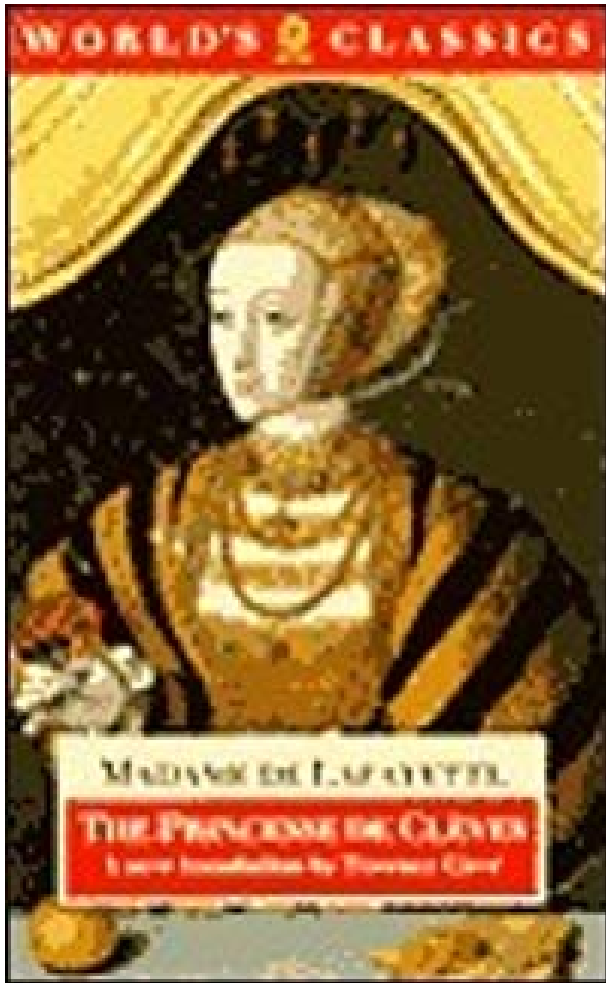


The Princesse de Clèves: The Princesse de Montpensier, the Comtesse de Tende



ISBN13:	9780192826879
Genre:	Fiction
Published:	November 19th 1992 by Oxford University Press, USA
Pages:	280
Language	English
ISBN10:	0192826875
Author:	Madame de La Fayette
Goodreads Rating:	3.82

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Poised between the fading world of chivalric romance and a new psychological realism, Madame de Lafayette's novel of passion and self-deception marks a turning point in the history of the novel. When it first appeared anonymously in 1678--in the heyday of French classicism--it aroused fierce controversy among critics and readers, particularly for the extraordinary confession which forms the climax of the story. It is now regarded as a landmark in the history of women's writing. In this entirely new translation, The Princesse de Cleves is accompanied by two shorter works also attributed to Mme de Lafayette, The Princesse de Montpensier and The Comtesse de Tende.