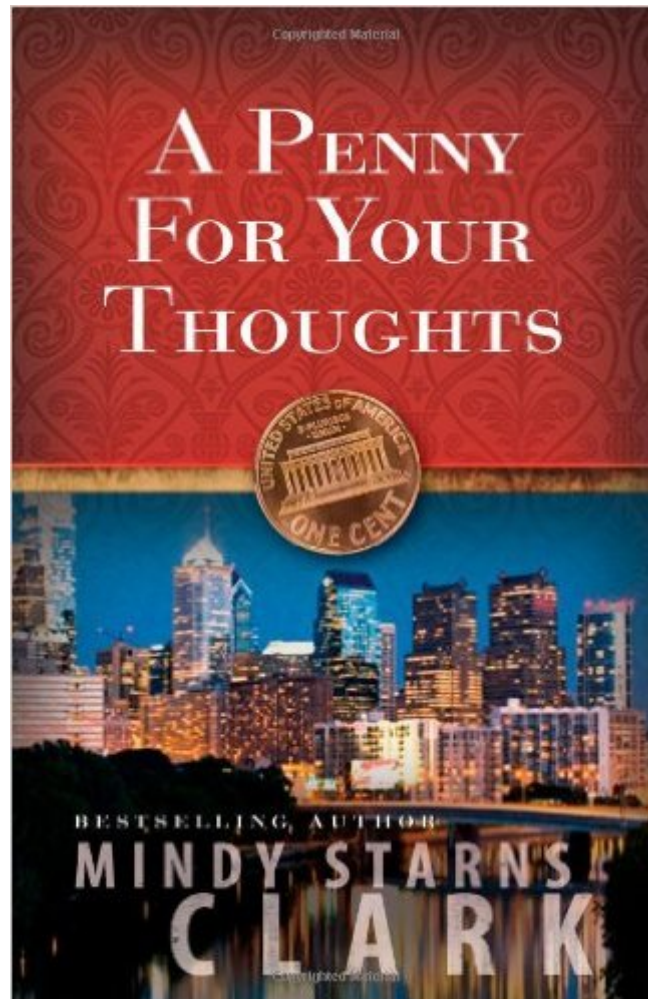


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# A Penny For Your Thoughts (The Million Dollar Mysteries)



## Synopsis

From award-winning author Mindy Starns Clark comes the fast-paced and inspirational Million Dollar Mystery series. Attorney Callie Webber investigates nonprofit organizations for the J.O.S.H.U.A. Foundation and awards the best of them grants up to a million dollars. In each book of the series, Callie comes across a mystery she must solve using her skills as a former private investigator. A young widow, Callie finds strength in her faith in God and joy in her relationship with her employer, Tom. In book number one of The Million Dollar Mystery series, Callie's assignment is to go to Philadelphia and present Wendell Smythe, an old family friend of her boss, Tom, with a check for \$250,000. Mr. Smythe heads a relief organization and needs immediate funds. When Callie goes to his office, check in hand, she discovers him dead on the floor. At Tom's request, Callie moves into Smythe's home and begins a murder investigation. But it's a dangerous place to be, for the family has secrets they would rather not have uncovered. Callie's only hope is that God will help her use her investigative skills to discover the murderer and escape the web of deceit that surrounds her.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

With this debut novel, Mindy Starns Clark creates a memorable and unique sleuth: Callie Webber, agent of a philanthropic organization (remember "The Millionaire"?). Callie's mission is to investigate non-profit organizations to assure they are legitimate and deserving of the rich guy's grants, which

can be darned generous. In this installment, however, she's just supposed to drop off a check and leave--until the recipient drops dead practically before her eyes. Even jaded mystery readers will be wondering which of the many suspects is the killer--and more importantly, why. A fast-moving, puzzling, fascinating read. Word is, there are more Callie Webber books on the way, and that is good news for anyone interested in a good mystery.

Callie Webber is looking forward to a week's rest as soon as she drops off one last check for her boss Tom. But when Wendell Smythe says that it's only a loan to Feed the Need and not a gift, Callie finds herself with an hour's paperwork to do. Returning to his office with the proper forms all filled out, she finds Wendell dead. The police quickly rule it a murder and ask Callie to stay in town as a material witness. Then Tom asks Callie to investigate. And how can she turn her boss down? Staying with the Smythes gives Callie easy access to her prime suspects. But beneath the surface of a seemingly happy family lurks some sinister secrets. Who is leaving threatening messages for Sidra? What drove Sidra and Derek apart? What was going on at the company? And does this have anything to do with the murder? Meanwhile, Callie is finding her own emotions hard to deal with. Being around this much sadness and death is reminding her too much of the death of her own husband. Can God help her deal with her own renewed emotions and solve the case? The titles of this series really intrigued me, so I decided to give the first a try. It was certainly worth it. Callie was a very human character and I found myself chocking up on more than one occasion with the hurt she was going through. She's also strong and fun to hang out with. While the story started a little slow, it gained speed quickly. The twists came so fast in the final 100 pages I stayed up much later than was wise to finish. I never saw the ending coming, either. If the rest of the series is this good, I can't wait to read it. The author has won herself a new fan.

I started reading "Pennies" on a plane trip to Bermuda. I couldn't put it down. I tried to continue to read it during the extremely curvy taxi ride to our hotel. I picked it up again, after aspirins and a nap, and my husband complained that we were there for our 25th anniversary and not for a reading marathon! When we got back, I lent it to my mother. She complained to me, too. She couldn't put it down, either. She read it in one day, didn't get anything else done, and didn't go to sleep until she finished it. She was tired and cranky the next morning. We both thought it was fabulous and well worth the pain. Thanks to Mindy and Callie and friends for a wonderful book! (We can't wait to read about the rest of Callie's adventures).

In this first book of Clark's Million Dollar Mystery Series, lawyer and P.I. Callie Webber has a fascinating new job: investigating charitable organizations for JOSHUA foundation to see if they're worthy of receiving a grant. On the way back from delivering a large check, her mysterious boss Tom asks her to drop off another check without investigating first. When the recipient is killed while Callie is waiting to hand over the money, Tom asks her to look into the murder. Clark has created an intriguing, intelligent, and caring protagonist. I'm looking forward to reading more of Callie's adventures and learning something about her mysterious boss. If you remember "The Millionaire" and "Charlie's Angels" from TV, this series is somewhat of a blend of the two.

This book is a page turner as well as unpredictable. The characters are well developed. Can't wait to read the next one!

This book was tough to put down. There is the main element of a murder mystery going on but there are also some great insights into the life/mind of a strong intelligent woman. Callie Weber is an ex-PI working for a mystery man who donates money to worthy charities. Callie is hired to investigate the charities to ensure they are 'above board'. Inevitably she runs across a mystery. Not only is this intriguing enough but there are also some great sidebar situations going on that keep you turning the pages - not to mention your need to find out more about this mystery man. Buy it! I recommend it!

I enjoyed reading "A Penny for Your Thoughts." Whenever I was sure I had everything figured out, the story line would take a few more twists and turns. I can honestly say that I was surprised at the ending. This was a well written book with good character development. The only down side is that I now find myself compelled to read the other books in this series because I want "answers." If you enjoy a good mystery, then I recommend this book. I look forward to reading more of her books.

Normally a corporate investigator for a mysterious philanthropic billionaire, Callie finds herself investigating a murder when a recipient of her employer's largesse is found dead in his office. I've seen other writers try to pen mysteries with a Christian point of view, and they have been universally awful. So imagine my surprise when I found myself totally involved in this story. The characters were (mostly) believable and Clark even worked in a storyline involving different Christian views of a particular sin. (I won't say which one, to avoid a spoiler.) Thoroughly enjoyable and I look forward to reading more in the series.

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