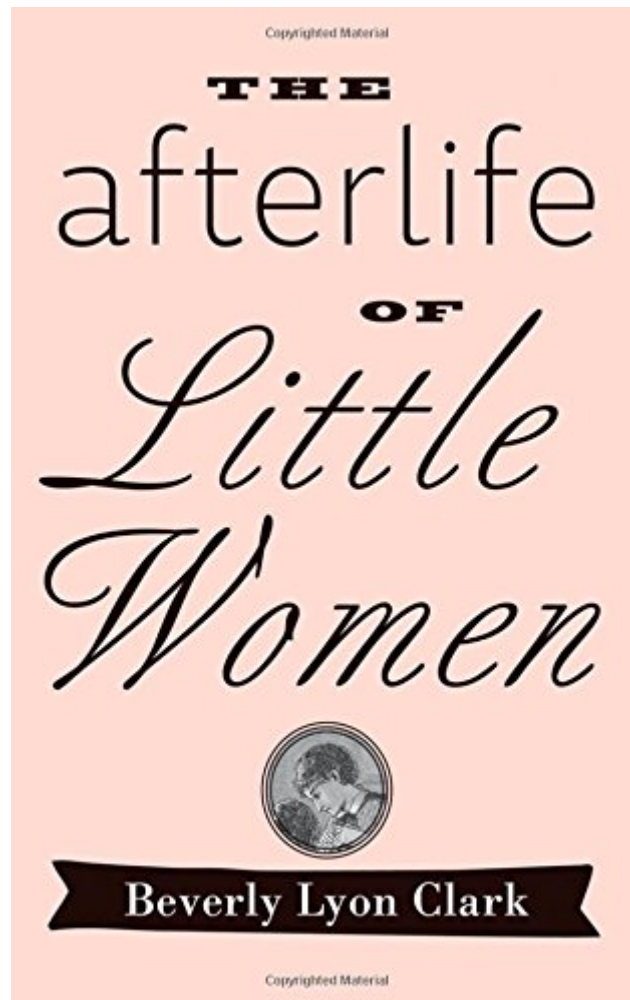


## The Afterlife of "Little Women" PDF



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The Afterlife of "Little Women" by Beverly Lyon Clark ISBN 1421415585

The hit Broadway show of 1912; the lost film of 1919; Katharine Hepburn, as Jo, sliding down a banister in George Cukor's 1933 movie; Mark English's shimmering 1967 illustrations; Jo?this time played by Sutton Foster?belting "I'll be / astonishing" in the 2004 Broadway musical flop: these are only some of the markers of the afterlife of *Little Women*.

Then there's the nineteenth-century child who wrote, "If you do not... make Laurie marry Beth, I will never read another of your books as long as I live." Not to mention Miss Manners, a *Little Women* devotee, who announced that the book taught her an important life lesson: "Although it's very nice to have two clean gloves, it's even more important to have a little ink on your fingers." In *The Afterlife of Little Women*, Beverly Lyon Clark, a leading authority on children's literature, explores these and other after-tremors, both popular and academic, as she maps the reception of Louisa

May Alcott's timeless novel, first published in 1868.

Clark divides her discussion into four historical periods. The first covers the novel's publication and massive popularity in the late nineteenth century. In the second era—the first three decades of the twentieth century—the novel becomes a nostalgic icon of the domesticity of a previous century, while losing status among the literary and scholarly elite. In its mid-century afterlife (1930–1960), *Little Women* reaches a low in terms of its critical reputation but remains a well-known piece of Americana within popular culture. The book concludes with a long chapter on *Little Women*'s afterlife from the 1960s to the present—a period in which the reading of the book seems to decline, while scholarly attention expands dramatically and popular echoes continue to proliferate.

Drawing on letters and library records as well as reviews, plays, operas, film and television adaptations, spinoff novels, translations, Alcott biographies, and illustrations, Clark demonstrates how the novel resonates with both conservative family values and progressive feminist ones. She grounds her story in criticism of children's literature, book history, cultural studies, feminist criticism, and adaptation studies. Written in an accessible narrative style, *The Afterlife of Little Women* speaks to scholars, librarians, and devoted Alcott fans.

## **The Afterlife of "Little Women" Review**

This The Afterlife of "Little Women" book is not really ordinary book, you have it then the world is in your hands. The benefit you get by reading this book is actually information inside this reserve incredible fresh, you will get information which is getting deeper an individual read a lot of information you will get. This kind of The Afterlife of "Little Women" without we recognize teach the one who looking at it become critical in imagining and analyzing. Don't be worry The Afterlife of "Little Women" can bring any time you are and not make your tote space or bookshelves' grow to be full because you can have it inside your lovely laptop even cell phone. This The Afterlife of "Little Women" having great arrangement in word and layout, so you will not really feel uninterested in reading.