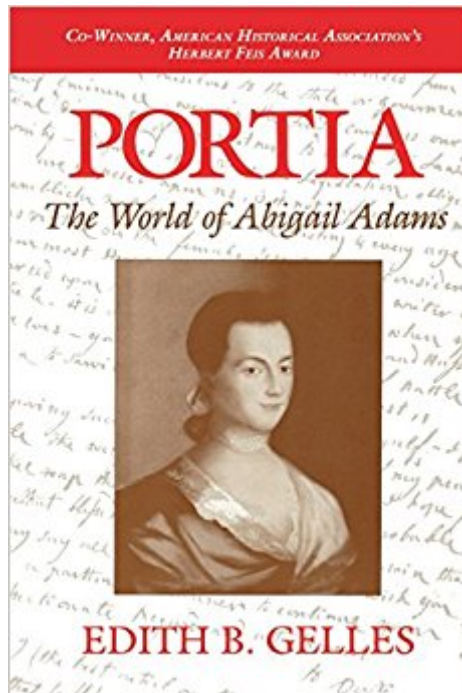


The book was found

Portia: The World Of Abigail Adams



Synopsis

"... best-of-all-biographies of Abigail Adams..." *American Historical Review* "Portia, a new study of Abigail Adams's modern feminism, is a refreshing change of pace." *San Francisco Chronicle* "... very well done, highly perceptive, and full of fresh ideas." *Wilson Library Bulletin* "... Adams's strength, courage, and wit (as well as her bouts of depression and gender conservatism) emerge more fully than they have in any previous work.... a well-rounded portrait of a remarkable figure." *Choice* "In this important and fascinating biography, Edith Gelles not only restores Abigail Adams to her rightful place at the center of her own story, she challenges the creaky conventions of traditional male-defined biography." *Susan Faludi*, author of *Backlash* "Portia, the first woman-centered biography of Abigail Adams, details the issues, events, and relationships of Adams's life. It is as much a social and cultural history of Adams's time as it is her life story."

Book Information

Paperback: 256 pages

Publisher: Indiana University Press; Reprint edition (December 22, 1992)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0253210232

ISBN-13: 978-0253210234

Product Dimensions: 6.1 x 0.8 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 12.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 3 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #163,413 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #188 in *Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Historical > United States > American Revolution* #462 in *Books > Textbooks > Social Sciences > Gender Studies* #788 in *Books > History > World > Women in History*

Customer Reviews

This fascinating biography of one of the original first ladies presents a strong character in the context of her eighteenth century and recent feminist thought. Compassionate yet scholarly, intimate yet important, this book offers a refreshing addition to the biographical canon.

Feminist historian Gelles's biography of Adams (who used Portia as her pen name) emphasizes Adams's life story over her, perhaps better-known, roles as wife of one U.S. President and mother

of another. Copyright 1995 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Gelles presents for us Abigail Adams in a new light...the domestic woman. By telling her story thematically (one chapter devoted to her and her sisters, one devoted to her daughter and Abigail's fight with breast cancer) we meet a new Abigail...one who is not weighed down by proto-feminist thought, nor is she trying to dominate the home. Abigail was an unusual woman in a few ways, but keep in mind that she kept a family together by herself for the many years when John Adams was in Philadelphia or England or France. She acted within social norms as a "deputy husband" (to use the language of the times). Although at times I question if Gelles isn't slightly underestimating the second first lady of the US...she presents a new counterpoint to the large body of Abigail Adams scholarship out there. For those scholars of Abigail Adams, her first chapter basically presents in a historiographical manner the various types of Abigail scholarship out there, offering a critique of many of the well-known authors. It is a bit dry at times, but is not at all painful to read.

In our post Hillary-Clinton world, we assume that the First Lady will influence the President to some degree or another. John and Abigail Adams, however, were a couple like no other. Their partnership was amazing and John could not have been the man he was (revolutionary, founding father, statesman, president, friend, husband and father), without Abigail. She helped balance him, shared her intelligent and insightful views with him in ways that were supportive and helpful, gave up much of the life she probably envisioned with him so that he could serve his country in a variety of ways, managed his domestic and financial life alone for much of their marriage, and truly loved down to her core this sometimes difficult man. This book is a great addition to our knowledge of this complex woman. It is worth reading just to understand her better, aside from her well-biographed husband.

I think Abigail Adams is one the greatest and most interesting women in American history. This book gives us a picture of her as a young woman, as the wife and confidant of John, as a mother, as a manager of farms and homes, and as a friend to many. It also gives us a window into her life as a woman with a rich and interesting life of the mind and the heart. A great read!

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Portia: The World of Abigail Adams
The Adams-Jefferson Letters: The Complete Correspondence Between Thomas Jefferson and Abigail and John Adams
Abigail Adams: Girl of Colonial Days (Childhood of Famous Americans)
Abigail Adams: Witness to a Revolution
Who Was Abigail Adams?
The Culinary Lives of John & Abigail Adams: A Cookbook
Abigail Adams: A Revolutionary

American Woman (Library of American Biography Series) (3rd Edition) Abigail Adams: Courageous Patriot and First Lady (Signature Lives: Revolutionary War Era) Ansel Adams: The Camera (The Ansel Adams Photography Series 1) Abigail's Adventures Book 1: The journey begins A is for Abigail: An Almanac of Amazing American Women The Abigail Fisher Amish Romance Anthology Mega Boxset: Volume 1: 13-Book Amish Romance Mega Boxset Abigail's Story (Women of the Bible) Abigail - Orphan Bride (Young Love Historical Romance Vol.II Book 6) Diplomacy in Black and White: John Adams, Toussaint Louverture, and Their Atlantic World Alliance (Race in the Atlantic World, 1700-1900 Ser.) Boston Bohemia, 1881-1900: Ralph Adams Cram--Life and Architecture Ansel Adams 2018 Wall Calendar The Negative (Ansel Adams Photography, Book 2) The John Adams Reader: Essential Writings on an American Composer Turn Right at Machu Picchu: Rediscovering the Lost City One Step at a Time by Adams, Mark (2012) Paperback

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)