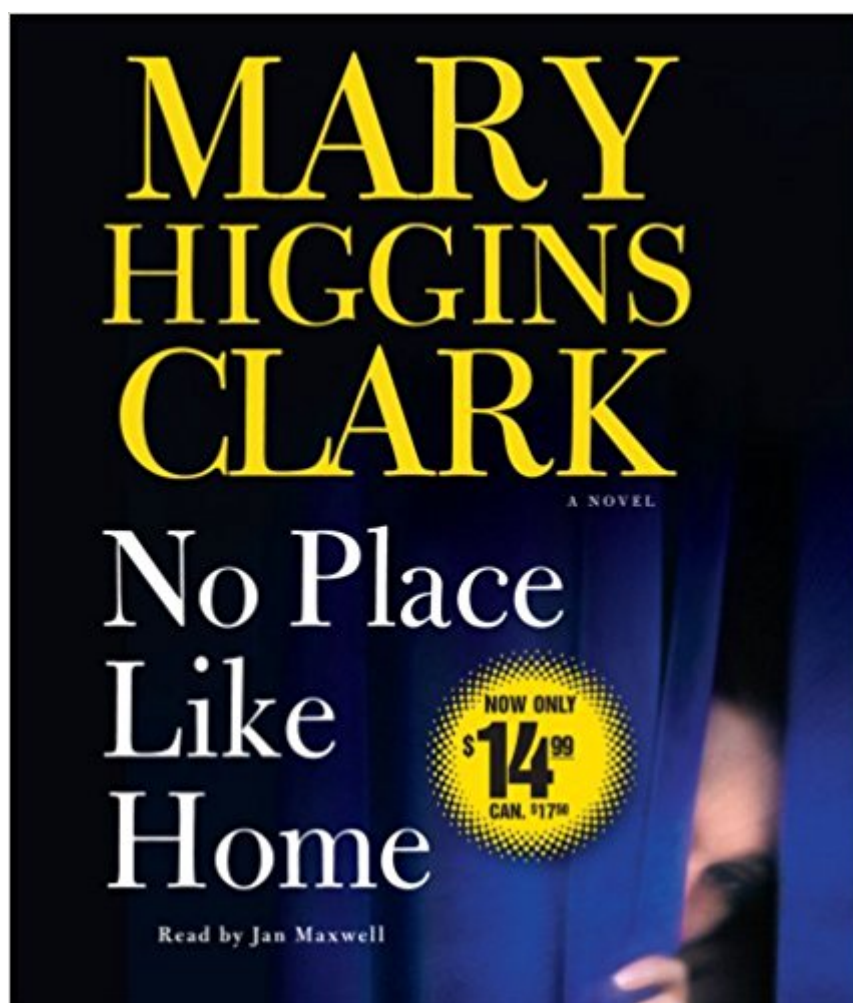


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No Place Like Home: A Novel



Synopsis

At the age of ten, Liza Barton shot her mother in their New Jersey home while trying to protect her from her violent stepfather. Despite her stepfather's claim that the shooting was a deliberate act, the Juvenile Court ruled the death an accident. Trying to erase every trace of Liza's past, her adoptive parents changed Liza's name to Celia. At the age of twenty-eight, she married a sixty-year-old widower, and they had a son. Before their marriage, Celia confided the secret of her earlier life. On his deathbed, her husband made her swear never to reveal her past to anyone, so that their son would not carry the burden of this family tragedy. Happily remarried, Celia is shocked when her second husband presents her with a gift- the New Jersey house where she killed her mother. On the day they move in, the words BEWARE-LITTLE LIZZIE'S PLACE have been painted on the lawn. Determined to prove that she was the victim of her stepfather's psychotic behavior, Celia sets out to gather the evidence. When the real estate agent who sold the house is brutally murdered she is once again branded a killer. As Celia fights to prove her innocence, she is not aware that her life and the life of her son are in jeopardy.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Clark's clever use of a bit of New Jersey real estate code fits perfectly into her usual formula for minting bestsellers in a novel about past deadly secrets coming to haunt the present. At One Old Mill Lane, in Mendham, N.J., 10-year-old Liza Barton wakes to find her stepfather, Ted Cartwright, attacking her mother, Audrey. Liza grabs a gun in defense, but in the ensuing melee Audrey is killed and Ted is wounded. Dubbed "Little Lizzie Borden," Liza is taken away and almost convicted of

murdering her mother and attempting to kill the lying, scheming Ted. Twenty-four years later, Liza, now known as Celia Foster Nolan, has just been presented with a surprise birthday present from her new husband, Alex: the house at One Old Mill Lane. Alex doesn't know Celia is really Liza, and he doesn't know the house's grim pastâ "but thanks to a real estate code obligating agents to notify prospective buyers if a house could be considered "stigmatized property," he's about to find out about the latter at least. As Celia fights to keep her dark secret hidden, their real estate agent turns up dead. More folks are killed and Celia comes under suspicion. But in typical Clark style, most of the characters look a little guilty. Some readers will get annoyed by Celia's tendency to do things that reinforce the cops' suspicions, but Clark's steadfast fans will suspend all necessary disbelief and play along. Agent, Sam Pinkus. One million first printing; main selection of the Literary Guild, Doubleday Book Club, Doubleday Large Print, Mystery Guild and BOMC. (Apr.) --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

'Clark plays out her story like the pro that she is ... flawless' DAILY MIRROR'Trust Mary Higgins Clark to know what frightens us to death' NEW YORK TIMES

Another great suspense novel by Mary Higgins Clark. She has been one of my go to authors since I was a teenager. I promise you won't be disappointed.

Another excellent read from MHC. I only wish she would sometimes write about "real" people the reader can relate to instead of always the rich and privileged.

I liked No place like home very much, but then I like all Mary Higgins books. I've been a fan for years I recommend this one, could'nt stop reading. Reading another one now, if you like mystery and suspense she is the one to read.

Mary Higgins Clark is the best, hands down, mystery writer of my generation. Page turners, "clean," fun trying to guess "who done it." I have all of her books in my personal library. In fact I just finished reading them all again in 2012. Her stories are mystifying and her vocabulary so rich.

The story was very good up to the conclusion. I thought the characters were well drawn and seemed realistic. But I think the husband was not realistic. He seemed most happy and kind and the young son liked him a lot. For me the ending was reached too quickly with no planning.

I've read all of her books and each time I pick one up, I can't seem to put it down! Honestly I have no idea how she can I keep writing and coming up with new plus that keep you so intrigued. I'm definitely a fan!

While a little too coincidental, Clark's smooth writing makes this story a good one to enjoy reading with at least a blend of mystery through out that leads to a not really surprising ending.

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