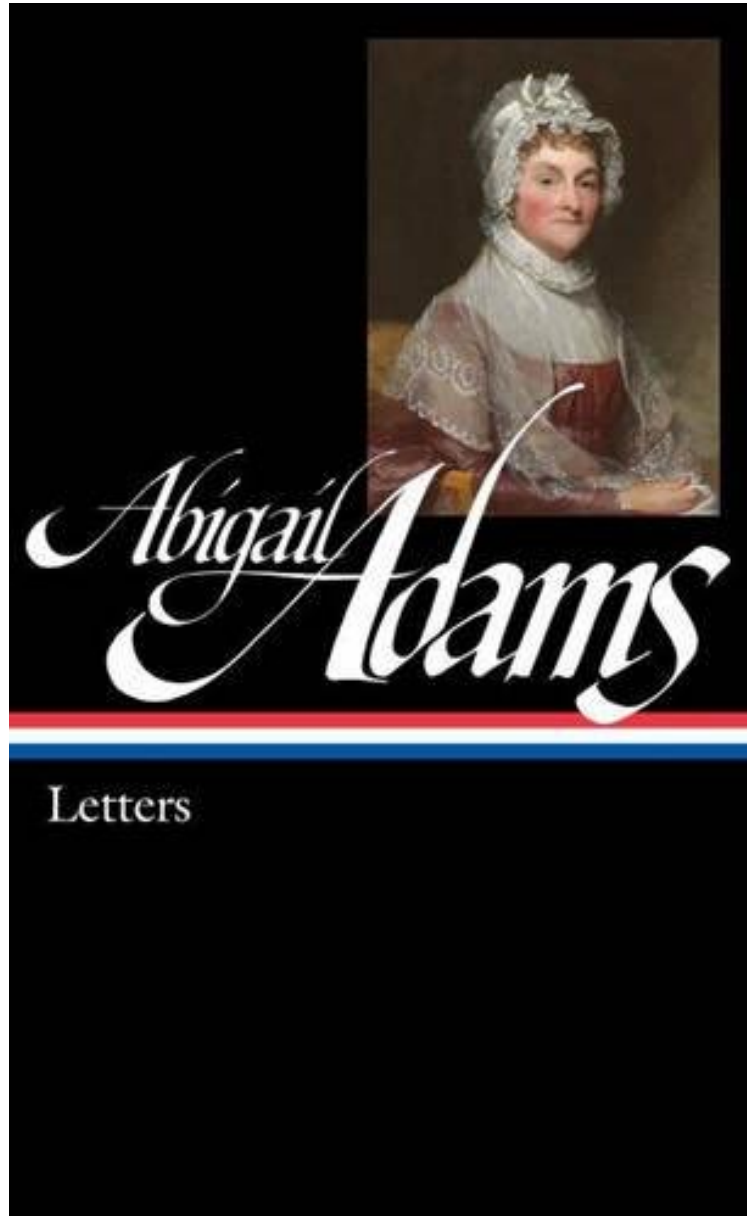


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By Sam Hunter
Adams was a strong, exceptionally intelligent woman who was a great correspondent, but it does become rather a slog to digest the entire collection. I much more enjoyed the books written by Edith Gelles previously *Abigail and John: Portrait of a Marriage*, *Portia: The World of Abigail Adams*, and *Abigail Adams: A Writing Life*. That said, the book is definitely a good read. The letters reveal Abigail's influence and involvement with her children, as well as her expectations for their excellence. She was a force to be reckoned with!
4 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Just what we need, as well read Abigail lovers or casual flaneurs who still read and enjoy
By Kindle Customer
Okay, the American Pleides are too easy to buy as books to furnish a room, a hope for future reading and a quiet claim you already read them cover to cover. The durable and elegant bindings recall the best in fine dead-tree editions before you subside into bibelot, or even the coffee table. Abigail Adams shines even more brightly in this format. The introduction adds value and the contents tempt you to jot three titles and spend a quiet hour - but this lady rewards the most casual page flipping. Dirty little secret - offers better prices and broader selection than even that Valhalla of used books, the Strand near Union Square. Second kinda dirty, or just low-middle-high brow surprise - Mrs Adams sits nicely with Phil Dick, Raymond Chandler and a good sampling of Lincoln and Jefferson, or her evidently well-blessed husband John. The brilliant Kindle editions are cheaper, easier to carry and perhaps easier for notation, pulling quotes with cites for your commonplace book. Librivox and Audible probably boost the experience of excellent writing, if only by outflanking every speed reading or executive sorta reading and immersing you in the spin word. But the Library of America, like the Pleides, is a wonderful and multi-generation invitation to reading because it makes us more fully ourselves as well as spear careers in the multiverses of history, fiction and other good letters.
8 of 9 people found the following review helpful. Wonderful content; print too small for aged eyes.
By Flatus Ohlfahrt
This is my first purchase in this series. I was thrilled when the surprisingly small jiffy-pak arrived but very disappointed to discover that the print was so small that reading these most interesting and important letters will be left to other members of my family. I am aware that there are alternatives available to old fools such as me, but one of the primary reasons of having properly bound books is so that they and their readers can grow old together.

Abigail Adams was an unusually accomplished letter writer. Spirited and insightful, her correspondence offers a unique vantage on historical events in which her family played so prominent a role, while bringing vividly to life the everyday experience of American women in the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. Here are 430 letters more than a hundred published for the first time to John Adams, John Quincy Adams, Thomas Jefferson, Mercy Otis Warren, James and Dolley Madison, and Martha Washington, among many others. Including her famous call to Remember the Ladies, letters from the 1760s and 1770s offer an unrivalled portrait of the American Revolution on the home front. Travel to Europe in the 1780s opens a grand new field for her talents as social commentator and political advisor while her roles as vice presidential and presidential wife place her at the very heart of the nations founding. Also included are a chronology of Adams's life, detailed notes, and extensively researched family trees. This volume is published simultaneously with *John Adams: Writings from the New Nation 1784-1826*, the third and final volume in the Library of America John Adams edition.

About the Author
Edith Gelles, editor, is Senior Scholar at Stanfords Michelle R. Clayman Institute for Gender Research and the author of *Abigail and John: Portrait of a Marriage* as well as the biographies *Abigail Adams: A Writing Life* and *Portia: The World of Abigail Adams*.