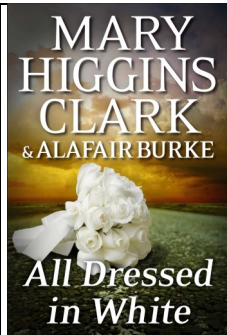




# Discussion Guide



## About the Book

Book Title: All Dressed in White

Author: Mary Higgins Clark and Alafair Burke

Published: Simon and Schuster, 2014

Author websites: [maryhigginsclark.com](http://maryhigginsclark.com)

[alafairburke.com](http://alafairburke.com)

## Questions for Discussion

1. What were your general impressions of this book?
2. How does this book compare to other mysteries you've read?
3. Which of the characters did you most identify with? Were there any of the people you hoped would be guilty? Any that you didn't want to be found guilty?
4. Mary Higgins Clark lost her own father at an early age, and her husband while her own children were young. In the interview below, she says she always creates a strong, positive character in her book who overcomes adversity, like herself. Who would be a strong character in this book? What did you think of her "strong" character?
5. Was the ending a surprise to you? Why or why not?
6. Did you think the story in this book was realistic? Have you heard of real life murders before weddings? (Listen to the Mary Higgins Clark's interview below to see where she gets story ideas).
7. Have you read other books by Mary Higgins Clark or Alafair Burke? If so, how did this book compare?
8. Listen to the interview of Alafair and her father, James, also an author. Are you aware of other families of writers? Is it common to take on the profession of parents? Did you? Why or why not?
9. This is a book written by two people. How do you think that works? Could you write a book with another person? Why or why not?
10. Would you read more books by these authors? Why or why not?
11. Read over the MAMs comments on the book. Which of them do you most agree with and why?

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*On YouTube check out: "Mary Higgins Clark on suspense"*

*<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ulachCaYgRw>*

*"Bestselling authors James Lee Burke and Alafair Burke"*

*[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G3hcF0\\_jm24](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G3hcF0_jm24)*



**NANCY:** These authors created a good, light summer read. Their writing includes well-crafted characters, suspense throughout, possibilities of each character being “it”, a true mystery until the end, and a good wrap up. For me, this sort of book provides literary escape. With so many heavy happenings in the news these days, I found myself enjoying slipping between the covers of this book for awhile and I didn’t want to come out. In fact, when I finished, I went out and checked the two others from this series. I’ve read another and am half way through the third.



**SALLIE:** Well, you know I gravitate toward the children, so my focus was on Timmy, Laurie’s little boy. I felt for him. How awful for him to watch his father be shot in front of his eyes. But so good for him to have Leo for a grandfather and Alex, his mother’s boyfriend. I’m pulling for a daddy for Timmy if Laurie can ever trust again.



**ABIGAIL:** What I’m wondering is if people really do things like this? Murder before a wedding? Obviously just a story, but are people this evil that they kill someone right before their wedding? I’m hoping this isn’t the norm. I don’t hear this in real life. From my own background in the Quaker church, I just don’t want to promote a story like this. I don’t really like books based on a murder.



**MOLLY:** This book seems stereotypical white people stuff to me. The relationships seemed almost antiseptic to me. Not a lot of warmth there among the suspects, except maybe Jeff. But I do like Laurie, Alex, Timmy and Leo. I have real empathy for all them and want to see the progression of the relationship with Laurie and Alex there moving on. Has anyone read the next book in this series? Do they hook up?



**PRISCILLA:** I agree with Nancy, she crafted some suspicious characters. The ladies all seemed to have a possible motive to want the bride dead. In some ways it seemed like the women were a little too mean. Wouldn’t they be nicer in real life?



**JANE:** I liked these strong business women characters. Yes! The one who was killed and her sister, both business women. These are my kind of women. And even the attorney, Meghan.



**KATHARINE:** Well, I’ve never been too much for the mystery genre. I see why people enjoy these books. I agree with Nancy, though, it’s a light summer read. It was a good break from the religion books I’m always reading for work. But, I wouldn’t want a steady diet of this kind of book. Not much substance for me.