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# Before I Say Good-Bye



## Synopsis

Mary Higgins Clark, America's "Queen of Suspense," delves into the mystery of psychic powers in her gripping new thriller, *Before I Say Good-Bye*. When Adam Cauliff's new cabin cruiser, *Cornelia II*, blows up in New York harbor with him and several close business associates aboard, his wife, Nell MacDermott, is not only distraught at the loss but wracked with guilt because she and Adam had just had a serious quarrel and she had told him not to come home. As the investigation into the boat's explosion proceeds, Nell is shocked by the official confirmation that it was not an accident but the result of foul play. Was Adam the target of the explosion? As Nell searches for the truth about Adam's death, she receives messages from Adam transmitted by a medium. What she does not know is that she is being closely watched, and the nearer she comes to learning what actually happened on the boat that night, the nearer she is to becoming the next victim of a ruthless killer.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Mary Higgins Clark's 22nd romantic thriller is destined for bestsellerdom on the strength of her reputation alone. Which is not to say that *Before I Say Good-Bye* doesn't have a bit of all the ingredients of the Clark genre: a little mystery, a likable heroine, and even a nice guy who turns up midway through the novel and promises her romance and a second chance at happiness. But while the set-up is promising and the bare essentials of a compelling read are all here, only readers who are already Higgins fans will be kept completely spellbound. Nell MacDermott is the politically ambitious granddaughter of a canny politician in Manhattan's silk stocking district, and her grandfather wants her to run for his old congressional seat. But there are rumors that Adam Cauliff,

Nell's husband, has been involved in a real estate and construction scam, and until Nell gets to the bottom of this her political future will be clouded. When Adam and his assistant are killed in an explosion aboard his boat, Nell is determined to clear his name. Nudged into action by her nascent psychic powers and a medium who may be her only link to Adam, Nell learns more about her husband's mysterious past than she bargained for and--naturally--stumbles onto a conspiracy that puts her own life in danger. The narrative seems more like an outline for a novel than a novel itself; the characters are sketched rather than fully explored--particularly Nell, whose back story doesn't provide enough information to make her actions understandable. But the pacing is expert, and Clark's dedicated fans will doubtless forgive her for not making this her strongest outing. --Jane Adams --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Romantic suspense has no more reliable champion than Clark, despite the relative weakness of her writing. For 25 years, through 22 novels (counting this one), she has delivered respectable entertainment to her legions of fans, who haven't dwindled in number. This novel, too, gives them what they want--a damsel in distress aided by a dashing knight; and Clark adds a little zest to the formula by weaving psychic phenomena, including messages from the dead, throughout. The damsel is columnist Nell McDermot, granddaughter of legendary Manhattan congressman Cornelius McDermott and about to run for office herself. Nell's plans are put on hold when the ship on which her husband, Adam, an architect, is attending a business meeting is blown to pieces. Evidence surfaces that Adam may have been involved in shady deals; meanwhile, the cops investigate the explosion, with suspicion falling on a petty hood looking for vengeance for one of those deals; a new man--stalwart physician Dan Minor--enters Nell's life, as does a psychic who claims to be channeling Nell's dead husband; and a predatory real-estate developer circles Nell and property she's inherited from Adam. For much of the novel, the danger is more implied than actual, like dark clouds amassing in the sky, and often manifests itself psychically as Nell sees black auras envelop people or feels terribly afraid. The novel's finale, however, which unmasks some unexpected villains, pulls out the stops in melodramatic fashion. Clark's characters aren't deep--after donating old clothes to charity, two of them, "feeling virtuous for having done a good deed had lunch at a new Thai restaurant on Second and Eighty-first"--but they're breezy fun, and so is this confection of a book. 1.1 million first printing; Literary Guild and Doubleday Book Club Main Selection; simultaneous S&S Audio; 7-city author tour. (Apr.) Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Mary Higgins Clark usual suspenseful novel with a mysterious twist. You can't put it down, just want to keep reading to see what is coming next.

She didn't disappoint me. I enjoy her books & this one was no different. Sorry but you're not going to be reading just a few pages before bed, count on staying up & then sleeping in the next morning!! I could not put down my Kindle, when I turn off the TV to read, you know I've got a great book on hand. She has many characters in this book which I usually don't like but it was easy to keep track of who worked for who & how one character is introduced into the story but yet you can keep track of them all. There was a moment that I had it all figured out, WRONG.....the story line kept you hooked. An added treat, at the end of the book there were questions & answers about her books, interesting. So as I've said before, let those dust bunnies lay & get this book.

Another great mystery! Each time you think you know who is guilty and what will happen next the story turns and another idea pops into your head. Lots of fun reading!

This was an intriguing novel with some interesting relationships between characters. The main theme concerned the politics of New York City and a retired Congressman who was grooming his daughter to fill his place in Congress. She was married to a would be architect who had managed to purchase some valuable land in the city and the story centers around the machinations of the building contractors and the people who worked for them. The story was clever and well structured and written. The characters were well developed and very believable, with the possible exception of some people being able to foretell future events or communicate with the dead.

As usual, a very entertaining story that deals with great delicacy and respect with the possibility of communicating with our dear ones when they are dead. Another theme from one of the early novels by Mrs Clark comes back, the description of the homeless, always portrayed in their extreme solitude but also in their dignity. Breathtaking and suspenseful until the last pages.

Its a good read but not as good as most of her books.

GREAT

Mary Higgins Clark is one of my favorite authors. I always look forward to read another of her books

and have enjoyed each of them. I have built up quite a collection of her books. Before I Say Goodbye is a combination of a mystery, love story, psychic mystique, and past mistakes and current choices, family love and support and politics. It is a fast read, pulling you into the next surprise page after page. As always I have enjoyed this story and will be eagerly awaiting another from this author.

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