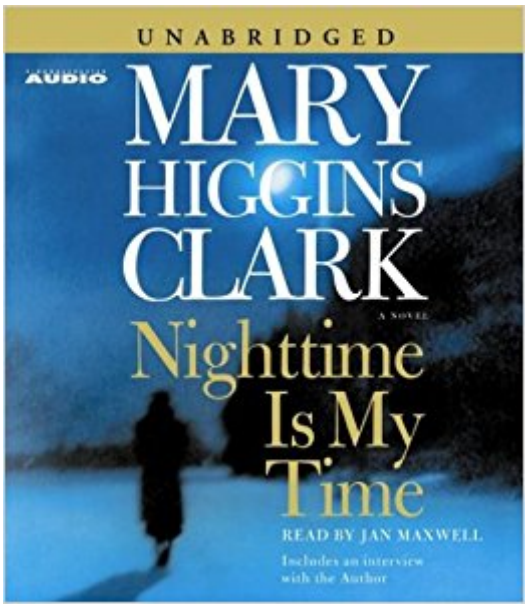
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Nighttime Is My Time



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Synopsis

"The definition of an owl had always pleased him: a night bird of prey...sharp talons and soft plumage which permits noiseless flight...applied figuratively to a person of nocturnal habits. 'I am The Owl,' he would whisper to himself after he had selected his prey, 'and nighttime is my time.'" Jean Sheridan, a college dean and prominent historian, sets out to her hometown to attend the twenty-year reunion of Stonecroft Academy alumni, where she is to be honored along with six other members of her class. There is something uneasy in the air: one woman in the group about to be feted, Alison Kendall, a beautiful, high-powered Hollywood agent, drowned in her pool during an early-morning swim. Alison is the fifth woman in the class whose life has come to a sudden, mysterious end. Adding to Jean's sense of unease is a taunting, anonymous fax she received, referring to her daughter -- a child she had given up for adoption twenty years ago. At the award dinner, Jean is introduced to Sam Deegan, a detective obsessed by the unsolved murder of a young woman who may hold the key to the identity of the Stonecroft killer. Jean does not suspect that among the distinguished people she is greeting is The Owl, a murderer nearing the countdown on his mission of vengeance against the Stonecroft women who had mocked and humiliated him, with Jean as his final victim.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This time out, Clark ups the ante from her standard female-in-peril plot to three females in peril, all targets of a serial killer who fancies himself a night-hunting predator: "I am the Owl," he whispers to

himself after he has selected his prey, "and nighttime is my time." The Owl kills his first victim, then it’s off to attend his 20th high school reunion at Stonecroft Academy in Cornwall-on-Hudson, where he intends to do in the last several women who humiliated him when he was a geeky high school student. Jean Sheridan, one of the intended victims, was actually nice to the Owl, but he decides she has to die anyway because someone told him she once made fun of him. Jean’s daughter, Lily, whom Jean gave away at birth, must also die, for obscure reasons, as must Laura, the class beauty. In the course of stalking and capturing these three, the Owl kills several innocent bystanders just to vent his anger and alludes to dozens more he has slaughtered over the years. The game here is figuring out which of the men who come to the reunion, all former nerds, is the Owl: Carter Stewart, now a genius playwright; Mark Fleischman, a psychiatrist with a syndicated television program; Gordon Amory, television magnate; Robby Brent, famous comedian; or Jack Emerson, local real estate tycoon. If the killer’s animal fetish is the Owl, then Clark’s is surely the red herring as she cleverly throws them in by the dozen, providing irrefutable proof that first one man, then another, must be guilty. Since any of the men might be the killer, the final revelation is anticlimactic, but Clark’s multitude of fans will be happy enough to spend time with the innocent and imperiled Jean and to participate in the guessing game. Copyright Ã Â© Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

As graduates of the Stonecroft Academy class of ’84 prepare for their twentieth high-school reunion, only a pimple-faced reporter for the school paper notes that this class has seen more than its share of mysterious deaths--and that all of the victims, one of whom died on the eve of the reunion, were members of a popular clique. The lovely Laura, now an actress, has survived thus far, but will she make it through the reunion? And what about Jean? She was popular, too, but she seems to have found the killer’s soft spot. We know from the start that the murderer is a classmate--but not which one. We only know it was someone who was spurned by girls and made fun of by everyone, someone who dubbed his evil alter ego The Owl. But Jean treated him differently back then; when he didn’t make the team, she had a kind a word for him. Jean’s mind currently is on the anonymous messages threatening Lily--the daughter she gave up years ago. Who knows that Lily is hers? While trying to uncover who’s taunting her, The Owl gets way too close. Clark’s certainly mastered the art of the page-turner, and though many characters are relatively shallow and the plot somewhat predictable, fans will enjoy the comfort of watching the Clark formula unwind yet again. Mary Frances WilkensCopyright Ã Â© American Library Association. All rights reserved --This text refers

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This Mary Higgins Clark novel has some of the same characters as in her previous books, along with new folks that will keep you guessing just who the murderer is. I have loved this author over the years, and was fortunate enough to see her when she visited Salt Lake City several years ago. I want her to keep writing forever! She has my continued loyalty for any books of hers in the future.

This is the 14th. book by MHC that I've read, and it's certainly one of the best. I love the way she chooses the settings for her books, and this one in set in the West Point area. The characters are at a reunion of their high school, all of them being honored for their achievements. All of them have their own little dirty secrets, and throughout the book MHC throws out enough red herrings to keep us in suspense till the last couple of pages. I can't understand how some reviewers "knew" who the killer was before the end. There was no early give-away at all. Of all the books by MHC I've read, this one has the most exciting ending. I actually had tears in my eyes at the end--- it was a tender ending-- but I don't want to give it away.

If you love animals you won't like the way this one starts. I'm so disappointed that MHC would, in considerable and horrifying detail, kill a dog. The story could have been told just as well without that graphic image that is still stuck in my head. The rest of the story was great but I wouldn't have read it if I had known she would stoop so low. Shame on you Mary Higgins Clark!

I loved the suspense and mystery, you weren't sure who the killer was. I love all of Mary Higgins Clark books, She is my favorite author.

i like mystery books, and try to read many authors. this is a good book.

Loved it. Could not put it down Mary Higgins Clark did a great job once again

I don't want to give away any spoilers so I'll let you figure it out on your own but pay attention near the begining. Mary Higgins Clark writes a lot of books often and although all different, they hold a similar theme, so to speak. Murder myster, strong female lead, a lot of close calls, female lead and a man falling in love in two minutes, etd. Perfect for readers who don't overthink books and just need something to take their mind off things, as most of Mary Higgins Clark books can do (she

produces a lighter read than other murder mystery writers). I enjoyed the book anyway but was a little disappointed when I found out something near the end that was laid out too easy for me.

I liked this book. I am a huge fan of MHC and have been reading her books for 20+ years. I did not know who the killer was until it was revealed in the end (always a +), but I had trouble remembering what each of the characters did for a living as I got more and more into the book. There are a lot of characters to keep track of as most of MHC books are written that way. And for that reason, I gave it 4 stars.

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