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Queen Of Hearts: Coming Of Age In A Hospital Bed



Synopsis

On the prairies of Canada during World War II, a girl and her two young siblings begin a war of their own. Stricken with tuberculosis, they are admitted to a nearby sanatorium. Teenager Marie Claire is headstrong, angry, and full of stubborn pride. In a new strange land of TB exiles she must "chase the cure," seek privacy where there is none, and witness the slow wasting decline of others. But in this moving novel about fighting a way back to normal life, it is the thing that sets back Marie Claire the most—the demise of her little brother—that also connects her with the person who will be instrumental in helping her recover.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 710L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 224 pages

Publisher: Farrar, Straus and Giroux (BYR); 1 edition (August 2, 2011)

Language: English

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Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.9 x 213.9 inches

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Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars 24 customer reviews

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[Discussions > Illness](#)

Age Range: 12 - 18 years

Grade Level: 7 - 12

Customer Reviews

"From the very first page, Martha Brooks draws us into her narrative. Rich in sensory details, every word adds to this compelling picture of life on the Canada prairie."

Shelf Awareness for Readers "It's a testament to Brooks' fine and empathetic writing (Mistik Lake, 2007, etc.) that she's able to bring vividly and compassionately to life the parallel/alternate world of what Marie-Claire calls "TB exiles" and create an emotionally rich, stirring story about loss, friendship, love and healing."

Starred Readers "will be fascinated by Marie-Claire's fictionalized yet convincing

travail. "Brooks masterfully re-creates a TB sanatorium through the protagonist's experience and believable characters. A well-drawn, innocent, yet compelling work of historical fiction. "Much like a play in its discrete, focused scenes, this novel is that rarest of birds, a happily ending, nonsappy young adult romance. "Marie-Claire and her fellow patients' fears will be recognizable to contemporary readers. Publishers Weekly

MARTHA BROOKS was raised in southwestern Manitoba, near the U.S. border, in a medical family on the grounds of a tuberculosis sanatorium. She lives in Winnipeg, Canada.

When I selected 'purchase' I knew the short story would not be part of Radclyffe's, Honor's Series or even one of her First Responder's novels. I knew this story would be short, sweet, and to the point. And it was. It was a sweet, heartfelt, coming of age story. Thank you Radclyffe, for the fifteen-twenty minute reality break, but I was disappointed when I flipped to the last past and the story ended. I wanted more...

Beautifully written. Painfully tender. Heartbreaking . Wow. Short and sweet. That says it all. Blink and you'll miss it. Just as stolen kisses often are.

This was a very good book to read and I just got done reading it. The book is only two hundred and eight pages. I wish it was longer and there was a series of books. The main person in the book is Marie-Claire and its set in the 1940's. Marie-Claire ends up getting TB and going to the hospital. While there she as grate loss and also makes a life for herslef. I found myslef wonding if the story was true but its not.

I' ve heard of short stories but this was barely a paragraph! What was the point of publishing this "story"?

I want to know what happens next that is a five star rating. I want a sappy, happy ending in my reads and that's a five star rating. Those wanting to read for the good outcomes in a story then go for it.

Great short story , now if they would just come back and finish it . I love these authors I continue to find their storytelling to be captivating .

I love this short story one of my new favorite. Just wish the main character was describe, so you don't know what see looks like.

Radclyffe conveys so much emotion in a single setting! Angst, hope, desire, fear, and love... Truly a great quick read!

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