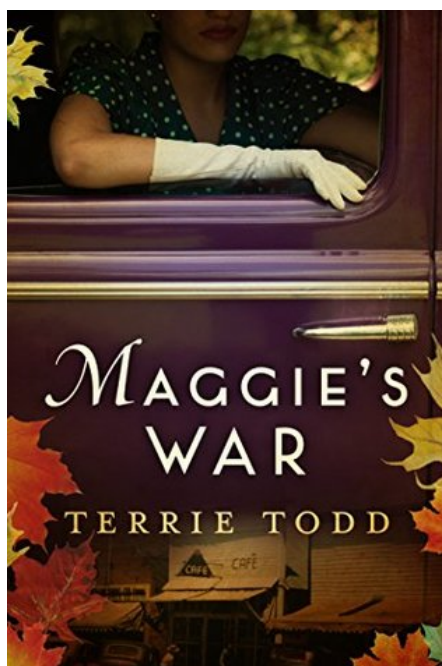




Maggie's War

Terrie Todd

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In 1942, telegrams always bring life-altering and tragic news in a war-hardened world—and the one Maggie Marshall receives is no different. But running a restaurant with the help of only pregnant, unwed girls has taught her to be tough. Maggie's no weeping widow, but Charlotte Penfield thinks she's the most unfeeling woman on earth. Seventeen, exiled by her wealthy parents, and working in the restaurant, fanciful Charlotte runs away with romantic notions of a reunion with her baby's father at his military camp.

It has been years since Maggie darkened the church door of her pastor and childhood friend, Reverend Reuben Fennel, and his heart breaks for the hardened woman Maggie's become. When she seeks his help to find Charlotte, he's happy to aid her in the chase—though it may cost him his job and reputation.

Over the miles from Winnipeg to Fort William, Reuben and Maggie's journey rekindles their affection—and their dreams of what they still could be. But Maggie stubbornly clings to her independent ways until she's dealt another devastating loss, one that forces her to recognize that heroes can be discovered in unlikely places and love may be far sweeter than she ever dared imagine.

Maggie's War Details

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Author : Terrie Todd

Format : Kindle Edition 370 pages

Genre : Christian Fiction, Historical, Historical Fiction, Romance, Fiction

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From Reader Review Maggie's War for online ebook

Susan Beauchamp says

I have made new friends. I'm not sure what I will do without them. Some people come into my life and they leave and no gap is left. Not so with the characters in Maggie's War. I have rejoiced as they made brave and wise decisions. I wept at loss & guffawed at the twisting of the English language. I felt myself hesitating as the pages remaining became few. I wanted to delay my friends' departure from my life - from my heart.

Wendy says

"Maggie's War" a beautifully written and moving story begins with Maggie Marshall a tough, harsh and bitter widow in 1942 Winnipeg who runs a restaurant, employing pregnant unwed girls over the years to help her. Haunted by a tragedy and abuse in her past Maggie has lost her faith and fears loving again until she starts a journey with Reverend Reuben Fennel searching for Charlotte Penfield a seventeen-year-old pregnant girl who has been abandoned by her parents and runaway from the restaurant to reunite with her baby's father. In a story that captures your heart not only will love and faith be rekindled, but a miracle will be born that will heal broken spirits.

Set in 1942 in a war-hardened world families in Winnipeg everyday receive news of the death of loved ones while facing a decline in business and rationing. As the story heats up Maggie suffering with a crisis in the ownership of her restaurant and a memorial service for her slain husband suddenly discovers that her very pregnant ward has runaway. With the help of childhood friend and pastor Reuben Fennel they begin a chase that could cost him his job and Maggie her reputation.

Fast-paced and emotionally-charged Terrie Todd weaves a tale that grips the reader from the first page to the last. Themes like the pain and hardship of war; the stigma of unwed pregnancies; parental rejection; and the unchristian values of churchgoers' ripple throughout this story. Yet amid all the hardship and suffering faith and love triumph as hope and compassion are reborn.

The characters are complex and realistic, like Maggie Marshall an abused woman who's grouchy, cold and fiery tempered. Strong-willed and independent her loving nature resurfaces as she begins to rely on the kind, patient, steadfast and stubborn Reuben Fennel whose deep faith brings light into the darkness of her despair and unforgiving heart. In their journey love not only blossoms again, but Maggie discovers the power of prayer and unusual heroes in Reuben and the naive, impulsive but brave Charlotte Penfield. These personalities and others infuse the plot with spirit, energy and drama that makes them unforgettable.

I loved "Maggie's War" and will not only recommend it to others but will look for other novels by Terrie Todd in future.

Laurinda Stayer says

Terri has done it again! Excellent book with believable characters and a captivating story line! (I read the book in one sitting!)

Corinne says

I recently read Maggie's War by Terrie Todd. Like her first book, the silver suitcase, I found it very hard to put down. In both of the authors books, as you read you can picture the setting these stories take place in. Terrie does a wonderful job of developing her characters and I found myself very involved in their hardships and triumphs. I highly recommend this novel

Audrey says

The Canadian Front

There's a lot going for this book. One thing that pleased me is that it's a Canadian setting written by a Canadian author. When I first heard about it I thought it might be interesting but it turned out better than expected. Maggie is a woman in her thirties who lives in Winnipeg during World War Two. Under a crusty exterior she hides a caring heart. She takes in unwed mothers to help in her restaurant until they are able to put up their babies for adoption. One of the girls in her care is Charlotte who runs away. Maggie and her pastor friend, Reuban, feel responsible for her and her baby and take off after her. This is a terrific story of how God can heal the pain from our past and forgive our sins. As much as enjoyed Maggie's story I felt that Charlotte's story was an integral part and that it was left hanging. That disappointed me and I hoped for a sequel.

Erin says

Find this and other reviews at: <https://historicalfictionreader.blogs...>

Many readers have adored the time they spent with Maggie's War by Terrie Todd and while I respect the opinions of those readers who've taken the time to share their thoughts, I have to say the book didn't work for me.

Maggie's War challenged me for a number of reasons, first among them being the excess of plot. Maggie's marriage, her history with Ruben, her association with unwed mothers, the reasons behind that association, Charlotte and her obsession with Reginald, the shady goings of other parties, a runaway, a restaurant, and an altered will tally a few too many twists and turns for my liking. I don't mean to be horrid, but there was a lot going on here and I often felt the various components and subplots too loosely tied. I also felt the issues at the restaurant distracting, but that's just me.

Like The Silver Suitcase, I found Maggie's War historically thin and struggled to embrace the novel as war era fiction. I was also frustrated by the lack of cohesive characterization among the cast. Maggie reads as a firm individual who is content to be left alone by the world at large (think Marilla Cuthbert), but there is a moment in which she bemoans the fact that her brother-in-law strips the feistiness from her nature. Excuse me for pointing it out, but feisty is not a quality this character excludes in any capacity and I was not inclined to accept such remarks when Todd failed to substantiate the validity of those descriptions within the narrative.

(view spoiler)

Clarice James says

In Maggie's War, Terrie Todd tells her tale masterfully, just as she did in her debut novel, The Silver Suitcase. Her signature includes complex characters, rich historical time periods, and a compelling narrative. I highly recommend Maggie's War.

Shane says

Maggie's War dances off the page with the passion and energy of a Carrie Underwood country song. The feminist punch of Thelma and Louise and Fried Green Tomatoes packed with the spiritual power of a Billy Graham Crusade. The writing and plot are as smooth and quick as an up-tempo, country-diva anthem - I'm sure I heard some Church Bells ringing.

I have always loved hearing about my parent's stories about the war years. It sounded like a frightening time, marked with great tragedy, unexpected joy and victory. Maggie's War captures that sentiment and time period perfectly with a story that moves faster the winds of change. Melodic writing and a brilliant story with a clear spiritual agenda.

Phyllis says

Maggie, an abused wife, has become hardened and cold. When she receives a telegram stating her husband has been killed in the war, she only feels relief. To the young unwed mothers who work in her restaurant and live with her until their baby is born, she is a harsh boss. Charlotte Penfield is the current unwed mother who hates working for Maggie. However, when Charlotte runs away, Maggie decides to go after her and this decision brings her back into contact with her childhood friend who is now a pastor. All three are changed by decisions and find they need each other. The setting is Winnipeg, Canada in the 1940s; the imagery of the people, towns and countryside are great. The characters, main and secondary, are wonderful and draw your interest to find out what happens to them; reading about Maggie's thawing and Charlotte's maturing is touching. The narrative reads easily, keeping your interest until the end. There is romance and intrigue. Terrie Todd is a very good storyteller. I received a free Kindle download through Goodreads.

Pamela says

"You are engaged in a battle every bit as real as our young men in thick of the fray overseas. And every time you allow hatred or prejudice to cloud your thinking, you are waving a white flag of surrender . . . The enemy wins when you say a malicious word about your neighbor . . . voice an unfounded opinion . . . pass judgment based on others' ethnicity and forget we are all made in the image of God."

Complex, believable characters . . . Well crafted writing . . . Totally engaging storyline . . . Atmospherically

transporting in regards to both setting and community dynamics. And a GORGEOUS COVER! Overall, a reader's delight. And quite refreshing to read a WWII era story set in Canada - rather than Europe or America - which there are oodles of titles to choose from.

What else can I say???? **I loved it!** Aside from a few overly convenient plot points and interludes, there's not much to quibble about. This novel drew me in and held me captive until the last page was turned. That's a WOW statement for me to say; I'm a hard sell when it comes to Christian-fiction-romance. Admittedly, I can be quite the romance cynic. But Terrie Todd won me over with this one. A nice blend of grounded reality and hope-filled romance in a believable package.

And Maggie won me over too. In the beginning, I was prepared to dislike Maggie through and through. But behind every story there's another story. The driving-force story. And behind that story, are the private wars we wage in the survival of life.

FOUR ***** Gorgeous Cover - Beautifully Crafted Story - Inspiring, Romantic and Hopeful Christian Fiction
***** STARS

Margaret Hotovec says

I found this book to be hard to get into and poorly developed. The characters lacked emotional pull and had shallow relationships. The story takes you all over but I wish the story had gone deeper and not just more places. It is clear that the author has many ideas, they just didn't fit together cohesively in this tale. I was excited to read a story about the far north but found that with lack of setting and character development, these characters could have been based anywhere.

Kav says

Maggie Marshall's curmudgeonly ways are threatening to consume what's left of her heart. Charlotte, the pregnant teen under Maggie's care has nicknamed her Grumpystiltskin -- though she'd never dream of saying that out loud! Maggie's hard enough to please without riling her up any more. Pastor Reuben Fennel barely recognizes the sweet, carefree girl he once loved.

The fact is, Maggie has allowed circumstances to steal away her joy. She's faced some insurmountable hardships and survived -- that has to count for something, right? Even if it's left her a shell of the woman she once was. Maggie isn't very likable at the start of this story but she's intriguing and Todd does an amazing job of slowly revealing why Maggie is the way she is...and then sets out to redeem her.

Reuben plays an important role in this redemption story. He's a pastor but not a preacher. More like a shepherd, gently nudging his sheep back to the fold. His patience and forbearance stand him in good stead on the unusual journey he takes with Maggie and in the process he discovers the difference between faith and religion.

Touching and funny and completely captivating!

Alysia says

This was the first time I read a Christian fiction novel. It was by accident, I saw this book at the library and thought I would enjoy the World War II setting and got it. When I started reading it, I realized that a Christian theme was woven throughout the story. I was always concerned that Christian fiction books would be "preachy" or "overpowering". I found this book to have a good balance of story and then the characters also shared their faith as part of overall story.

The story is about a woman who tries to help unwed mothers during WWII. But then tragedy strikes her own life and she then has to reach into her past and rely on a faith that she did not know she even had to get through the hard times.

When I read this, my husband was in the hospital, so this book was just what I needed to get me through a very difficult time.

I would recommend this book to anyone who wants to try to read a Christian based novel and enjoys books set in the WWII timeframe.

Joleen says

Maggie's War by **Terrie Todd**

Genre: Historical Fiction

Format: Audiobook

Timeframe: 1942

Location: Manitoba, Canada

Main Characters:

Maggie Marshall: Abused wife of soldier killed in WWII

Reuben Fennel: Pastor of local church and childhood friend

Charlotte Pennfield: Unmarried girl, Maggie's ward

As I began this book I was fearful that it would be full of cruelty, and more abuse coming as Maggie ends up closely tied to her brother-in-law, Earl, who was even worse than her abusive late-husband. It's hard to read about domestic violence that goes on and on. But, although there were moments, it wasn't written in such a sensational way that I needed to put the book down. There were such encouraging points that I continued, and I'm glad I did.

Maggie is a hard, seemingly uncaring shrew of a woman at the beginning. No one knew how terribly abusive her husband had been to her over the past 6 years. She was just given the news that her husband Doug was killed in the war. The restaurant her parents left her was finally all hers, and she was physically and emotionally free. But her life with Doug had caused her to be bitter and hard. Her young ward, pregnant unmarried Charlotte, was sick of Maggie's harsh ways. She felt like a slave in the restaurant, and dreamt of running away to be with Reginald, the baby's father, who was also in the army.

Reuben Fennel had been a friend of Maggie's when they were in high school. He had always been a Godly young man and was now the pastor of a local church... not one Maggie's in-laws attended, therefore she hadn't either. But as her old friend she felt compelled to seek his advice. Later she came to him in hopes he could help find Charlotte.

This began an adventure that would change everyone's life.

Wonderful book with faith elements throughout. It had another element that I seldom read in Christian Fiction. Reuben had uncontested dreams, words and thoughts from God that were meant to spur him into action. He had them enough as a child, and were always exactly what was needed at the moment, that he understood when he was prompted he needed to act. He knew these prompts didn't supersede God's Word, but were part of a gifting he needed to act on nonetheless. It was well done, not creepy or over the top, always expressed in humility rather than out of pride.

I loved the way Reuben prayed throughout the book. It was an encouragement to everyone who needed it and at just the right time. What a terrific example of a Christian man!

Good book I won't soon forget.

Barb Klein says

The war has touched Maggie Marshall's life in more ways than one. Maggie has received word that her husband Doug, fighting for the Canadian Army, has been declared dead. Maggie experiences a deep sense of relief at this news because her husband was abusive and she wanted a way out. Because of events in her past as a young girl, Maggie has taken it upon herself to help young girls who have found themselves in trouble. She arranges for the girls to live with her, work in her restaurant, and then helps them give their babies up for adoption. Her life has made her bitter and hard.

Reverend Reuben Fennel is a childhood friend of Maggie's. He has always had much affection for her, but has been too intimidated to do much about it. Reuben steps in when Maggie needs help finding a runaway girl. Their escapades result in some hard lessons for both of them.

In "Maggie's War" by Terrie Todd, this story unfolds gradually and eventfully. Although the reader may presume the ending, the meat of the sandwich, so to speak, is quite satisfying.

I received a complimentary Kindle copy from NetGalley.com and was under no obligation to post a review. You can read this review on my blog at <http://wp.me/p2pjlt-rZ>. Check out other book reviews at <http://imhookedonbooks.wordpress.com>.
