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Von Madame de Lafayette, Marie-Madeleine Pioche de la Vergne comtesse de la Fayette
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Produktinformation -Verkaufsrank: #805740 in eBooksVerffentlicht am: 2009-07-29Erscheinungsdatum: 1992-10-06File Name: B002JPJ2QM | File size: 33.Mb

Von Madame de Lafayette, Marie-Madeleine Pioche de la Vergne comtesse de la Fayette : The Princess of Cleves (La Princesse de Clves) (The romance classic!) (English Edition) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Princess of Cleves (La Princesse de Clves) (The romance classic!) (English Edition):

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mein Französisch ausbauen und vor allem festigen. Es ist interessant und ich kann es nur empfehlen.

KurzbeschreibungNOTE: This edition has a linked "Table of Contents" and has been beautifully formatted (searchable and interlinked) to work on your e-book reader or iPod e-book reader. Mademoiselle de Chartres is a sheltered heiress ("in her sixteenth year", i.e. aged 15) whose mother has brought her to the court of Henri II (a disguised version of the court of Louis XIV) to seek a husband with good prospects, financially and in society. Old jealousies against a kinsman spark intrigues against the young ingenue, and the best marriage prospects withdraw. She accepts her mother's recommendation and the overtures of a middling suitor who admires her, the Prince de Clves. However, after her marriage, she meets the dashing Duc de Nemours, and the two fall in love, yet do nothing to pursue their affections, limiting their contact to an occasional visit in the now-Princess of Clves' salon. The Duc becomes enmeshed in a scandal at court that leads the Princess to believe that he has been unfaithful in his affections. A letter from a spurned mistress to her paramour is discovered in the dressing room at one of the estates. The letter is actually to the Princess' uncle, the Vidame de Chartres, who has also become entangled in a relationship with the Queen. The Vidame begs the Duc de Nemours to claim ownership of the letter, which ends up in the Princess' possession. The Duc has to produce documents from the Vidame to convince the Princess that his heart has been true. Eventually, the Prince of Clves discerns that his wife is in love with another man. She confesses it to him, and he relentlessly quizzes her until he learns the man's identity, eventually resorting to trickery to get her to reveal it. After he sends a servant to spy on the Duc de Nemours, Monsieur de Clves believes that his wife has been unfaithful in more than just her emotions... The novel was an enormous commercial success at the time of its publication, and would-be readers outside of Paris had to wait months to receive copies. The novel also sparked several public debates, including one about its authorship, and another about the wisdom of the Princess' decision to confess her adulterous feelings to her husband. One of the earliest psychological novels, and also the first roman d'analyse (analysis novel), *La Princesse de Clves* marked a major turning point in the history of the novel, which to that point had largely been used to tell romances, implausible stories of heroes overcoming odds to find a happy marriage, with myriad subplots and running ten to twelve volumes. *La Princesse de Clves* turned that on its head with a highly realistic plot, introspective language that explored the characters' inner thoughts and emotions, and few but important subplots concerning the lives of other nobles. A wonderful, well-written thrilling and vigorous novel. A must-have for classic epic romance fans!

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Synopsis
Set towards the end of the reign of Henry II of France, *The Princesse de Cleves* (1678) tells of the unspoken, unrequited love between the fair, noble Mme de Cleves, who is married to a loyal and faithful man, and the Duc de Nemours, a handsome man most female courtiers find irresistible. Warned by her mother against admitting her passion, Mme de Cleves hides her feelings from her fellow courtiers, until she finally confesses to her husband an act

that brings tragic consequences for all. Described as France's first modern novel, *The Princesse de Cleves* is an exquisite and profound analysis of the human heart, and a moving depiction of the inseparability of love and anguish.