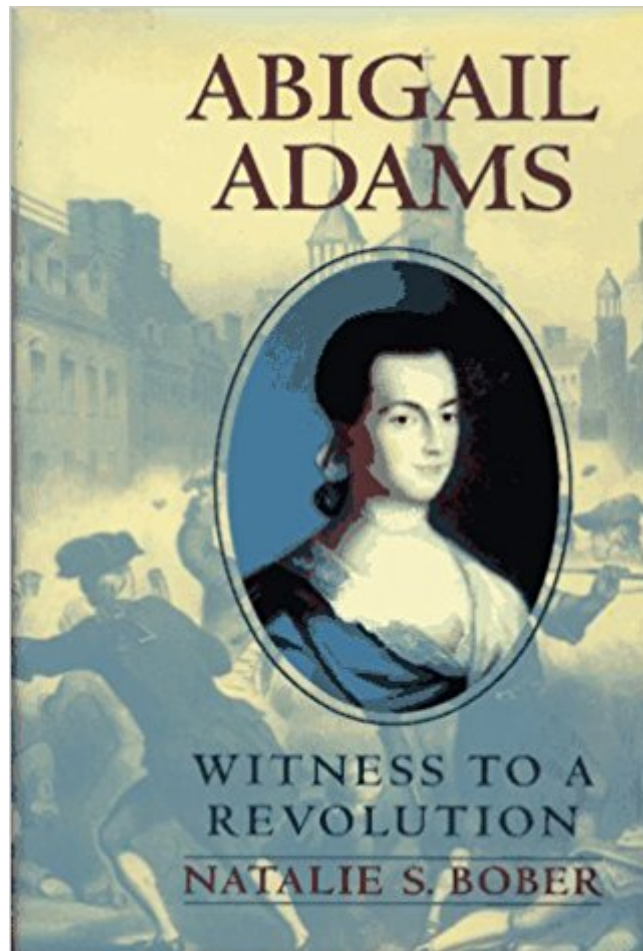




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# Abigail Adams: Witness To A Revolution



## Synopsis

Abigail Adams is often referred to as the wife of one president and the mother of another. Rarely is she described as a woman in her own right. Although her primary focus and concerns were in her role as wife and mother, she lives in history because of her extraordinary letters to her family and to her friends. She was a witness to the gathering storm of the Revolutionary War. She saw the Battle of Bunker Hill from a hilltop near her home, and soldiers marching past her door frequently stopped for a drink of water. Because she was so close to the scene, she was able to give firsthand reports of the American Revolution to her husband and other leaders creating a new government, as she wrote about the times and the people who played vital roles in the birth of our nation. Mingling the intimate with the momentous, she documented what it was like to live at a time when education was not available to young women, and when pregnancy and childbirth meant the fear of death. Colonial women were called upon to make life-and-death decisions for their children, to educate their daughters, and to run their farms when their husbands were away for months, or sometimes for years, at a time. Yet they had, at best, second-class legal and political status. Abigail Adams's independent spirit, her sense of humor, and her remarkable intellect, as shown in her letters, open a wide window on a crucial period in our nation's history, and bring Abigail Adams and her time to life.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Gr. 6<sup>+</sup>-12. Think of this biography as a portrait. Not the smooth, impassive painting reproduced on the jacket, but an intricate mosaic made of colorful bits of fact, emotion, period detail, and letters,

letters, letters. Bober nudges readers to look beyond their twentieth-century expectations and become absorbed in another age. She creates a detailed eighteenth-century background showing Adams as the product of her times: an educated, intelligent, and capable woman in an age when the expectations and challenges of a woman's role were different from what they are today, but no less complex. Often separated from her husband John, Abigail wrote letters to him and to others constantly. Throughout the text, Abigail's voice is heard through quotations from her letters. Thorough research of this first-person resource gives Bober a comfortable familiarity with Abigail's personality as well as her personal history, which is interwoven with the turbulent history of her times. As in Bober's *Thomas Jefferson: Man on a Mountain* (1988), meticulous research and documentation give the book authority, good writing gives it clarity, and sympathetic understanding gives it humanity. An excellent biography. Carolyn Phelan

We are reading this for my daughter's 4th grade year and she and I both are enjoying it immensely. Abigail Adams was an amazing woman and I am blown away by how she helped shaped our history. Seriously this is a great historical book that gives an insight into how much of a sacrifice she and John made during the American Revolution. They believed in freedom and worked tirelessly to ensure we would have it. I highly recommend this book for history buffs.

I think that having a solid understanding of the times of the revolution and those men we have come to greatly admire would be a prerequisite for this book. Certainly David McCullough's book on John Adams, one of the great books on Ben Franklin and even one regarding Thomas Jefferson's time in France would make this very rich book a little less choppy, though Bober does a wonderful job of placing Abigail's writing into perspective. A woman's view of the revolutionary times is almost impossible to find. But here it is. It is amazing as to how inconsistent John's Adam's devotion to Abigail is compared to his actual behavior. (No, I don't think he needed to be away as much as he was to accomplish the same political success.. He wanted to be away.)

The book is based on a vast collection of letters Abigail Adams wrote to John Adams and other friends and relatives. This should be mandatory reading for all high school students. We so easily forget the great sacrifices that our fore fathers (and mothers) made in the fight for America's freedom. I have always had great respect for Abigail Adams. I think this is THE best book I have read about her life

This is an excellent book which follows along through Abigail Adams' personal correspondence. I couldn't put it down. This is on the shelf to be used in our homeschool with my daughters. Definitely a don't miss book.

This is an excellently written biography of Abigail Adams. It really paints a picture of who she was and the life she lived and is written in an engaging manner.

Abigail Adams was not just an ordinary woman, she did great deeds and was a big part of the revolutionary war. This book gives incredible amount of detail on her life. YOU HAVE TO READ THIS BOOK!!!

In very good condition. Love the book!!!

I cannot even begin to tell you how disappointed I am in the quality of the printing of this book. The pictures are very, very poor quality for a new book. The book itself is fine, the binding is fine, it is a new book....but the quality of the printing is low. I'm angry and would return it, but we need to start reading it now. I am not a happy camper.

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