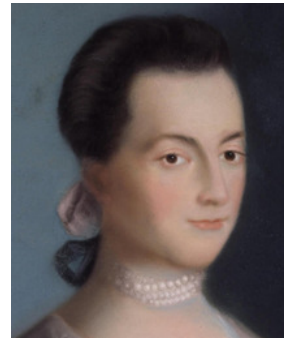


# Remember Abigail



## Reading List and Discussion Guide

### Nonfiction

- Bober, Natalie S. *Abigail Adams: Witness to a Revolution* (1998)
- Gelles, Edith B. *Portia: The World of Abigail Adams* (1992)
- Gelles, Edith B. *Abigail Adams: A Writing Life* (2002)
- Gelles, Edith B. *Abigail and John: Portrait of a Marriage* (2009)
- Holton, Woody. *Abigail Adams* (2009)
- Jacobs, Diane. *Dear Abigail: The Intimate Lives and Revolutionary Ideas of Abigail Adams and Her Two Remarkable Sisters* (2014)
- Kaminski, John. *The Quotable Abigail Adams* (2009)
- Levin, Phyllis Lee. *Abigail Adams: A Biography* (2001)
- Nagel, Paul C. *The Adams Women: Abigail and Louisa Adams, Their Sisters and Daughters* (1987)
- Roberts, Cokie. *Founding Mothers: The Women Who Raised Our Nation* (2004)
- Withey, Lynne. *Dearest Friend: A Life of Abigail Adams* (1981)

### Collected Letters

- Eds. Margaret A Hogan and C. James Taylor. *My Dearest Friend: Letters of Abigail and John Adams* (2007)
- Ed. Lester J. Cappon. *The Adams-Jefferson Letters: The Complete Correspondence Between Thomas Jefferson and Abigail and John Adams* (1959)
- Eds. L. H. Butterfield, Marc Friedlaender, Mary-Jo Kline. *The Book of Abigail & John: Selected Letters of the Adams Family, 1762-1784* (1975)

### Fiction

- Hamilton, Barbara. *The Ninth Daughter: An Abigail Adams Mystery* (2009)
- Stone, Irving. *Those Who Love: A Biographical Novel of Abigail and John Adams* (1965)

## Discussion Questions

1. John and Abigail Adams had by all accounts a very successful marriage for 54 years. Was this unique by 18th century standard? What do you attribute the strength of their relationship to?
2. Would Abigail Adams be considered a feminist today?
3. What was your favorite letter between John and Abigail? Why?
4. How does Abigail's writing style compare to that of her husband?
5. What role did religion play in Abigail's life and the life of her family?
6. What influence did Abigail have in the passing of the Alien and Sedition Acts? What were her personal views?
7. How did Abigail approach the role of First Lady? How influential was she?
8. How would we compare Abigail's time as First Lady with the First Ladies who came after her?
9. How is Abigail depicted in fictionalized version of her life and the life of her husband? Which of these seems closest to the "real" Abigail?
10. What do you think is Abigail's lasting legacy in the history of this country?

## Further Resources

Massachusetts Historical Society - Adams Family Resources

<https://www.masshist.org/adams>

Adams National Historical Park

<https://www.nps.gov/adam>

Abigail Adams Historical Society

<http://www.abigailadamsbirthplace.com/>

American Antiquarian Society

<https://www.americanantiquarian.org/abigailadams>