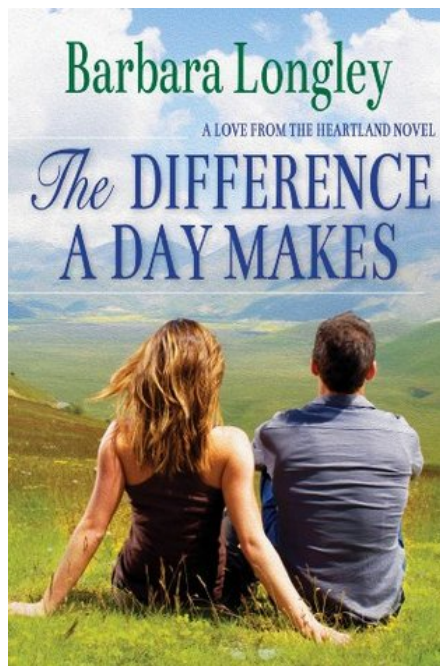




The Difference a Day Makes

Barbara Longley

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Winner of the ACRA 2014 Heart of Excellence Readers' Choice Award - Contemporary

Paige Langford has it all: wealth, beauty, and ambition. But when her boyfriend's betrayal costs both her dream job and her reputation, she retreats to her brother's rural home in Indiana to heal and figure out the rest of her life. There she meets Ryan Malloy, a gruff, hard-drinking cowboy whose surly temper can't hide the anguish in his eyes.

Ryan Malloy has lost it all. Haunted by war and a lost love, he's living on the edge and seeking solace in a bottle. But a job offer from his former commander provides a glimmer of hope, and a second chance for the future.

Paige has never encountered a brooding bad boy like Ryan, yet he might be exactly what she needs. Ryan, the man who thought he had nothing left to live for, is tempted to risk his battered heart one with Paige one last time.

The Difference a Day Makes Details

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From Reader Review The Difference a Day Makes for online ebook

Mskathy1031 says

Very well written. Great storyline.

Michael Starsheen says

Another book in a good series

I gave this book five stars because it was sweet and funny, poignant and enjoyable. I recommend this book to anyone who wants a good, light read.

Angela McCallister says

Wow, this was even better than the first book in the series! Everything was perfectly developed (heh, Perfect *g*) from the characters to pacing to conflict. I loved how Paige was so direct with Ryan. The story didn't rely on angsty miscommunication to build the conflict. Barbara described Ryan's pain so effectively, I felt the torture he put himself through, and the way he worked through it was brilliantly handled. I loved the H/h together. They were well-matched. The scene near the end (you'll know exactly which scene when you get there) gave me chills but made me happy.

If you've ever dealt with trauma, PTSD, crippling guilt, or feelings of isolation, you'll find Ryan's issues accurate and probably inspiring in the way he fought his way back and in the way the other characters came through for him. Now I'm dying to read about Ted's HEA!!!

ERIN SCHMIDT says

Paranormal romances will probably always be my favorite, but when I need a break from vampires and witches, I like a nice contemporary romance. I really enjoyed Far from Perfect, the first book in the "Love From the Heartland" series because it was simply a sweet romance (with some heat) between two very, very stubborn people. I enjoyed the hero of that novel, Noah, the wounded veteran. This second novel follows Noah's sister, Paige, who's bummed out after losing her first job. She shows up in Perfect, Indiana, at the same time as one of Noah's "rehabilitation projects," the emotionally fragile veteran Ryan Malloy. It's hard to say which is the more stubborn couple: Noah and Ceejay from the first book or Paige and Ryan. Paige has a dream she wants to follow - taking over the family business - and it takes her a long, long time to figure out how Ryan could fit into her life plan. (But this is a romance novel, so you know they'll find a way. It's no fun if we don't get our happily-ever-after.) I hate to say it (because my to-read list is already so long), but I think Barbara Longley has added herself to my "auto-buy this author's latest" list. She writes sexy, believable heroes and relatable heroines, and I enjoy the Midwest U.S.A. setting.

Barb Klein says

“The Difference a Day Makes” by Barbara Longley begins with Paige Langford losing her marketing job because of her boyfriend’s betrayal. Along with the loss of her job and income, she is coping with the duplicity of a so-called lover. She decides to visit her brother and sister-in-law, Noah and Cee-Jay in Perfect, Indiana, near Evansville. Her brother is a returning veteran who has conquered PTSD and has started a business with his brother-in-law creating and building furniture.

In the meantime, Noah has contacted Ryan Malloy, who served in his outfit and is struggling with PTSD himself. In fact on the very night that Noah called, Ryan was drinking and playing Russian roulette as a way to end his haunting remembrances of the war. Ryan accepts Noah’s offer and heads to Perfect, Indiana.

Paige and Ryan do not hit it off at first meeting. She is wary of trusting and loving again and he doesn’t think he is fit company for anyone. He has built a wall around himself that he wishes would insulate him from his memories and nightmares.

I really enjoyed this book, not only because it takes place near my hometown, but because it is well written and easy to read. Evansville, Indiana was at one time a furniture manufacturing city and there is an area near there where Perfect could actually be located. I very much enjoyed the interaction among the various characters of the story and the story line of the novel.

I received a free advance reader’s print copy of this book for my honest review from the publisher, Montlake Romance. The opinions expressed here are my own.

You can read this review on my blog at <http://wp.me/p2pjlt-4X>.

Morgan Wyatt says

The Difference a Day Makes by Barbara Longley is the second book in the Perfect, Indiana series published by Montlake Romance. Book two follows Longley’s heartwarming tale **Far From Perfect**, which was universally well received. Perfect, Indiana is where you go when everything falls apart to regroup; at least that is what Paige and Ryan do.

Ryan is a traumatized veteran battling with survivor guilt after surviving a suicide bombing attack. Life as he knows is gone and there seems nothing to live for until his former commander Noah Langford calls and ask for help with his furniture store. Not exactly, what he planned for his life, but better than a fifth and a bullet to the head. He decides to take the hand up, even if it lands him into a cozy town called Perfect, Indiana.

Where do you go with everything goes south? Paige figures home is the best place to lick her wounds. Only a month ago everything was grand, or so she thought. That was before her boyfriend dumped her and managed to destroy her credibility at work. It would be enough for most guys to break up, but oh no, he had to make sure she was jobless too. All she really wants is to disappear from the face of the earth. Perfect, Indiana suits the bill.

Paige and Ryan both embittered individuals with similar jaded outlooks have to work side by side in Noah Langford’s furniture store. While sparks fly between the two, they keep their distance realizing they both are walking wounded. A cautious friendship unfolds between the two as they share their pain and rebuild their confidence.

The Difference a Day Makes illustrates how much one day can change everything. This heartwarming tale illustrates that people can rebuild even when they have reached rock bottom. Most romance fans will enjoy this book. As a Hoosier, I applaud Ms. Longley's use of Perfect, Indiana as a setting.

Amanda Jayne says

I could not put this book down. It is a lovely, heartwarming read. It also gives you an insight to what some of our soldiers go through.

Brilliant

Cherise says

Barbara Longley has cemented herself on my favorite author's list. I loved *Far From Perfect* and had that feeling validated with this second story.

Ryan Malloy is an Army vet suffering from PTSD and a whole lot of guilt. He is at the end of his rope when he receives a phone call from his former Lieutenant offering him a job at his fledgling heirloom furniture business. This call literally saves his life and Ryan packs up and drives his beat-up pickup truck to Perfect, Indiana.

Paige Langford has centered her entire life on her career and the goal of one day taking over the family plumbing business. Her dad's opposition of her leading the company has forced her to take a job at another company to prove herself. But when she is fired, Paige heads to her big brother's house in Perfect, Indiana to lick her wounds and figure out plan B.

Ryan and Paige's relationship is snarky, flirty, sexy and sweet. They aren't always on the same page, but neither one denies their obvious or mutual attraction. Everyone around them, including this reader, could feel their heat. This story has some dark places and I was a blubbery mess from time to time. But the warmth of Perfect and its people, the love of the characters helped to mop up a few of those tears. Watching these two struggle through their issues and find themselves and each other was a pleasure.

I love this series, I really do. The characters make me smile and the stories make me happy. If you like Robyn Carr's *Virgin River* series – these books have that same down-to-earth, comfort food feel... but with spicier sex life. Perfect! I am really looking forward to the release of the third book in October 2013: *A Change of Heart*!

Cherise Everhard, March 2013

This book was provided by a reviewer for the Amazon Vine Program

Kat Duncan says

Tired of the same old, same old romances? Looking for something emotional and edgy, but not violent and full of villains? Look no further than Barbara Longley's *The Difference a Day Makes*. Ms. Longley is adept

at making a reader care deeply about characters who are, in fact, worthy of caring about. Ryan Malloy has been piling blame on himself since the tragic day that took his fiancée from his life forever. He's full of relentless guilt and mental pain, but has a chance at pulling himself out of his suicidal slump when his former Army commander offers him a job. Paige Langford knows what it's like for Ryan because her brother suffered from PTSD, too. And Paige is suffering from her own brand of guilt and blame after her first brutal foray into the corporate world. These two butt horns the moment they meet, each pushing the other to confront the demons that haunt them and each holding a helping hand out to the other in a desperate hope to live a life worth living. Even though this was the second book set in Perfect, Indiana I didn't feel as if I'd missed anything by not reading the first book. However, after getting a taste for Ms. Longley's ability to tug at my heartstrings, I'm definitely going to want to let her take me back to Perfect again and again.

Virginia Campbell says

"The Difference a Day Makes" makes all the right difference in the lives of the residents of Perfect, Indiana. Author Barbara Longley introduced us to her "Love from the Heartland" series with Book One, "Far From Perfect", in which we met Noah Langford and Ceejay Lovejoy. Noah is a combat veteran who lost a leg during a military mission. Ceejay is the woman who had a child by Noah's step-brother who had abandoned her and stolen her money. After working their way through many difficult emotional issues, Noah and Ceejay married and he adopted the daughter she had borne his step-brother. In "The Difference a Day Makes", Noah's younger step-sister, Paige, is fired from her big-city job in a most embarrassing manner, and she seeks refuge with Noah and his family. She doesn't expect to run into Ryan Malloy, who served with Noah and was injured on the same combat mission. When she arrives at Noah's home late at night, she heads for the guest house, not knowing it's being occupied by Ryan. Their first meeting is quite a jolt to them both, with Ryan coming to the door naked and armed. He had been deep into one of his nightmares when she unlocked the door. In fact, Ryan was there by the hand of Fate--Noah had called him one night to offer him a job at his new furniture business. Ryan had just written a suicide note, and was about to pull the trigger when Noah's call literally saved his life. Ryan and Paige are immediately attracted to each other, but they hide it behind verbal jabs and sharp remarks. Eventually, they fall into a heady relationship with the promise of love and happiness just around the edges. Ryan suffers from PTSD, just like Noah, and he also tends to drown his pain in alcohol. Paige suffers from self-esteem issues as the "poor little rich girl" who longs to be wanted and accepted for the intelligent and capable person she really is inside. Ryan blames himself for the death years ago of his fiancée in a riding accident, and he also carries guilt for the combat mission that went awry, injuring himself and Noah, and taking the lives of their buddies. As Paige works alongside her brother and Ryan, she begins to feel happy and appreciated, but she still clings to her lifelong goal of making it in the corporate world. Can Paige and Ryan work on resolving their own personal issues and make compromises that could lead to happiness neither of them ever imagined? I loved "Far from Perfect", and I read "The Difference a Day Makes" with equal enjoyment. I look forward to reading the third book in the series, "A Change of Heart". If you love funny, touching, contemporary romance which doesn't shy away from very real personal issues, then you will love this series from author Barbara Longley. Recommended.

Review Copy Gratis Amazon Vine

Belkis says

Another good one for this new series. Like the fact that each story centers around army veterans and their traumas and giving them hope and their own HEA. Really enjoyed Paige and Ryan's story. I liked that book two continued on with the whole Langford family story moving forward and expanding their circle with the

addition of Ryan as well as continuing with CJ, Noah, babies, parents, aunt Jenny, Ted, etc. I can't wait until the author writes Ted's story. I really do like him a lot. Looking forward to book three for this one.

Sarah says

I enjoyed the first book in this series Far from Perfect so jumped at the chance to read book 2 in the series. Barbara Longley writes believable characters and you do find yourself rooting for them to find happiness. As in the first book this is about people with issues from their pasts who need to find a way past these to find love. In this book we meet Ryan a war veteran who has turned to drink to block out his memories and Paige who has been betrayed by her boyfriend and is desperate for her father's approval. Neither of them are looking for love but then they meet through Paige's brother Noah (from book 1 in the series) and have to start rethinking their lives. This is an enjoyable read with some interesting and likeable characters, I am looking forward to the next book.

Downward dog says

This is wonderfully written book about Ryan's emotional journey after some tragic accidents in his life. Great writing and characters. well worth reading.

Vikki Vaught says

My Musings

This is a great addition to this series. I loved the characters from the hero and heroine to the delightful secondary. I am so glad I found this series. I can't wait to read the next one in this series. Happy ?reading ?!

Pat says

Read my review at Booklist: www.booklistonline.com

On the night his drinking and playing Russian roulette would have turned deadly, army war veteran Ryan Malloy gets a phone call from his former lieutenant asking if he'd like to come work for his American-heritage furniture company in Perfect, Indiana. Because he knows he's in a dangerous spiral, Ryan accepts. Meanwhile, his lieutenant's sister, Paige Langford, is fired from her first job when her boyfriend at the firm sabotages her. Licking her wounds, she flees to Perfect and her brother. When Paige and Ryan meet, sparks fly, but both resist because their self-esteem is at rock bottom. As they get to know each other and work at the furniture company together, however, their attraction and their sense of self-worth build. Longley successfully attacks issues associated with returning veterans as well as those commonly associated with finding oneself as an adult and recognizing true love. Neither Ryan nor Paige can truly be there for the other until both dispel their demons and become whole.

— Pat Henshaw

