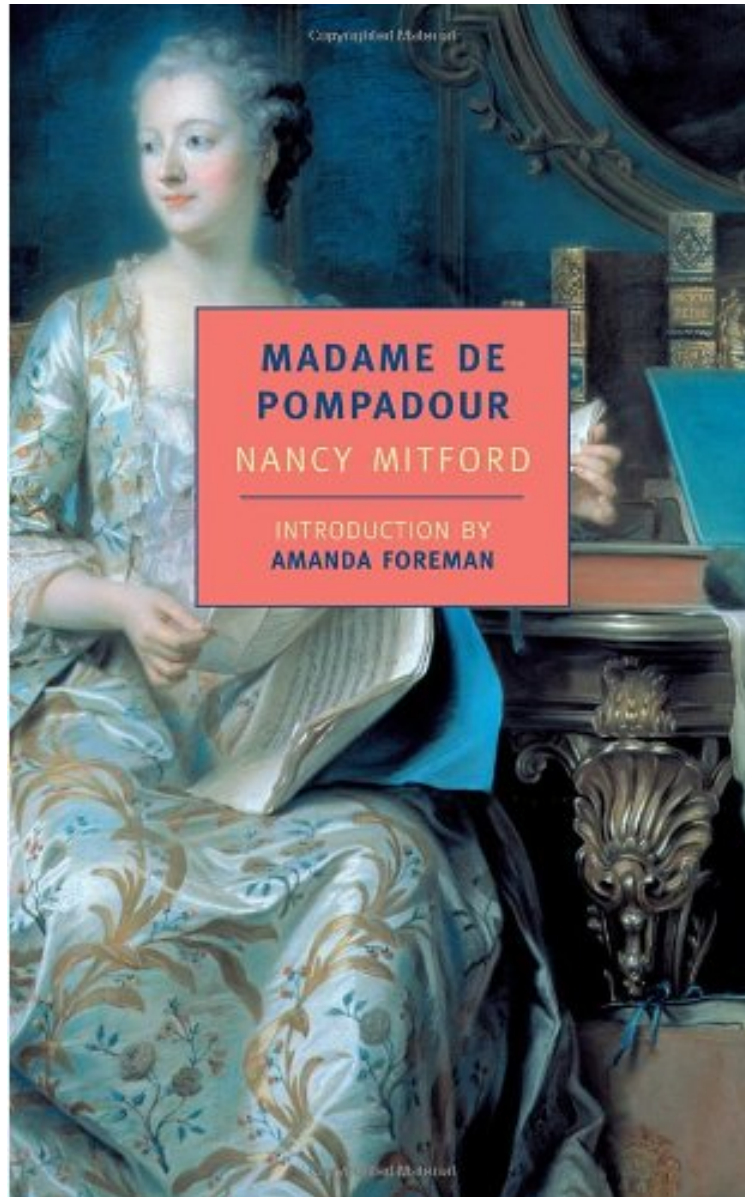


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Madame de Pompadour (New York Review Books Classics)

Nancy Mitford

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#382078 in Books Mitford, Nancy/ Foreman, Amanda (INT) 2001-03-12 2001-03-31Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 7.95 x .81 x 4.99l, .72 #File Name: 094032265X292 pages | File size: 62.Mb

Nancy Mitford : Madame de Pompadour (New York Review Books Classics) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Madame de Pompadour (New York Review Books Classics):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I had wanted this to be brilliant--and at first it ...By S. WestI had wanted this to be brilliant--and at first it was. But Mitford can find no fault in her central character, and she became

very predictable and rather too saintly. Surely a consort who rose from commoner to a titled Marquise must have had a little more varied time of it. Alas, not here. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. one of my favorite women in history By melanie adamsthis was a really well-written, and fascinating book about madame pompadour, one of my favorite women in history. do dry boring historical bio here. 10 of 10 people found the following review helpful. A Courtesan in an Aristocrat's shoes By NidkahIf you want to read about 18th century French Royalty gossip, this is your book. If you want to read a researched biography about Louis XV and his favorite mistress this is also your book, and if you want to be amused, entertained and informed about such matters read this book as soon as you can. When you finish reading this book you will have a wide insight about this magnificent French courtesan who became the most powerful woman in 18th century France.

When Madame de Pompadour became the mistress of Louis XV, no one expected her to retain his affections for long. A member of the bourgeoisie rather than an aristocrat, she was physically too cold for the carnal Bourbon king, and had so many enemies that she could not travel publicly without risking a pelting of mud and stones. History has loved her little better. Nancy Mitford's delightfully candid biography re-creates the spirit of eighteenth-century Versailles with its love of pleasure and treachery. We learn that the Queen was a "bore," the Dauphin a "prig," and see France increasingly overcome with class conflict. With a fiction writer's felicity, Mitford restores the royal mistress and celebrates her as a survivor, unsurpassed in "the art of living," who reigned as the most powerful woman in France for nearly twenty years.

About the Author Nancy Mitford (1904-1973) was born into the British aristocracy and, by her own account, brought up without an education, except in riding and French. She managed a London bookshop during the Second World War, then moved to Paris, where she began to write her celebrated and successful novels, among them *The Pursuit of Love* and *Love in a Cold Climate*, about the foibles of the English upper class. Mitford was also the author of four biographies: *Madame de Pompadour* (1954), *Voltaire in Love* (1957), *The Sun King* (1966), and *Frederick the Great* (1970) all available as NYRB classics. In 1967 Mitford moved from Paris to Versailles, where she lived until her death from Hodgkins disease. Amanda Foreman was born in London in 1968 and educated at Sarah Lawrence College, Columbia University, and Oxford University, where she received a Ph.D. in history. She is the author of *Georgiana, Duchess of Devonshire*, and *A World on Fire*; her new study, *The World Made by Women: A History of Womankind from the Age of Cleopatra to the Era of Hillary Clinton*, is forthcoming in 2016.