



The Summer I Met Jack

Michelle Gable

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New York Times bestselling author imagines the affair between John F. Kennedy and Alicia Corning Clark - and the child they may have had.

Based on a real story - in 1950, a young, beautiful Polish refugee arrives in Hyannisport, Massachusetts to work as a maid for one of the wealthiest families in America. Alicia is at once dazzled by the large and charismatic family, in particular the oldest son, a rising politician named Jack.

Alicia and Jack are soon engaged, but his domineering father forbids the marriage. And so, Alicia trades Hyannisport for Hollywood, and eventually Rome. She dates famous actors and athletes and royalty, including Gary Cooper, Kirk Douglas, and Katharine Hepburn, all the while staying close with Jack. A decade after they meet, on the eve of Jack's inauguration as the thirty-fifth President of the United States, the two must confront what they mean to each other.

The Summer I Met Jack by Michelle Gable is based on the fascinating real life of Alicia Corning Clark, a woman who J. Edgar Hoover insisted was paid by the Kennedys to keep quiet, not only about her romance with Jack Kennedy, but also a baby they may have had together.

The Summer I Met Jack Details

Date : Published May 29th 2018 by St. Martin's Press

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Author : Michelle Gable

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Genre : Historical, Historical Fiction, Fiction, Romance

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From Reader Review The Summer I Met Jack for online ebook

Tammy says

I have always been obsessed with the Kennedy's. The Summer I Met Jack fed my obsession and I had a hard time putting it down. Michelle Gable did an amazing job researching! I ended up falling down a Kennedy rabbit hole after reading this book and different accounts of Alicia Darr's life. This book is fiction but is based on real life people and events. Loved it!

Deanna says

My reviews can also be seen at: [https://deesradreadsandreviews.wordpress...](https://deesradreadsandreviews.wordpress.com)

4.5 Stars!

This is the first novel I've read from Michelle Gable. The first line of the book blurb:

“New York Times bestselling author imagines the affair between JFK and Alicia Corning Clark - and the child they may have had.”

I was intrigued. The fact that this is based on the real-life romance between Jack Kennedy and Alicia Corning Clark is fascinating.

Alica Darr (formerly Barbara Kopczynska), came to America in hopes of a better life. Before the war, Alicia was an upper-class citizen with a loving mother and father. Now she's a “Displaced Person”, alone and hoping that she'll be allowed to stay in America.

Alica meets a handsome and charismatic man at the movie theatre where she works. She feels an instant connection to him. It's not just that he's handsome, “***there remained something special about him, something beautiful that had little to do with actual presentation***” and he also “***had one hell of a smile***”.

And then he introduces himself....“***My name's Jack. Jack Kennedy***”

He was one of ***them***. Irenka had told many stories of this family...the mischief and the trouble they caused. “***They stole cars, broke limbs, and swiped food off one another's plates.***” After some harmless flirting, he leaves....leaving Alicia both charmed and bewildered.

And so begins a romance like no other. But this isn't just about Alicia and Jack. It's also about the other aspects of Alicia's life. A woman with many names whose life was full of fascinating experiences and people. From Massachusetts to Hollywood and Rome; she had friendships and relationships with many well-known people. People like Kirk Douglas, Marilyn Monroe, and Katherine Hepburn, just to name a few. And of course Jack... “***how can I love him so much when he gives me so little in return***”.

But Alicia also had secrets and lived in fear of many things. We learn about her engagements and marriages... and the tough choices she had to make.

This was such a unique read for me. I've always wondered about the Kennedy's but knew very little about them. I was so curious about what was true, what wasn't true....or even what was partially true. Was Rose Kennedy really a cold mother obsessed with her children's weight, weighing them weekly? Did she run her family like a business? Was Joe really warm and loving to his children but so blatantly obvious about his extracurricular activities?

I was constantly running to my laptop to check things out. It was interesting looking at old pictures and articles online. I've honestly never Googled so much about a novel I was reading before. Even if some of what I read wasn't true... it didn't matter to me. I was learning things while enjoying a great story.

This is a story about a love affair, a fascinating woman, and a family that was said to be more connected than the mob and FBI and apparently more deceitful than both of them put together. This is not a biography, but it is based on real people and events. A book with a lot of true facts mixed with fiction in order to tell a story. And what a story it was! I can tell how much effort went into this novel and I appreciate it. What's the full truth? We may never know for sure. But this sure was an interesting read.

I'd like to thank St.Martin's Press for giving me the opportunity to read this book in exchange for my honest review.

Martie Nees Record says

Genre: Women's Fiction

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Pub. Date: May 29, 2018

The book's blurb reads, "Based on a real story - in 1950, a young, beautiful Polish refugee arrives in Hyannisport, Massachusetts to work as a maid for one of the wealthiest families in America." The family is the Kennedys. Of course, the Jack in the title is a young Jack Kennedy. I was disappointed in this book, but it may be my own fault. I thought I was reading historical fiction and not women's fiction. The story reads close to a romance novel, which is a genre I do not care for. I did read and like the "The Paris Apartment," also by Michelle Gable. In "Apartment," Gable wrote a similar type of book. She wove together a tale of romance and mystery, to become a past and present page-turner. However, I went into that book knowing what I was about to read.

This book is based on the true events from the life of American socialite Alicia Corning Clark, married to Alfred Corning Clark who was a Singer Sewing Machine heir. We first meet Alicia soon after she leaves Poland in the late 1940s and arrives in the United States as a displaced person. To begin fresh, she changes her name from Barbara Kopczynska to Alica Darr (and then, by marriage, to Alicia Corning Clark)." Corning Clark lived a life that should have been a movie. She had more lives than a cat. In Poland, she was a Jewish girl hidden in a convent to escape the Nazis. In the United States, she was a Roman Catholic maid, an aspiring artist, a call girl, and a Hollywood movie star. She was also a woman whom J. Edgar Hoover insisted was paid by the Kennedys to keep her affair with JFK, and their possible love child, out of the headlines. An interesting tidbit for me is that I once again was able to read about a Singer Sewing Machine heir. I first read about Pairs Singer in the historical fiction "Isadora" by Amelia Gray. Alfred Corning Clark's father was partners with Paris' father, Isaac Singer. In real life, it was Corning Clark who changed Darr into a wealthy, respectable society woman. Both men lived a life filled with scandals. Who knew there is so much dirt revolving around the Singers? Sort of like the Kennedys.

Darr's real-life story is one reason why I did not give up on the book. That and the Kennedys. My interest was constantly re-sparked: Was Rose Kennedy really an odd duck and a cold mother? Was Joe Sr. really a Nazi sympathizer? Was Bobby really a dislikable man? Not to mention, the family connections to the mafia, or the rumor that they had Marilyn Monroe being murdered before she could expose that she was sleeping with both Bobby and Jack. (I did chuckle when reading that Jackie put a poster of Monroe over Jack's bed. Wonder if that was true?) And so on and so forth with all the Kennedy rumors.

Gable lists extensive research for this novel in her end-notes, which is always a plus. Her most moving writing moments are when she is describing JFK's painful long suffering due to being born with Addison's disease, a condition that is life-threatening when the adrenal glands fail to manufacture adequate amounts of essential hormones. It was imperative to the Kennedys that Jack presents an image of robust good health. Naturally, they denied his medical condition, as well as playing down his back problems due to a degenerative disc disease. What is it about the Kennedy clan that still pulls us in? Whatever it is, it helped this reviewer overlook the story's melodrama, the Hollywood celebrity name-dropping, and the exotic romance settings to find the historical fiction hidden inside. I am glad that I did.

I received this Advance Review Copy (ARC) novel from the publisher at no cost in exchange for an honest review.

Find all my book reviews at:

Goodreads: <https://www.goodreads.com/review/list>

Leave Me Alone I am Reading & Reviewing: <https://books6259.wordpress.com/>

Twitter: Martie's Book Reviews: <https://twitter.com/NeesRecord>

Michelle says

Launching 5/22/2018

THE SUMMER I MET JACK is my fourth book and I'm still recovering from writing it!

Yes, it is *that* Jack, and yes, it's based on a true story. The wealthy Alicia Corning Clark died in New York, in 2016, at the stated age of 79 but she lied about her age constantly and apparently even in death. Her estate and will were in a state of bedlam so attorneys tried to track down possible heirs. She didn't have any children...or did she?

Alicia, a Jewish refugee from Poland, had a romance with then-congressman Jack Kennedy in the early 50s, and their relationship continued (on and off, one assumes) for approximately a decade thereafter. J. Edgar Hoover's files were released under the Freedom of Information Act in 1977 and in them he claims that Bobby Kennedy gave Alicia \$500,000 of hush money shortly before JFK's 1961 inauguration. Surely this was about more than the two dating in 1950, eleven years prior and while Jack was single. In THE SUMMER I MET JACK, I try to piece together what might have happened, as well as take the reader

through Alicia's very colorful life, which included affairs with Gary Cooper and Katharine Hepburn, to name a few.

This book was by far the hardest for me to write, and it took the longest (several times over), and required the most amount of research. In writing it, I read over 150 books and thousands of articles (many I had translated from other languages) and pages and pages of partially redacted FBI files. I conducted a few interviews and flew thousands of miles to read articles available only on microfiche. I also had to learn to use microfiche again. ;) As always, where I use historical people and events, my goal is to make the narrative plausible. I write fiction, so this is not meant to be a biography. However, much of it is fact and I weave fiction into the gaps to tell a story.

In my Goodreads review for my first book, I joked that I had to give it 5 stars, sort of like how you have to think your kids are cute (mine actually are, of course). Well, this book was a kid who was colicky for over a year and never let me sleep for more than two hours at a time. This kid whined and complained and often spit back up whatever I put into him. He has the "Kennedy stomach," I guess. In the end, though, I love him, perhaps because he put me through so much agony and came out okay on the other side. I put every drop of myself into this book, and I hope you love the result.

Jamie Rosenblit says

I loved this book! Let me preface by saying, I am really not the biggest historical fiction person, even when I love a book that's historical, it usually takes me a bit to really pick up the pace. The Summer I Met Jack was really an exception here, I was hooked from page 1 and I stayed up hours past my usual bedtime to devour every last word. There was no hope of sleep, I had to see how Alicia's story would play out. I've always been intrigued by JFK and the Kennedys, which is why I sought this out, despite knowing how I am sometimes with historical. I was SO invested in the lives of the characters, I was constantly pondering what was based on reality and what was purely fiction - I was asking my mom every step of the way "hey do you remember if this ever happened?" - tears rolled down my eyes as the story ended as I wasn't ready to say goodbye. Add this to your TBR as it is one you will not want to miss come Spring!

I received an advance copy. All opinions are my own.

Patricia says

I really enjoyed reading me uncorrected copy of THE SUMMER I MEET JACK which is a fictionalized account of the life of Alicia Darr. This novel primarily take place in the 1950's and 60's. Alicia had quite an interesting life. Originally from Poland, Alicia meets JFK while living and working on the east coast. Next, Hollywood, and a ton of names are dropped along the way! If you are looking for an entertaining read, look no farther. I received this book for an honest review.

On sale 5/22/18

Sharlene says

A fascinating look at the Kennedy family, Jack and Alicia Corning Clark. Could not put this one down.

Amazing attention to details.

Ann Marie (Lit·Wit·Wine·Dine) says

Please visit my my Instagram page to enter the GIVEAWAY.

When I first heard about this book, I was very excited because I had read Michelle Gable's *I'll See you in Paris* and already knew I liked her writing. Like many Americans, I've always been drawn to glamour and glitz as well as the drama and tragedy of the Kennedy family. I somehow had it in my head that this was going to be a very Kennedy-centric book detailing one of his many affairs. I was pleasantly surprised that this book was much more than that.

The Summer I Met Jack is the fascinating story of how a young woman, a "displaced person" from Poland, rose from Kennedy cleaning lady to almost-first-lady and Hollywood fame. As you might imagine, it didn't happen easily. How the story of Alicia Darr never came to my attention is now beyond my comprehension. She was a fascinating woman in her own right and I'm glad her story has been told in this novel.

Alicia was a very a complex character. I'm not sure that I found her to be 100% likable but I did, for the most part, respect her. She was a bit of what some might call a climber but, let's face it, options for women with ambition and no formal education or family to stand behind were limited in the 1950's. I empathized with her situation. She was able to transition from a naive young woman to a wealthy, sophisticated socialite. Certainly Jack played a role in all that but, after reading the book, I have mixed feelings about exactly what that was. He certainly helped her make connections that advanced her career. But at what cost to her personal life? She certainly had a very interesting history with men post-Jack.

As for Jack, I learned a fair about him that I didn't know as well. And while it's perhaps a bit naive of me, I was surprised and frustrated to learn the extent of his family's meddling. They may have changed the very course of history for Jack and our country.

It's very apparent from the text and the author's notes that a tremendous amount of research went into this book. I was inspired to do some googling on my own and enjoyed reading even more about Alicia and her remarkable life.

The Summer I Met Jack was a very compelling read. The second half flew by even faster than the first. This book is a great beach read for anyone who prefers a page-turner with just the right amount of substance.

4.5/5 stars

Thanks to St. Martin's Press for providing me with a free copy of this book in exchange for an honest review.

You can read this and all of my reviews at Lit·Wit·Wine·Dine

Sue says

Michelle has taken on the daunting task of telling a story about the Kennedy family. Everyone of a certain age feels like they know all there is to know about the Kennedys so what could she possibly write about. Boy oh boy, does she show the doubters. She tells the story about a woman who had an affair with JFK in the late 50s who could have changed history. She was someone that I had never heard of and the author's research into the family is so good that I learned more about them than I had ever known. This is a fantastic novel that will keep you thinking about the main character long after you finish it.

In 1950, a young, beautiful Polish refugee arrives in Hyannisport, Massachusetts to work as a maid for the Kennedy, one of the wealthiest families in America. Alicia and Jack Kennedy had met a few weeks earlier at the movie theater she worked at and there was an immediate spark between the two of them. After lots of ups and downs in their relationship, Jack and Alicia became engaged. Once Papa Joe found out that Alicia was actually Jewish, he knew it would derail his plans for his son to be president of the US so he encouraged his son to break off the engagement. Alicia goes to Hollywood and meets lots of famous men but no one can compare to JFK and their love for each other. We all know what happened to JFK and who he married but this book tells the reader what happened to Alicia and the rest of her life.

This is a fantastic book with lots of research to back up the story. Even though I had never heard of Alicia before, I have been on line looking up information about her. It doesn't matter what party affiliation you are, this is a great look at history in our country back in the 50s and 60s. I highly recommend it.

Thanks to the publisher for a copy of this book to read and review. All opinions are my own.

Darlene says

Great piece of historical fiction about the Kennedy clan. I enjoyed it!

Stacey says

4.5 The unexpected pleasure of going into a book blind is so rewarding. The Summer I Met Jack is pure pleasure as I'm whisked away to the 1950's. The story shifts from the 1950's to present day which kept me intrigued and reading on to find out how the two intersect.

Barbara Kopczynska is an immigrant from Poland. She changes her name to Alicia Darr to assimilate and appear more American. She soon finds employment at the house of the Kennedy's as a maid. Yes, 'the' Kennedy's. She is also selling her paintings at the local movie house while working there as well. It is at the movie house where she first encounters Jack Kennedy and there is an undeniable attraction. She is caught off guard when she sees him at a party that she is working at the Kennedy home. You would think that would put an end to Jack's attraction to Alicia because of social class, but Jack is not deterred and pursues her. Jack is in the political spotlight and all appearances must be perfect in the public eye. When Jack's father, Joe, finds out that Alicia isn't who he thought she was he aggressively discourages the relationship. Jack and Alicia continue their relationship secretly, but soon enough Alicia finds herself swimming upstream and realizes she will never be on equal grounds in the Kennedy family and earn their respect.

I liked the first part of the book that deals with the relationship between Jack and Alicia. It's romantic and a little edgy as Alicia is always looking over her shoulder waiting for her past to catch up to her. When their

relationship is absolutely finished, Alicia's life takes front seat and her tumultuous relationships with a roster of celebrities is spilled on the front pages of gossip magazines.

Is it possible that a baby was conceived during Alicia and Jack's affair? It seems plausible. When I read historical fiction and I start googling people and places after I finish, I know I've just read a great book.

Thank you Michelle Gable, St. Martin's Press, and NetGalley for an advanced copy.

Tracy says

I won this book in a Goodreads Giveaway! Whoo-hooo!!

This is my third book by this author and I did enjoy it. I would love to know more about what is real and what is fiction. I realize the little details can't all be real, but I believe the author was very meticulous about her research and you feel that in the story.

A lot of people are fascinated by the Kennedy family and this is just another piece of that puzzle! A not well known tale which makes it even more fascinating and how it all ended was understandable, but sad all the same. I applaud this author for discovering Alicia Darr and introducing her to us!

You get an inside look at Joe and Rose Kennedy as well as a different view of the children (at least I did). The ending of the book is not depressing. I just wish Alicia had a happier life is all. She definitely paid her dues for loving JFK.

If you love reading about the Kennedy family or you enjoy historical fiction, this is worth your time!

Bkwmlee says

For me, this book was a huge disappointment and while I wouldn't say that I regretted reading it, I do wish that I had stood my ground a bit more in terms of not accepting widgets for books that I wasn't tremendously interested in reading. Of course, I already knew going into this book that it would be a story about the Kennedy family (albeit a fictional story), more specifically about JFK and the love affair he supposedly had with a woman named Alicia Corning Clark (Alicia Darr for most of the story) in the early years prior to him becoming the 35th President of the United States. I actually had never heard of Alicia Corning Clark prior to reading this book and being that this was an "imagined" story of the affair, I deliberately refrained from looking up anything about her until after I finished reading, as I didn't want any preconceived understanding about who Clark was in real life to affect my feelings toward her character in the story (more on this later). Despite the mention of "love affair" in the book summary, I was fully expecting this story to lean more towards historical fiction given the historical context with the Kennedy family, however it turned out that this fell more heavily into the romance category. In addition, parts of the story felt a bit YA to me, mostly due to the main female protagonist being in her early 20s for much of the story, yet acting like a defiant teenager majority of the time, plus the style of the writing felt less mature and many of the scenarios were melodramatic (more about the writing later). Unfortunately, both of these genres (romance and YA) are ones that I don't really care for, so this did put me off quite a bit.

Genre aside, there were actually quite a few things that made this book a disappointment for me (hence the low rating), though interestingly enough, in reading through the reviews, I seem to once again be the outlier here, as there are a lot of 4 and 5 star ratings for this book and most readers didn't seem to have the same issues I did. It does make me wonder whether I actually read the same book that everyone else read....

In any case, one of the things that frustrated me most with this story were the characters and the way they were written, especially Alicia, a character I disliked almost from the start. Like I mentioned earlier, I didn't know anything about the real-life Alicia going into this (and I still don't know that much about her to be quite honest), so I can't comment on how she compares to the real person, but to me, Alicia in the story came off as a caricature and, at times, somewhat stereotypical. Everything about Alicia (the character) seemed to be contradictory in that her behavior never seemed to sync up with her thoughts and more often than not, she would say one thing and do the complete opposite. Don't get me wrong – I'm all for flawed characters in fictional stories and in fact, prefer them over characters that come across too perfect, but in this case, I felt like the author went a bit overboard in the opposite direction in that Alicia seemed to have all her worst personality flaws exaggerated and brought into the spotlight while her positive traits (aside from her looks of course – there was constant reference to Alicia being “blonde and beautiful”) were mostly pushed to the background. Most of the other characters as well were depicted this way (negative personality traits magnified tenfold) -- though of course, with the Kennedys, it's not surprising given all the scandals and rumors surrounding that infamous family, but still, given that this was a fictional story, I was expecting the characterizations to be a bit more balanced. Instead, I felt at times that I was reading a “tell-all” biography of sorts about the various transgressions of the Kennedy family with an emphasis on JFK and the scandalous life he led (um, I think most of us already know that JFK was a charmer who had numerous affairs both while he was president and before that – I didn't need this fact to be reinforced throughout the story by depicting his character as a sex fiend who couldn't seem to get near a woman without wanting to have sex with her...it seemed like every couple pages I was reading about either his or Alicia's sexual exploits, which honestly got tiring after like the 5th mention barely a quarter of the way through the book...).

Plot-wise, there really wasn't much there outside of Alicia's various relationship “adventures,” which honestly didn't interest me much – in fact, I felt bored reading the same repetitive bits about Alicia striking up a relationship with one famous person after another (the second half of the book was basically about Alicia's “colorful” dating life -- the various people she met and had flings with). Included in this were details about Alicia's 3 marriages, most notably the one to Alfred Corning Clark, the heir to the Singer Sewing Machine fortune who left Alicia a hefty fortune after his death within weeks of their marriage. This wealth came into play in a second timeline taking place more than 60 years later, in 2016, when the executor of the now deceased Alicia Corning Clark's estate searches for a rumored potential heir to all the money she left behind (a search that really did take place back in 2016 and was reported on in the media). To be honest, this part of the story felt like a completely different book, as the writing was more engaging and the narrative was framed as a “mystery” of sorts that I actually wanted to get to the bottom of – unfortunately, this second narrative was way too brief, only a few dozen pages max, and the format of interspersing snippets of this narrative sporadically throughout the main story meant that when I started skimming the book at around the 25% mark (yes, things started getting repetitive very early in the story), I ended up missing more of the second narrative than I intended.

Overall though, the issues I had with the story and the unbalanced character depictions pale in comparisons to the problems I had with the writing, which already wasn't that great to begin with, but when you add tons of grammatical errors to the mix, this became a tedious and exceedingly frustrating read for me. I'm not sure if this had to do with the ARC version I received being messed up somehow (or perhaps the version I received was a very early rough draft), but it appears that there was little to no editing to speak of with this book. The biggest issue I noticed is what I call the missing “f” dilemma: all words that were supposed to

have “ff” in them were missing one “f” for some reason – so “offer” became “ofer,” “affair” became “afair,” “off” became “of” etc. – these last two (missing “f” in the words “affair” and “off”) were especially egregious given the extraordinary number of times both words were used throughout the story (basically it was every few pages -- trying to differentiate the instances between when the author was trying to use “off” versus “of” alone ended up giving me a headache). As if that weren’t enough, there were also sections where the narrative voice switched back and forth in between dialogue, which really threw me off and made this an even bigger chore to read. For example, there was a section where one of Alicia’s friends George asks about her family back home – instead of that section being written as a conversation between two people with dialogue set apart by quotation marks as it was in most of the other parts of the book, it was written in an odd half conversation half third person manner – George would ask a question “But your mother...?” (only including part of the quote so as to avoid spoilers) and instead of Alicia answering the question directly like we would expect in a normal conversation, what followed was 7 paragraphs explaining what happened to her mother but written in third person (i.e.: Alicia left school, Alicia filled out a form, Alicia tried looking for her, etc.) – then the next paragraph after that switches back to conversation mode with George’s dialogue in quotations and Alicia’s response also in quotations, but then the paragraph after that switches back to half and half mode again. I thought at first this was just an isolated issue with that particular section of the book and so was ready to ignore it and move on, but then a dozen or so pages later, the same thing happened again, except this time it was a “conversation” between Alicia and Jack (though this time, there was the added confusion of switching from dialogue in quotes, to a third person response, to a second person response, and then back to dialogue again). For the most part, I tend to be a little more lenient with ARCs, since it IS an uncorrected / unedited version after all, but this one was particularly bad – I’ve read several dozen ARCs over the past 2 years and this is the first time I’ve come across one with so many issues, mistakes that spanned every couple pages. The only reason I didn’t DNF the book at this point was because I had already made the decision earlier on (around the 25% mark as I mentioned above) to skim through the rest of the book due to my inability to connect with the story and majority of the characters, so I stopped paying as much attention to these issues after that.

Obviously I wouldn’t recommend this book, but like I said earlier, in reading through the many glowing reviews, I seem to be the only one who had issues, so perhaps, unlucky for me, I just received a bad ARC version of the book? I haven’t read any of this author’s other works so there’s nothing for me to compare against in terms of the writing. Probably those interested in the Kennedy family will feel compelled to read this, though if so, I recommend getting a library copy or a fully edited version. As for myself, I don’t intend on re-reading this even if a “cleaned up” version becomes available, since the subject matter is only mildly interesting to me anyway.

Received ARC from St. Martin’s Press via NetGalley

Karen says

This novel incorporating an unlikely romance between a poor Polish immigrant and America’s 35th President JFK was a page-turner. It often had me pausing to wonder what was truth and what was fiction. I read the book in just a few days and it piqued my interest to learn more about the real Alicia Corning Clark. The character on which she is based truly comes to life; Alicia’s strength of spirit and culture shine through.

The Kennedy’s are portrayed quite negatively and early on I tired of John F Kennedy being depicted repetitively as a sex maniac charmer. It gave me pause and overshadowed some of the high points as our

35th president rose through the ranks from junior congressman.

There are some surprises. One that stands out was learning that JFK sought the Presidential nomination by 'default' after his older brother Joe died in the war. To think our world could have progressed very differently if our top dog decision maker was different during these very volatile years. Thanks St.Martin's Press for giving me the opportunity to read this book in exchange for an honest review.

Marialyce says

I am placing this one on the DNF shelf. I do remember Kennedy and the memories I have are ones of respect and thinking of him as a hero. I was in fourth grade when he was assassinated and I will never forget what that did to all of us. I am sorry that this book to me has blemished that memory and I can't continue to read a book that I believe takes that awe he inspired away in so many away. I am sure that a lot of what the author wrote is true, but I would rather keep my childhood memory in tact.
