higgins Clark could write. I

learned so much about the characters of George and Martha and their life together. They faced many family tragedies and triumphs with dignity and love. I reread this novel prior to our second visit to their home during the Thanksgiving holidays. "Mount Vernon" is really well described and gives an excellent background to the enlarging and enhancing of George's beloved home. This was my second purchase and reading of this novel and I know I will read it again!

I read this book a few years ago and have always wished I had bought a copy. It is such a touching and wonderful story that I couldn't put the book down. I truly love to read and always have one or two books on hand that I'm reading. This one though I will be sharing for sure, especially with my grandchildren because of the amazing characters, George and Martha Washington. Two thumbs up for Mary Higgins Clark for her excellent portrayal of these two amazing people from history. A must read for all.

George and Martha Washington are my favorite historical Americans. I recently visited Mnt. Vernon and so much of what I read in this book came to life. Great read and factual.

Reading this piece of history gave a slightly different perspective on the history of the United States. I was not aware of the tender bond between President Washington and his wife and children. This novel took the reader to unspoken scenes of conversation between George Washington and the wife he adored and kept it real with the events that weighed so heavily on the shoulders of the first President of the United States. I recommend this enjoyable read to those who like to follow the events of the evolving nation, the United States of America. The book is not recommended for the reader who wants only factual information, but for those who like a light read and a disbursement of historical facts of the time, you will love it.

I so enjoy reading about a happy marriage. What a perfect team to lead our country through the Revolution and start up a new country.

Very good historically based book. Learned some things I didn't know and I have done quite a bit of reading on the Washington's.

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