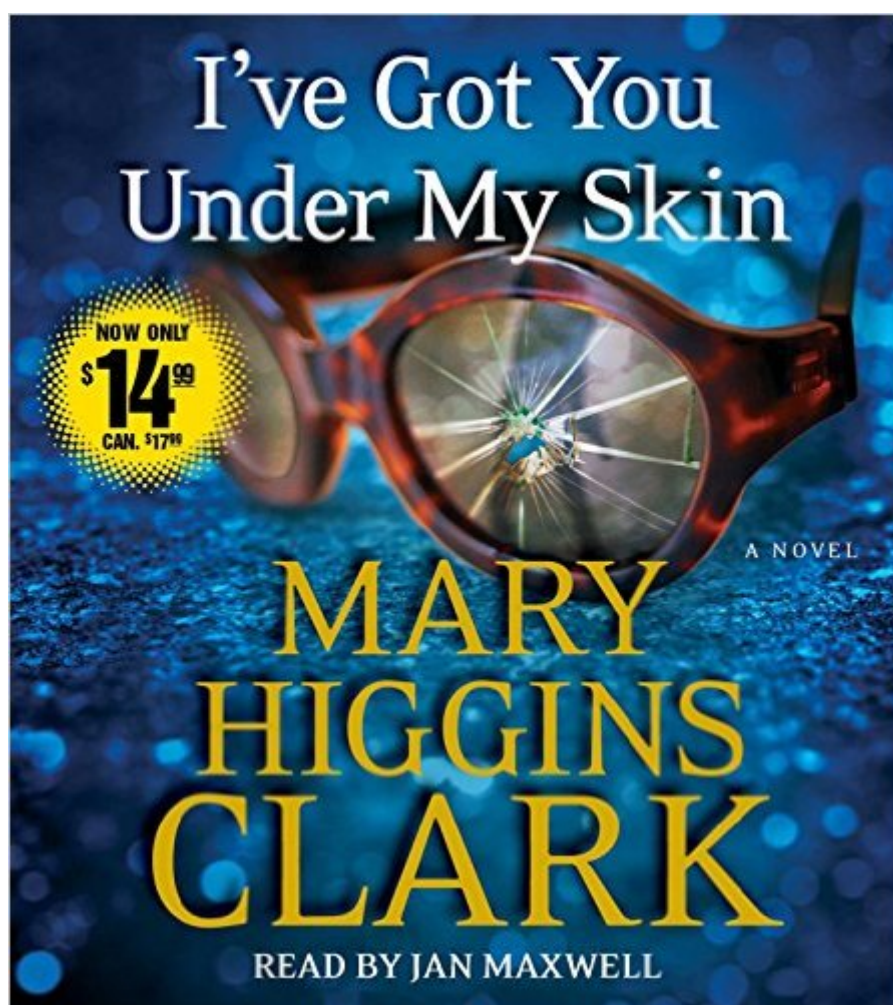


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I've Got You Under My Skin



Synopsis

In this suspenseful novel from the #1 New York Times bestselling author Mary Higgins Clark, a Manhattan ER doctor is brazenly murdered in front of his young son in a city playground. Five years later, his killer is still at large. This audiobook is now available from Encore for a great value! When Laurie Moran's husband was brutally murdered, only three-year-old Timmy saw the face of his father's killer. Five years later his piercing blue eyes still haunt Timmy's dreams. Laurie is haunted by more than the killer's threat to her son as he fled the scene: "Tell your mother she's next, then it's your turn" • Now Laurie is dealing with murder again, this time as the producer of a true-crime, cold-case television show. The series will launch with the twenty-year-old unsolved murder of Betsy Powell. Betsy, a socialite, was found suffocated in her bed after a gala celebrating the graduation of her daughter and three friends. The sensational murder was news nationwide. Reopening the case in its lavish setting and with the cooperation of the surviving guests that night, Laurie is sure to have a hit on her hands. But when the estranged friends begin filming, it becomes clear each is hiding secrets, small and large. And a pair of blue eyes is watching events unfold, too.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I didn't realize, until I read some of the other reviews of this book, that Clark is 86 years old. That fact makes it even more amazing to me how she can still write such top quality books. In fact, I thought this one was somewhere in the top 5 or so books she has written - almost as good as some of her great initial works like *Where are the Children* and *A Stranger is Watching*. The way she

interweaves two very interesting mysteries, and the tension she creates as to both, was absolutely riveting. I hope Ms. Clark is able to continue writing well into her 90's as has PD James, because her work is still at such a high level. A must read for any Clark fan (and a good introduction to a great writer for someone who may not have read any of her books).

I've read many previous books by Mary Higgins Clark and found them to be enjoyable and suspenseful, albeit a little lightweight. *I've Got You Under My Skin*, however, was so bad that I would be willing to believe that it could have been written by a computer program that had incorporated her style from prior stories. Overall, this novel lacked any real dramatic tension. In other words, it was dull and took effort to finish. The extreme amount of repetition throughout the story was tedious, e.g., the same facts were repeated over and over and over so that a reader could have picked up the book midway through and missed absolutely nothing. The dialogue was quite stilted, and the superficial thoughts of the characters mixed both 1st and 3rd person language so that it sounded very unnatural. At times, the characters even thought or spoke in soliloquies but despite all of the verbiage, the reader never really got to know them other than how they related to the primary murder (of Betsy). And, upon finishing the book, I realized that the subplot involving "Blue Eyes" was totally unnecessary. *"I've Got You Under My Skin: A Novel"* should really have been a short story or, at most, a novella. Stretching it undermined rather than enhanced the core story. For me, the only thing positive about this book was that I checked it out from the library and therefore did not waste any money, only time.

One thing I love about Mary's books is the Manhattan sophistication and descriptions of clothes, apartments, restaurants, etc. Another thing I really appreciate about her books is the integrity and decency - no language and no smut - thank you, Mary, you are very rare among authors today! This book is one of her best - a very interesting plot and great characters - quite a few 'who's' to try and decide 'who done it'... I love it and now have to wait another year for the next one. I only have a few authors that I will go back and re-read several times over, and MHC is one of them.

I have been an avid fan and reader of Mary Higgins Clark, collecting and reading all her novels for years. I was sooooo disappointed with this book after waiting for it to be released. The plot is so typical and characters not developed enough and the reason "blue eyes" started the whole thing is absurd. I really don't think this book was written by Clark. Such a shame.

I pre-order all of Ms. Clark's books because she doesn't disappoint. Having said that, this wasn't my favorite read and I only rated it 3-stars based on positive reviews of prior reads. For reasons I can't really define this book simply dragged with a multitude of characters, none of whom I really cared about. None of the character were particularly likable and consequently half-way thru, I couldn't help thinking, "Who cares?".

When an author makes mistakes about basic logistics and the like, it's hard to place much stock in the book. Among other things, she puts the character Bruno's age as having been born when the Lindbergh kidnapping was front page news. Granted the kidnapping held many people's attention for decades, I doubt it was front page often if at all at a time that would make the character "Bruno" young enough to be a landscaper. The kidnapping was in 1932, hmmm, making "Bruno" 82, and Leo a police officer a bit older, at least 84 or more. Another mistake, the character Regina accuses Josh of being an embezzler; no that would make him an extortionist. Surely the character would know that. These characters were college grads. Several other flaws. And it was very difficult keeping track of all the cast of characters like in a Cecil B. DeMille movie... After all the books she has written surely she would have better researchers and/or editors. One does realize from the outset that a Mary Higgins Clark book is NOT an exercise in depth but in shallowness. Hard to finish. Actually, I think I won't My recommendation is that unless you have nothing else to do or no better use of your money, don't bother.

I enjoyed Mary Higgins Clark's earlier work but this novel is so stringent and formulated that the life has been sucked out of the story. I'd rather re-read something from her earlier work than have to struggle through to the end with this title.

I have never reviewed a book before and it takes a lot for me to criticise something, but I feel it's my duty to warn people not to spend money on this. I've read hundreds of books and I can honestly say this is the worst I've ever read. Based on all the five star reviews I kept thinking the weak plot and undeveloped characters were some kind of warm up and an incredible twist was coming....but instead things just got worse and worse. Every chapter felt like "Murder Mysteries for Dummies" with a helpful summary at the end to remind you who was under suspicion and why, and if the summary wasn't enough, the characters also engaged in stilted dialogue with each other (or sometimes even themselves) to refresh your memory again about who may have dunnit, just in case you forgot. That combined with the gaping plot holes (why would someone who was

smothered with a pillow have strangulation bruises on their neck??), predictable love story and ridiculous "reveal" of the killer made this a miss from start to finish. I feel horrible writing this but I wish I'd read a review like this before I bought it, so hopefully I can at least do one person a favour. I'm not sure what all the five-star reviewers are on - perhaps I've been spoilt reading amazing thrillers by the likes of Jo Nesbo lately, so this just felt like a children's book by comparison. Spend your hard earned cash on something else.

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