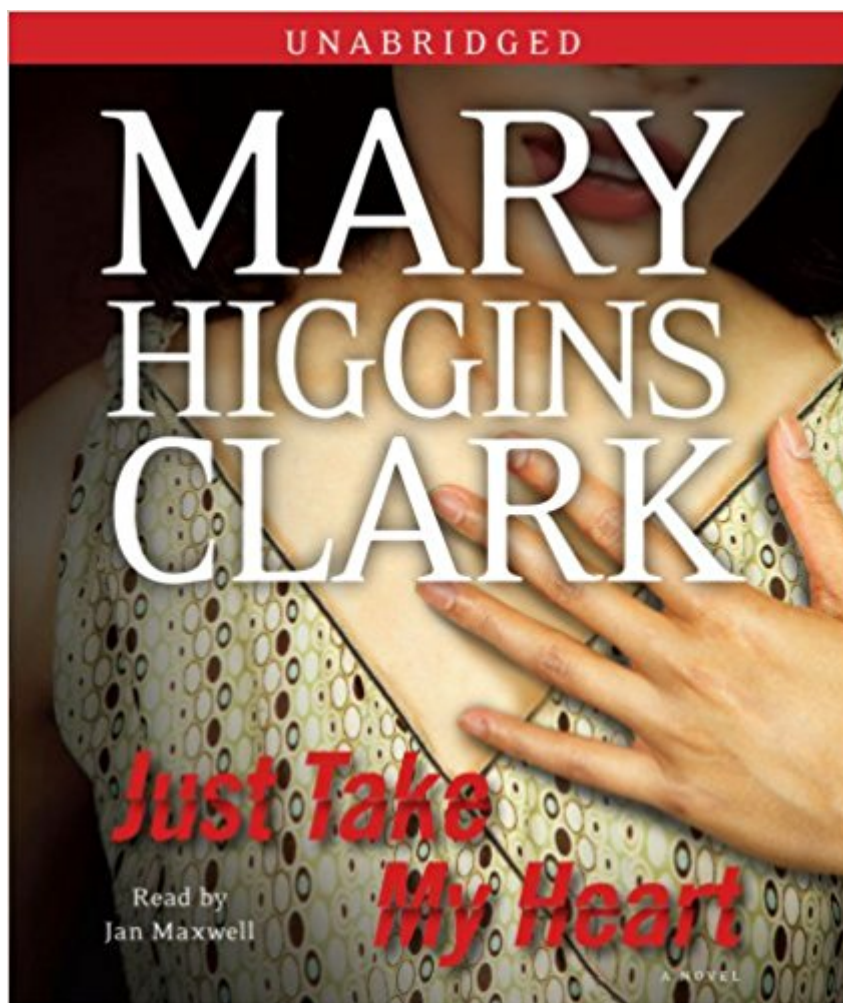




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# Just Take My Heart: A Novel



## Synopsis

The latest thriller from America's #1 bestselling Queen of Suspense In her new thriller, Mary Higgins Clark delves into a legal battle over the guilt or innocence of a man accused of murdering his wife. Woven into her plot is a little-understood, eerie but documented medical phenomenon-the emergence of a donor's traits and memories in the recipient of a heart transplant. Natalie Raines, famous Broadway star, is murdered after accidentally discovering who killed her former roommate, Jamie Evans. Natalie's estranged husband, theatrical agent Gregg Aldrich, was known to have stalked Natalie to find out if she was seeing another man, and becomes "a person of interest" in her death. After a career criminal comes forward to claim that Aldrich hired him to kill his wife, a job he decided to turn down, a Grand Jury indicts Gregg for the murder of his wife. Emily Wallace, an attractive thirty-two year old widowed assistant prosecutor, is summoned by her boss, Edward "Ted" Scott Wesley, who tells her that he wants her to handle the case, a plum assignment. She spends increasingly long hours preparing for the trial. A seemingly well-meaning neighbor offers to take care of her dog in her absence. Unaware of his violent past, she gives him a key to her home... As Aldrich's trial is making headlines, Wesley warns Emily 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.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Perhaps overcompensating for her lethargic renderings of other Higgins Clark thrillers (e.g., Where

Are You Now?), Jan Maxwell picks up pace smartly. The narration is a shade frenetic in the beginning, as Maxwell breathlessly introduces the key players (the murdered actress, Natalie Raines; her husband and chief suspect Greg Aldrich; assistant prosecutor Emily Wallace; and her serial killer stalker, Zach Lanning) in an overly upbeat chirp. The quick tempo works better as the plot slogs through procedural matters. All of the men, however, sound too much alike and the women's voices also blur at key points. These flaws aside, this audio book proves entertaining summer listening. A Simon & Schuster hardcover (Reviews, Mar. 30). (Apr.) Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

"Fans will be as excited as ever coming down the home stretch." --Kirkus Reviews  
"A must-read for mystery enthusiasts." --Tucson Citizen  
"Intense . . . the action hurtles to a surprising resolution."  
--Publishers Weekly

Mary Higgins Clark is one of my favorite suspense writers and this novel will keep me buying more yet. While I did figure out the whodunit, it wasn't until right before it was revealed. I was kept in suspense and I love that. It's why it's my favorite genre. Without giving much away, one thing I did figure out pretty quickly was the heart (it's in the title after all). However, it seems that just when the romance may start, the book ends. Although most loose ends were tied, it kind of seemed an abrupt ending. Could there possibly be a series in this? MHC doesn't usually do that but who knows? It wouldn't be a bad idea.

Great book overall! The story line was evenly paced and intriguing. I enjoyed it very much and liked the development of each character. My only disappointment was I thought it ended rather abruptly for the main character. It left me feeling surprised, like "that's it?"

Mary Higgins Clark is in a class all of her own! Wonderfully written the books recommend themselves! This story is very intriguing and captivating. A great read for teens and older readers alike.

I bought this paperback for my closest friend, who is wheelchair-bound with MS. She collects all of the Mary Higgins Clark novels and re-reads them. The plot of this story was catching and entertaining as well as the sub plots. Her face always lights up when I bring her a new book by this prolific author. As this author is an expert storyteller, she, of course, has a lot to live up to when a

new book comes out. Compared to other stories, such as Love Music, Loves to Dance, or Little Girls in Blue, it is not as intriguing.

A real surprise ending. I liked the way the author summed up the ending with multiple villains. BIG also usually the author describes the characters, especially the women as being 50 or 60 and looking like a twenty year old plus their bodies having perfect proportions. It doesn't work like that Mary only on some occasions. Couldn't some of the older characters be amusing and intellectual without being of movie star quality. You know Mary like a Judy Dench or a Maggie Smith. They aren't beauties, but they are certainly believable.

What a fantastic mystery!! The twists and turns were very seamlessly woven. The serial killer is from a real story so it was hauntingly familiar.

Clark keeps you in suspense all the way - can't put her books down!

I read everything of Mary Higgins Clark I can find. (Sometimes more than once!)

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