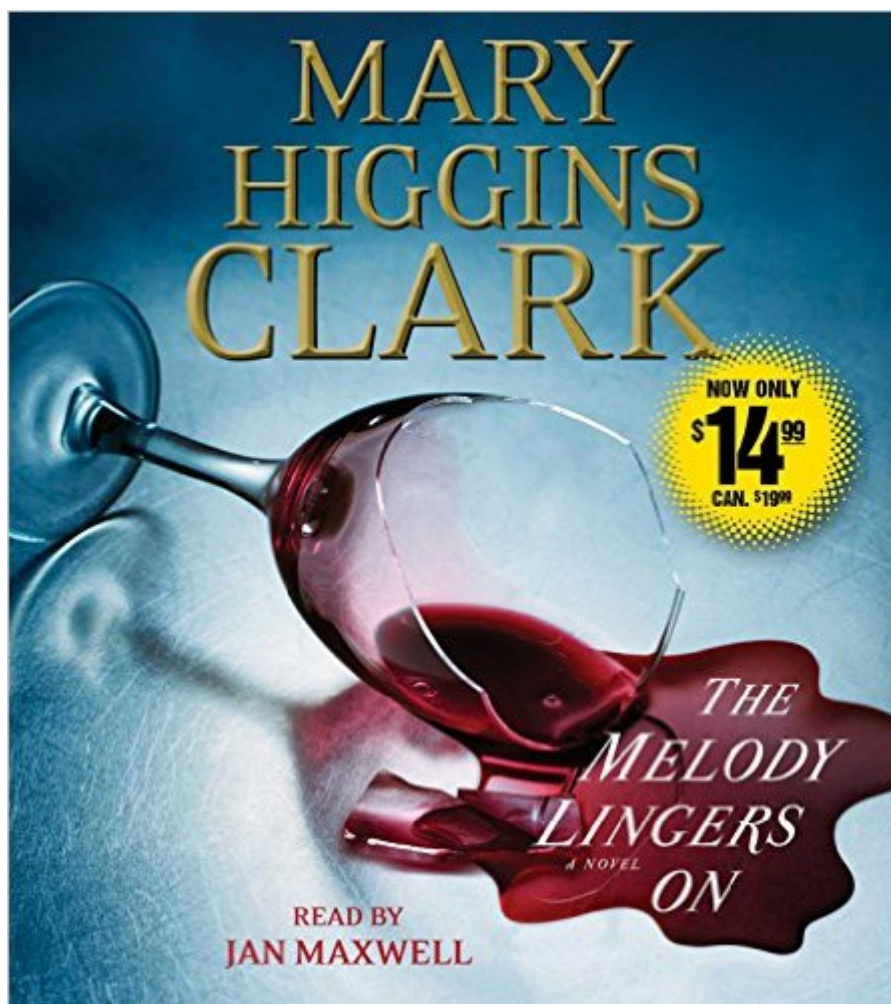


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The Melody Lingers On



Synopsis

A headline-making finance scandal and a breathtaking tale of deception collide in #1 New York Times bestselling author Mary Higgins Clark's finest thriller yet, now from Encore at a great value price point! As the sole assistant to a famous upscale interior designer, Lane Harmon is accustomed to visiting opulent homes. So her latest job at a modest New Jersey townhouse is unusual. Then she learns the home belongs to the wife of disgraced finance magnate Parker Bennett, who vanished two years earlier, along with the five billion dollar hedge fund he managed. The debate over whether Bennett was suicidal or staged his disappearance still continues. Both his clients and the federal government want to trace the money and find him. But Lane is surprisingly moved by Mrs. Bennett's steadfast faith in her husband's innocence. Gradually, Lane is also drawn to the Bennetts' son, Mark, who is equally determined to prove his father is not guilty. What she doesn't realize is the closer she gets to the notorious family, the more her life—and that of her five-year-old daughter—is in jeopardy.

Book Information

Audio CD

Publisher: Simon & Schuster Audio; Unabridged edition (April 19, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1442398078

ISBN-13: 978-1442398078

Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 0.6 x 5.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 0.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars — See all reviews (1,100 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #358,595 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #9 in Books > Books on CD >

Authors, A-Z > (C) > Clark, Mary Higgins #283 in Books > Mystery, Thriller & Suspense >

Thrillers & Suspense > Financial #522 in Books > Books on CD > Mystery & Thrillers

Customer Reviews

This book reminded me of a McDonald's bacon club burger. It was a fast, easy read, tasty and satisfying, but ultimately leaving you wishing for something more substantial. It was good fast food. I am wondering why the heroine is again a young widow with a child. Lane is a nice young woman, but she doesn't seem to have a life beyond her daughter and her job. Does she read? Watch television? Enjoy sports? Has she no friends? She loves her mother but the relationship is strained because she does not care for her stepfather, whom her mother married when Lane was 17, after

10 years of widowhood. Lane has a political pedigree, but she's not interested or involved in politics at all. I'm sure I would like her, as she is a kind, thoughtful, and empathetic young woman, but she is not very interesting. She does enjoy her job as the assistant for a top interior decorator and has learned to get along with her volatile boss Glady. When Glady and Lane are hired to decorate a townhouse condo for Anne Bennett, the wife and possible widow of Parker Bennett, a financier who has swindled many middle-income and older people out of their life's savings, Lane feels sympathy for the frail woman; Anne's son Eric, who is suspected by the SEC of being involved in his father's plot, is very interested in Lane. He swears to her that he is innocent and wants to clear his name. She believes him and her daughter Katie takes to him as well, which makes her even more sure he's innocent. Ranger, one of the elderly victims of Parker Bennett, has just lost his wife Judy after her second stroke. He is consumed with rage that he was unable to provide the care his wife needed and the beautiful retirement they had both desired.

I have a very soft place in my heart for Mary Higgins Clark. I know I have said this before, but I am saying it again. I didn't like reading when I was young, and never really got into reading until after I was married. My friend told me to read one of MHC's books and I got hooked. I read every single one of them that was out at the time, and continue to do so, and loved it. This book didn't disappoint. I just love reading her books. I love that there are always so many great characters, and that she jumps from one to the other. It keeps me on my toes. This book (in my opinion) had kind of a "Devil Wears Prada" kind of feel. hehe. Glady is a mean, shrewd woman that is also an amazing interior designer. People pay lots of money to get her to decorate their house. Lane, her assistant, is a nice sweet girl who is working hard for Glady, but also has made some of her own demands to keep Glady in line. She has to be done with work at 5:00 every day to be home with her daughter, or she would have to quit. I love Lane. She is a kind, savvy business woman herself. She has learned from the best. Glady decides to do a home remodel from an old friend pro bono. The client was The wife of Parker Bennett, who has been missing for two years. He went missing after ripping a whole bunch of people off in the financial world. He was a bad man. I didn't like him from the moment his name was mentioned. While Glady takes the job she makes Lane do all the work. In so doing she gets to know the client's son Mark Bennett. She is drawn to him, and his charm. Her daughter even seems to like Mark. What she doesn't know is that, the Bennetts have a dark past, and the closer she gets to Mark the more danger her life is in.

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