

mary higgins clark the cradle will fall

Mary Higgins Clark The Cradle Will Fall: A Gripping Tale of Suspense and Intrigue

mary higgins clark the cradle will fall is a title that immediately captures the attention of thriller enthusiasts and loyal fans of the Queen of Suspense. Known for her masterful storytelling and ability to weave intricate plots filled with twists and turns, Mary Higgins Clark once again delivers a suspenseful novel that keeps readers on the edge of their seats. In this article, we'll dive deep into what makes **The Cradle Will Fall** such a compelling read, explore its themes, characters, and why it remains a standout in Clark's extensive bibliography.

Unpacking Mary Higgins Clark The Cradle Will Fall

Mary Higgins Clark has long been celebrated for her ability to create suspenseful narratives that blend mystery, emotional depth, and relatable characters. **The Cradle Will Fall** is no exception. This novel showcases her signature style—an intricate plot that gradually unravels with each chapter, revealing secrets and unexpected connections.

At its core, **The Cradle Will Fall** is a psychological thriller that explores the fragility of trust and the devastating impact of secrets kept behind closed doors. The story revolves around a woman who becomes entangled in a web of deceit, murder, and betrayal, prompting readers to question the reliability of appearances and the true nature of those closest to us.

The Plot: A Synopsis Without Spoilers

Without giving too much away, **The Cradle Will Fall** follows the protagonist as she navigates a harrowing journey after discovering disturbing truths about her family and friends. Clark's narrative style ensures that suspense builds steadily, with moments of calm quickly shattered by shocking revelations. The title itself hints at a looming collapse—both literal and metaphorical—that drives the tension throughout the book.

Characters That Resonate

One of the strengths of Mary Higgins Clark's novels is her ability to craft

characters that feel authentic and multi-dimensional. In **The Cradle Will Fall**, the characters are no different. From the determined heroine to the enigmatic figures who may or may not have sinister motives, each character adds depth and complexity to the story.

Readers often praise Clark's protagonists for their resilience and relatability. The central character in this novel embodies a blend of vulnerability and strength, making her journey both heart-wrenching and inspiring. Supporting characters are equally well-developed, each playing a pivotal role in advancing the plot and heightening the suspense.

Exploring Themes: Trust, Betrayal, and Redemption

Mary Higgins Clark's works frequently explore themes that resonate deeply with readers, and **The Cradle Will Fall** is rich with these motifs. Trust and betrayal stand out as central themes, with the narrative examining how fragile relationships can become when secrets are unveiled. The novel also touches on redemption, showing how characters grapple with their past mistakes while striving for a better future.

These themes are woven seamlessly into the storyline, encouraging readers not only to enjoy the suspense but also to reflect on the complexities of human relationships and the consequences of deception.

Why **The Cradle Will Fall Stands Out in Mary Higgins Clark's Collection**

With a prolific career spanning decades, Mary Higgins Clark has penned numerous bestsellers. However, **The Cradle Will Fall** distinguishes itself through its tightly woven plot and emotional intensity. Unlike some thrillers that rely heavily on action or graphic details, Clark's novel emphasizes psychological suspense and character-driven drama.

Engaging Writing Style and Pacing

Clark's writing style in **The Cradle Will Fall** is both accessible and engaging, making it easy for readers to become immersed in the story. The pacing is carefully calibrated—slow-burning at times to build atmosphere and then accelerating during moments of crisis. This rhythm keeps readers hooked from beginning to end, eager to uncover what happens next.

Perfect for Fans of Psychological Thrillers

If you're a fan of psychological thrillers, **The Cradle Will Fall** offers all the elements you'd expect: suspense, unexpected twists, and a deep dive into the human psyche. It's a novel that appeals not only to Mary Higgins Clark's established fanbase but also to new readers seeking a smart, well-crafted mystery.

Insights and Tips for Readers New to Mary Higgins Clark

If **The Cradle Will Fall** is your first Mary Higgins Clark book, here are a few tips to enhance your reading experience:

- **Pay attention to details:** Clark often drops subtle clues throughout her narratives that become crucial later. Keeping track of these details will enrich your understanding of the plot.
- **Embrace the slow build:** The suspense in her novels typically unfolds gradually. Patience will reward you with a satisfying resolution.
- **Reflect on the characters:** Clark's strength lies in her characters' emotional complexity. Taking time to consider their motivations adds depth to the story.

Additionally, exploring some of Clark's other works can provide context and appreciation for her style. Novels like **Where Are the Children?** and **A Stranger Is Watching** share thematic similarities and showcase her signature suspense-building techniques.

The Legacy of Mary Higgins Clark and *The Cradle Will Fall*

Mary Higgins Clark's impact on the mystery and thriller genre is undeniable. With **The Cradle Will Fall**, she continues to demonstrate why she is called the Queen of Suspense. Her ability to create gripping stories that combine intricate plotting with emotional resonance has earned her a devoted readership.

This novel contributes to her legacy by highlighting her talent for exploring the darker corners of human nature while maintaining a strong narrative drive. It serves as a testament to her skill in crafting stories that are not

only entertaining but also thought-provoking.

For readers looking to delve into a suspenseful, psychologically rich story, *'The Cradle Will Fall'* is a compelling choice that exemplifies Mary Higgins Clark's storytelling prowess. Whether you're a longtime fan or discovering her work for the first time, this novel offers an unforgettable journey through mystery and human emotion.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the plot of Mary Higgins Clark's 'The Cradle Will Fall'?

'The Cradle Will Fall' follows the story of a woman who, after her sister's mysterious death, uncovers dark family secrets and a chilling conspiracy that puts her own life in danger.

When was 'The Cradle Will Fall' by Mary Higgins Clark published?

'The Cradle Will Fall' was published in 2022.

What genre does 'The Cradle Will Fall' belong to?

The novel is a suspenseful thriller and mystery, characteristic of Mary Higgins Clark's signature style.

Are there any major themes explored in 'The Cradle Will Fall'?

Yes, the book explores themes such as family secrets, betrayal, trust, and the fight for justice.

Has 'The Cradle Will Fall' received any notable reviews or accolades?

The book has been praised for its gripping narrative and suspenseful pacing, solidifying Mary Higgins Clark's reputation as the 'Queen of Suspense.'

Additional Resources

Mary Higgins Clark *The Cradle Will Fall: A Gripping Exploration of Suspense and Family Secrets*

mary higgins clark the cradle will fall stands as a testament to the author's enduring mastery in crafting suspenseful narratives that captivate readers from the first page to the last. Known widely as the "Queen of Suspense," Mary Higgins Clark delivers once again with this novel, weaving a tale that intricately blends psychological tension, family drama, and the quest for truth. This book has garnered attention not only from devoted fans of Clark's work but also from new readers eager to experience her signature style of storytelling.

The *Cradle Will Fall* delves deeply into the fragile boundaries of trust and betrayal within a family, exploring how past secrets can unravel even the closest bonds. As with many of Clark's bestsellers, the novel thrives on a tightly constructed plot, richly developed characters, and an atmosphere thick with intrigue. The story's thematic focus on motherhood, identity, and deception resonates strongly with readers, offering a suspenseful yet emotionally compelling experience.

In-depth Analysis of Mary Higgins Clark's The Cradle Will Fall

Mary Higgins Clark's latest novel maintains her reputation for delivering suspense that is both psychologically nuanced and richly detailed. *The Cradle Will Fall* unfolds through a multi-layered narrative that carefully balances character development with plot progression. The pacing is deliberate but gripping, allowing tension to build organically as the mystery deepens.

At its core, *The Cradle Will Fall* centers on a mother's desperate search for her missing child, a premise that immediately hooks readers with its emotional stakes. Clark uses this setup to explore broader themes of identity and trust, particularly how far someone might go to protect or uncover the truth about their family. The novel's title itself is a metaphor for the collapse of safety and innocence, reinforcing the unsettling mood that permeates the story.

One of the standout features of the book is Clark's ability to craft complex female protagonists who are relatable yet enigmatic. The mother in this story embodies vulnerability and strength, grappling with her fears while navigating a web of lies and half-truths. This psychological depth elevates *The Cradle Will Fall* beyond a mere thriller, positioning it as a study of human resilience and the darker corners of the familial psyche.

Plot Structure and Narrative Techniques

Clark employs a non-linear narrative in *The Cradle Will Fall*, interspersing past events with present-day investigations. This technique not only enriches the storyline but also keeps readers guessing as they piece together clues

alongside the protagonist. The alternating timelines allow for a gradual unveiling of secrets, enhancing suspense without resorting to predictable twists.

The novel's structure is meticulously planned, with each chapter ending on a note that compels the reader to continue. This episodic tension is a hallmark of Clark's writing style, ensuring that the story maintains momentum through to its climax.

Character Development and Emotional Impact

A critical strength in Mary Higgins Clark's *The Cradle Will Fall* lies in its character portrayals. The protagonist's journey is marked by emotional complexity, as she confronts not only external threats but also internal doubts and fears. Supporting characters are similarly well-drawn, each contributing to the layered mystery while embodying different facets of trust and deception.

The emotional impact of the story is heightened by Clark's skillful use of dialogue and internal monologues, which provide insight into the characters' motivations and vulnerabilities. This creates a compelling dynamic that encourages readers to empathize with the protagonist's plight.

Key Features and Themes in *The Cradle Will Fall*

- **Suspenseful pacing:** The gradual escalation of tension keeps readers engaged without overwhelming them.
- **Psychological depth:** Exploration of family dynamics and personal identity adds complexity.
- **Strong female lead:** The protagonist's resilience and vulnerability are central to the story's appeal.
- **Non-linear storytelling:** Alternating timelines enhance mystery and intrigue.
- **Themes of trust and betrayal:** The novel examines how secrets can fracture relationships.
- **Atmospheric setting:** The backdrop contributes to the overall mood of suspense and uncertainty.

Comparisons with Other Works by Mary Higgins Clark

When juxtaposed with Clark's earlier novels, *The Cradle Will Fall* shares common motifs such as the involvement of women in perilous situations and the unveiling of dark family secrets. However, this novel distinguishes itself by placing greater emphasis on the psychological ramifications of loss and deception rather than relying solely on external threats. Readers familiar with Clark's canon will recognize her signature style but will also appreciate the nuanced character study that *The Cradle Will Fall* offers.

Moreover, compared to contemporaneous suspense thrillers, Clark's work maintains a more classic approach to suspense—eschewing gratuitous violence and sensationalism in favor of carefully crafted tension and emotional resonance. This balance has helped solidify her place as a respected figure in the mystery genre.

Audience Reception and Critical Acclaim

Initial reviews for Mary Higgins Clark's *The Cradle Will Fall* have praised the novel's intricate plotting and emotional depth. Fans of the author have welcomed the return to her hallmark style of suspense, noting that the book delivers both thrills and thoughtful character exploration. Critics have highlighted Clark's ability to sustain suspense through psychological complexity, a feature that elevates the novel above many typical genre fare.

The book also performs well in sales rankings within the mystery and thriller categories, indicating strong market appeal. Its themes of family and identity resonate widely, making it a popular choice for book clubs and readers seeking more than just a straightforward whodunit.

Mary Higgins Clark's *The Cradle Will Fall* in the Context of Modern Suspense Fiction

In today's literary landscape, where thrillers often focus on fast-paced action and graphic content, Mary Higgins Clark's *The Cradle Will Fall* offers a refreshing alternative. Her approach prioritizes emotional engagement and character-driven suspense, which appeals to readers looking for substance alongside excitement.

The novel's exploration of motherhood and trust touches on universal concerns, providing relevance beyond the typical crime narrative. This focus on personal stakes rather than just plot mechanics is part of what continues to set Clark's work apart in the crowded suspense genre.

Additionally, *The Cradle Will Fall* underscores the enduring appeal of

traditional mystery elements—such as clues, red herrings, and the gradual revelation of secrets—while updating these for contemporary audiences through psychological insights.

Impact on Mary Higgins Clark's Legacy

As one of Mary Higgins Clark's later works, *The Cradle Will Fall* reinforces her legacy as a master storyteller capable of evolving while remaining true to her narrative roots. The novel exemplifies her skill in blending suspense with emotional depth, a combination that has earned her a dedicated readership over decades.

This book also serves as a reminder of Clark's influence on the genre, inspiring a generation of writers to craft mysteries that balance thrilling plots with authentic human experiences. For both longtime fans and newcomers, *The Cradle Will Fall* is a compelling addition to her distinguished bibliography.

The lasting impression of Mary Higgins Clark's *The Cradle Will Fall* lies in its ability to engage readers on multiple levels: as a suspenseful mystery, a poignant family drama, and a psychological exploration. This multifaceted approach ensures that the novel remains memorable and impactful in the landscape of modern thriller literature.

[Mary Higgins Clark The Cradle Will Fall](#)

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Dr. Highley's operating room. "A harrowing tale" (The New York Times Book Review) that's "indescribably suspenseful" (San Francisco Chronicle), *The Cradle Will Fall* is a page-turning thriller of the highest order.

mary higgins clark the cradle will fall: *Mary Higgins Clark* Linda De Roche, 2011-03-21 This incisive exploration probes the relationship between the novels of bestselling author Mary Higgins Clark and the key events and influences of her life. In her 2002 memoir, *Kitchen Privileges*, Mary Higgins Clark shared the details of her life with her readers, but she offered little significant reflection on those details. For that, readers must look to her fiction, where her themes, characters, and subjects suggest her responses to her life experiences. *Mary Higgins Clark: Life and Letters* provides readers with an analysis of these connections in a volume that should increase their understanding—and appreciation—of the author and her work. Focusing on subjects associated with the literary elements of representative Clark novels, Linda De Roche explores the relationship between the life of this bestselling author and the books that have won her legions of fans for more than a quarter century. Themes and issues woven into Clark's fiction—such as the role of the past in people's lives, repercussions of violence, and the concept of identity—are considered, while close critical readings uncover psychological, feminist, and sociopolitical interpretations that will delight fans and inform scholars.

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mary higgins clark the cradle will fall: The Cradle Will Fall , 2005

mary higgins clark the cradle will fall: *Mystery Classics on Film* Ron Miller, 2017-02-20 Watching the screen version of a classic mystery novel can be disappointing. By necessity or artistic license (or possibly just ego) changes are often made by the filmmakers--many of them ineffective or even detrimental. This book focuses on the screen adaptations of 65 famous mysteries and examines how the filmmakers either succeeded or failed in the telling of the story. Interviews with several famous mystery writers are included, with their comments on how filmmakers treated their work.

mary higgins clark the cradle will fall: *Ich folge deinem Schatten* Mary Higgins Clark, 2013-04-29 Spurlos verschwand ihr Kind Zwei Jahre ist es her, dass für Zan Moreland ein Albtraum begann: Am helllichten Tag wurde ihr kleiner Sohn Matthew im Central Park entführt. Die polizeilichen Ermittlungen und ihre eigene verzweifelte Suche blieben ohne Ergebnis. Doch ausgerechnet an Matthews fünftem Geburtstag tauchen Fotos auf, die damals im Park geschossen wurden. Sie zeigen im Hintergrund die Frau, die Matthew aus dem Kinderwagen stiehlt. Es scheint Zan selbst zu sein. Oder treibt jemand ein unmenschliches Spiel mit ihr?

mary higgins clark the cradle will fall: No Place Like Home Mary Higgins Clark, 2011-11-29 Liza Barclay, aged 10, shot her mother while trying to protect her from her violent stepfather, ex-FBI agent Charley Foster. Despite her stepfather's claim that it was a deliberate act, the Juvenile Court ruled the death an accident. Many people, however, agreed with Foster and tabloids compared Liza to the infamous murderess, Lizzie Borden, pointing even to the similarity in name. Growing up with adoptive parents who tried to erase every trace of her past, her name is changed to Celia. Always, though, the fear hung over her and the family - that someday, her vengeful

stepfather would reappear to harm her. Aged 25, a successful interior designer, she marries a childless sixty-year old widower and they have a son. Before their marriage, she had confided her earlier life to her husband. Two years on, on his deathbed, he tells her that he would want her to re-marry, but makes her swear never to reveal her past to anyone, so that their son would not carry the burden of this family tragedy - a promise that plunges her into a new cycle of violence. Three years later, happily re-married, Celia is shocked when her second husband presents her with a gift -- the house where she killed her mother. When the real estate agent who has made the sale recognises her and, soon after, is murdered, Celia is accused of the crime. Once again, she is home -- the place where she is stamped as a murderess.

mary higgins clark the cradle will fall: *Just Take My Heart* Mary Higgins Clark, 2009-12-15 When Natalie Raines, famous Broadway star, is found in her home in Closter, New Jersey, dying from a gunshot wound, her former husband, Gregg Aldrich, whom she was in the process of divorcing, is the chief suspect. What no one knows is that, only days before she was murdered, Natalie accidentally came face to face with the man who killed her former roommate, Jamie Evans. Two years later, career criminal Jimmy Easton, comes forward to claim that Aldrich hired him to kill his wife, but he turned the job down. Based on Easton's testimony, Gregg is charged with the murder of his wife. Handling the case is Emily Wallace, an attractive thirty-two-year-old widowed assistant prosecutor. As Aldrich's trial is making headlines, Emily's boss, Ted Wesley, warns her that this high-profile case will reveal personal matters about her, such as the fact that she had a heart transplant. And, during the trial, Emily experiences sentiments which defy all reason and continue after Gregg Aldrich's fate is decided by the jury. In the meantime, she does not realize that her own life is now at risk.

mary higgins clark the cradle will fall: *As Time Goes By* Mary Higgins Clark, 2017-04-18 Includes an excerpt of *The Sleeping Beauty Killer*.

mary higgins clark the cradle will fall: *All By Myself, Alone* Mary Higgins Clark, 2017-04-04 Fleeing the humiliating arrest of her husband-to-be on the eve of their wedding, Celia Kilbride, a gems and jewelry expert, hopes to escape from public attention by lecturing on a brand-new cruise ship, the *Queen Charlotte*. She meets Lady Emily Haywood, the owner of a priceless-- and cursed-- emerald necklace that she intends to leave to the Smithsonian after the cruise. Three days out to sea Lady Em is found dead-- and the necklace is missing. As the list of suspects grows Celia, with the help of her new friends Willy and Alvirah Meehan, sets out to find the killer.

mary higgins clark the cradle will fall: *You Belong To Me* Mary Higgins Clark, 2023-11-07 Terror heads out to sea when talk-show psychologist Dr. Susan Chandler searches for a killer who stalks vulnerable, single women on cruise ships. But will she become his next victim? Simultaneous release with Clark's new hardcover *We'll Meet Again*.

mary higgins clark the cradle will fall: *Mary Higgins Clark & Carol Higgins Clark Ebook Christmas Set* Mary Higgins Clark, Carol Higgins Clark, 2010-12-07 Now, in one ebook boxed set, a collection of suspenseful and humorous holiday stories by Mary Higgins Clark, America's Queen of Suspense, and her daughter, bestselling mystery writer Carol Higgins Clark. Deck the Halls Three days before Christmas, Regan Reilly, the dynamic young sleuth featured in the novels of Carol Higgins Clark, meets Alvirah Meehan, the famous lottery winner and amateur detective. When a call comes through on Regan's cell phone, telling her that her father and his driver, Rosita Gonzalez, are being held for \$1,000,000 ransom, Alvirah insists that Regan allow her to lend a hand in trying to gain their release. While Regan may be a licensed private detective, based in Los Angeles, Alvirah has many valuable contacts among the ranks of New York's law enforcement community—including the head of the NYPD Major Case Squad, Jack “no relation” Reilly. Further complicating the situation is the fact that Regan's mother, the popular and very successful mystery writer Nora Regan Reilly, was hospitalized only the day before with a badly broken leg. Regan must comfort her while trying to meet the harsh demands of her father's kidnappers—and their tough deadline. The Christmas Thief The folks who picked a beautiful eighty-foot blue spruce from Stowe, Vermont, to be

Rockefeller Center's famous Christmas tree don't have a clue that Packy Noonan, a scam artist just released from prison, hid priceless diamonds in it more than twelve years ago. Anxious to retrieve his loot, Packy breaks parole and heads to Vermont. When he learns that his special tree will be heading to New York City the next morning, he knows he has to act fast. What Packy doesn't know is that Alvira Meehan, everyone's favorite lottery winner turned amateur sleuth, and Regan Reilly, a savvy young private investigator, are visiting Stowe with their friend Opal, who lost all her lottery winnings in Packy's scam. And just when they're supposed to head home, they learn that the tree is missing...and that Opal has disappeared. *Dashing Through the Snow* In the picturesque village of Branscombe, New Hampshire, the townsfolk are all pitching in to prepare for the first (and many hope annual) Festival of Joy. The night before the festival begins, a group of employees at the local market learn that they have won \$160 million in the lottery. One of their co-workers, Duncan, decided at the last minute, on the advice of a pair of crooks masquerading as financial advisers, not to play. Then he goes missing. A second winning lottery ticket was purchased in the next town, but the winner hasn't come forward. Could Duncan have secretly bought it? Alvira Meehan, the amateur sleuth, and private investigator Regan Reilly have arrived in Branscombe for the festival. They are just the people to find out what is amiss. As they dig beneath the surface, they find that life in Branscombe is not as tranquil as it appears. So much for an old-fashioned weekend in the country!

mary higgins clark the cradle will fall: *I'll Be Seeing You* Mary Higgins Clark, 2000-05-25 From the "Queen of Suspense" Mary Higgins Clark, a gripping and twisting mystery featuring a television news reporter who finds herself drawn into a terrifying web of treachery, where nothing is as it seems and the truth may be too devastating to pursue... The murdered woman could have been her double. When reporter Meghan Collins sees the sheet-wrapped corpse in a New York City hospital, she feels as if she's staring into her own face. And Meghan has troubles enough already without this bizarre experience. Nine months ago, her much-loved father's car spun off a New York bridge. Now, investigators are saying that there's no trace of his car in the river, and they suspect he faked his own death. With frightening speed, links start to appear between Meghan's father and her dead lookalike. Meghan may be in danger herself, but she's determined to find the truth to the mystery. In a nightmare journey spiraling from New York to Connecticut to Arizona, Meghan finds that the truth can sometimes be deadly.

mary higgins clark the cradle will fall: *On the Street Where You Live* Mary Higgins Clark, 2011-11-29 A popular guest at many of the town's finest homes, he particularly enjoyed participating in the sombre discussions about Martha's disappearance that still came up from time to time over the dinner table. 'I could tell you about it, every little detail,' he said to himself with a self-satisfied smile as he strolled the boardwalk, exchanging pleasantries with good friends he met along the way. 'But of course I won't. That's our secret: mine and Martha's.' In the gripping new novel from the Queen of Suspense, a young woman is haunted by two murders that are closely linked - despite the one hundred and ten years that separate them. Following the acrimonious breakup of her marriage and the searing experience of being pursued by an obsessed stalker, criminal defense attorney Emily Graham accepts an offer to leave Albany and work in a major law firm in Manhattan. Feeling a need for roots, she buys her ancestral home, a restored Victorian house in the historic New Jersey seaside resort town of Spring Lake. Her family had sold the house in 1892, after one of Emily's forebears, Madeline Shapley, then still a young girl, disappeared. Now, more than a century later, as the house is being renovated and the backyard excavated for a pool, the skeleton of a young woman is found. She is identified as Martha Lawrence, who had disappeared from Spring Lake over four years ago. Within her skeletal hand is the finger bone of another woman with a ring still on it - a Shapley family heirloom. In seeking to find the link between her family's past and the recent murder, Emily becomes a threat to a devious and seductive killer, who has chosen her as his next victim.

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mary higgins clark the cradle will fall: The Cinderella Murder Mary Higgins Clark, Alafair Burke, 2015-08-25 In her new reality television series that explores unsolved crimes, Laurie Moran brings together the friends and family of a murdered UCLA student to see what new evidence from the cold case comes to light.

mary higgins clark the cradle will fall: The Haunting Joan Lowery Nixon, 2007-12-18 For fans of Gillian Flynn, Caroline Cooney, and R.L. Stine comes The Haunting from four-time Edgar Allen Poe Young Adult Mystery Award winner Joan Lowery Nixon. The walls whisper. The ceilings shriek. No one can survive a night of terror inside Graymoss. The old plantation house has been in Lia's family since the Civil War, but it's been possessed for generations by a malicious spirit, and Lia's family has always stayed far away. Now her parents have decided to move into Graymoss, and Lia must either change their minds or chase away the horror lurking inside the old house. Using clues from her great-great-grandmother's diary and an old copy of Favorite Tales of Edgar Allan Poe, Lia must discover what—or who—the evil wants. "Nixon creates a spooky setting fairly dripping in atmosphere, then spins an ever-tightening thread of tension." -Kirkus Reviews "A book that will please mystery fans...[and a] plot [that] keeps readers guessing until the end." -School Library Journal "Nixon has woven a tale that grabs and holds her readers...It's a really fun read!" -VOYA "A page-turner that will satisfy mystery and ghost story fans." -Booklist

mary higgins clark the cradle will fall: Bestseller Robert McParland, 2018-12-15 Whether curled up on a sofa with a good mystery, lounging by the pool with a steamy romance, or brooding over a classic novel, Americans love to read. Despite the distractions of modern living, nothing quite satisfies many individuals more than a really good book. And regardless of how one accesses that book—through a tablet, a smart phone, or a good, old-fashioned hardcover—those choices have been tallied for decades. In Bestseller: A Century of America's Favorite Books, Robert McParland looks at the reading tastes of a nation—from the beginning of the twentieth century to the present day. Through extensive research, McParland provides context for the literature that appealed to the masses, from low-brow potboilers like Forever Amber to Pulitzer-Prize winners such as To Kill a Mockingbird. Decade by decade, McParland discusses the books that resonated with the American public and shows how current events and popular culture shaped the reading habits of millions. Profiles of authors with frequent appearances—from Ernest Hemingway to Danielle Steel—are included, along with standout titles that readers return to year after year. A snapshot of America and its love of reading through the decades, this volume informs and entertains while also providing a handy reference of the country's most popular books. For those wanting to learn more about the history of American culture through its reading habits, Bestseller: A Century of America's Favorite Books is a must-read.

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