



The Married Girls

Diney Costeloe

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BRAND NEW FROM THE BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF *THE SISTERS OF ST. CROIX*, *THE THROWAWAY CHILDREN* AND *THE GIRL WITH NO NAME*.

Wynsdown, 1949. In the small Somerset village of Wynsdown, Charlotte Shepherd is happily married to farmer Billy. She arrived from Germany on the Kindertransport as a child during the war and now feels settled in her adopted home.

Meanwhile, the squire's fighter pilot son, Felix, has returned to the village with a fiancée in tow. Daphne is beautiful, charming... and harbouring secrets. After meeting during the war, Felix knows some of Daphne's past, but she has worked hard to conceal that which could unravel her carefully built life.

For Charlotte, too, a dangerous past is coming back in the shape of fellow refugee, bad boy Harry Black. Forever bound by their childhoods, Charlotte will always care for him, but Harry's return disrupts the village quiet and it's not long before gossip spreads.

The war may have ended, but for these girls, trouble is only just beginning.

The Married Girls Details

Date : Published February 17th 2017 by Head of Zeus

ISBN :

Author : Diney Costeloe

Format : Kindle Edition 420 pages

Genre : Historical, Historical Fiction, War

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Cindy says

Book 1 was certainly much more of a page turner. This one was great in spots; but really just ok. I would rate this book more as a 3.5, but I really do like Diney Costeloe, so I would lean more to a 4 than a 3. This book was predictable, and not one of her best. I will still continue reading her other books, you just can't have a winner every time!

Linda Scott says

Disappointed

I was disappointed in this book because when it started to get interesting, it ended so abruptly. There should have been a better ending, as you wanted to know more about the characters.

Emily says

I liked this follow-up to The Girl With No Name enough to pay for a Kindle copy, since my library didn't have it, but I didn't care for it as much as the first book in the series. I thought too many pages were spent on Harry and Dieter's stories, which were really not that important to the mainline of the plot. Also much time was spent rehashing the first book for readers who may have jumped into this one without reading the first. All that said, once this book got down to the heart of the story about Charlotte, Billy, Felix, and Daphne (+ Jane!), it got much more engaging to me and held my interest to the end. From the rather abrupt final chapter, I sense a book 3 in the works, and I'll certainly give it a read when the time comes, now that these characters have become well-known to me.

booksofallkinds says

What can I say about THE MARRIED GRILS by Diney Costeloe? Well for starters I can begin with how much I love this beautifully endearing, at times devastating, and overall captivating, novel.

The author effortlessly transports you back in time to Wynsdown after the war, and we are immersed in small village life, which is not as quiet and laid-back as one would imagine. Charlotte is blissfully happy with her husband and their two children, but when a blast from her past returns looking for her, will it encroach on her happiness? When Felix returns to his childhood home with the woman of his dreams, Daphne, he longs for a peaceful home and a family to adore, but Daphne is not exactly who she says she is, and as events take an unexpected turn, will Felix be able to live with the truth?

With many unexpected, shock events throughout the story, THE MARRIED GIRLS by Diney Costeloe kept me reading into the wee small hours of the night as I longed to see how life would unfold for the main characters. I cried, I smiled, and I became a part of it all as the narrative is so exquisite and detailed. I loved

Charlotte and Billy from the beginning, and Felix grew on me as his life opened up on the pages in front me, but it was the community itself that was the most endearing - even with its pitfalls of nosy neighbours and gossip. THE MARRIED GIRLS by Diney Costeloe has love, happiness, tragedy, friendship, and hope at the heart of its story, and while it deals with many serious topics, the author weaves it all magically together in such a way that will really spark your emotions. A fantastic novel!!!!

*I voluntarily reviewed this book from the Publisher

Tamra says

WARNING: Don't buy this book! Not 4 or 5 Stars like all the reviews!!!

What the heck was that? I just finished and I'm pretty ticked off! How horrible to end the book this way! Shame on the author and publisher! Just wait for the book to be completed rather than end it so abruptly. At least make it an ending that if there are no future volumes the reader would be left satisfied! I feel like I was just slapped in the face by the ending! I turn the page to see what happens next only to find two more sentences aNd a pink box that says we hope you enjoyed this book. New book coming spring of 20018. I'm assuming that there will be a volume 3. Well, I won't be purchasing the next volume.

As far as the book prior to the terrible ending, it was good, a little scattered but somewhat enjoyable. Strangely the first book was PG but this one, well this one wasn't. I just thought to go from PG to what the author presented was not necessary. I don't mind but there's no way I could recommend this book to my teenage daughters where as I recommended the first book to them.

Lydia says

I received a copy of this book from Netgalley in return for an honest review.

I found the cover of this book misleading to what the story was actually about. I enjoyed reading about Charlotte and her kids, and not so much about "poor" Daphne, who was only out to look after herself. I thought these two ladies would become friends over time, going by the cover, but it never eventuated. The story had a great twist towards the end, and it was beautifully written.

Lady Fembo says

Beautiful

I read this book only because I wanted to know how Lieselotte's life turned out after reading the girl with no name. Oh boy! I'm glad I did because it's so much better than the first one. Lieselotte as known as Lisa and later was named Charlotte after she lost her memory following the London bombings by the Germans. She was a German refugee herself and she later met a boy called Harry Black who later told Lisa that they travelled in the same train and happened to be from the same town. They formed a special bond which later caused problems in Lisa's adult and married life. They were from very different backgrounds Lisa came from a decent background and Harry was a street kid who later in life turned to the life of crime and was in and

out of prison and later migrated to Australia.

Lisa on the other hand continued to lead a decent life and got married and had children but her life was a train of tragedies, her father and brother were killed In Germany and later she got a message from her uncle that her mother was alive in Sweden and she got there just in time before she also died, following that her foster mother died leaving her property and money. Always by her side was Billy who later married her and they had children and he was killed in the hunting accident when he was thrown off the horse.

Harry came in and out of Lisa's life like a flash and each time he turns up he caused a stir. Lisa lived in a small quiet town on the south of Bristol but there was nothing quiet about it. There was a lot going on from gossips of infidelity, lesbians affairs behind one particular husband's back, suspicions that Billy was deliberately thrown off the horse, which I personally thought it was the work of Harry Black.

I strongly recommend this book to anyone who enjoys a good book as much as I do. It rocked my emotions to the core. You don't see anything coming, the next thing you're crying your eyes out and the next you're angry, then happy. It literally penetrated my dreams that how good it is

Emma says

This book is a disappointment, the title has little relevance to the story. As a reader I am waiting for the climax and was left wanting. I couldn't see the point of Harry Black, removing him from the book would make little difference to the story. Sadly, there was potential for the story with Harry and with the other characters, but I felt that it was as though the author lost interest in her own story.

I would not recommend this book, there are better stories out there, written by authors that finished the job.

sue says

This is book 2

I suggest you read book 1 as it definitely is not a standalone and you will miss out on vital things appertaining to this one.

The Girl With No Name is book 1

Set yourself back to 1949 and how life was then, get in the mood and the rightful setting to enjoy and devour these pages.

Charlotte once lived in a quaint Somerset Village, but due to circumstances she was transported to her adoptive home in Germany.

We learnt from book 1 how there was a secret that she was hiding, even from her husband.

In this book a person from her past appears on the scene Felix who has the potential to blow Charlottes nice life right out from under her feet. Then there is Harry too who knows.

This has been a well crafted story that I've loved to follow.

My thanks to Head of Zeus via Net Galley for my copy

Carlee says

I read this mostly because I wanted to see the trainwreck for what it was (having read other reviews and spoilers) - sped through it in a couple of hours.

This book referenced a lot of what happened in "The Girl with No Name". Obviously, this one is the sequel, but I felt it relied too heavily on recapping what happened before. On the other hand, the focus on new characters makes this book feel less like a sequel and more like just a book in the same universe (town) as the first book. I'm not even entirely sure why Charlotte had to be involved in this book as one of the protagonists - she faded into the periphery (despite being involved in one of the main storylines).

Lastly, as other reviews have stated, this book had a couple of graphic scenes that makes it NSFW. It was just quite unnecessary and didn't add anything to the storylines.

Shirley Revill says

I loved the book so much I also listened to the audiobook as well.

Lies,deceit, tragedy this book has it all and it was a real pleasure to read this story.

Absolutely loved and would recommend to anyone.

Sophie (Blogger) says

Ever since I read The Lost Soldier I have been a fan of Diney's books, her writing is brilliant and always makes me want to keep reading, even when it is 2am and I should be asleep! I have read The Girl With No Name although it was quite a while ago, so it took me a few chapters to remember the characters and the story.

Like many of her other book, The Married Girls is filled with drama, secrets and unexpected twists and turns. Charlotte and Daphne are both very different from each other but they both have something in common...a past which they would like to forget. Although life doesn't work like that.

With Harry's return to town, Charlotte is drawn to him. With old history and a caring nature, Charlotte can't help but what to make sure Harry is ok but it come at a price. Felix knew that Daphne had a past one that could ruin the perfect life they had built together, so it was easier and simpler to just forget about it.

Although it doesn't take long before the secrets come to the surface and put the wheels in motion of the events which could make or break their perfect world.

I don't think I could choose a favourite character, I normally do but in this case I am unable too. All the characters hold a different meaning to me. Whether is the one who care to much, the one who's past is catching up so quick they are unable to process it. Or it is the one who needs someone to make them feel grounded after the awful war, or it could be the one is knows the past could change everything they hold dear. Each one of the characters holds something which people can relate to in one way or another, to me that is important as it shows this book holds a lot more that just the pages that are in it.

The Married Girls is a lovely sequel to The Girl With No Name, it has depth and character that make it one of the best sequels I have read. Each character has a voice and due to this you are able to know their lives and the struggles that they have faced or are still facing, following the end of the war. Yet it is their response and reaction that makes you see that they are willing to fight for their future and the life they have built as it is worth it in the end.

Three Words
Wonderful, Captivating and Enthralling.

Mary Diebel says

Good sequel

I liked following Charlotte's life. Didn't enjoy the first few chapters about Harry. I just wanted to read about the women.

Kate says

Um, I think I may have enjoyed this more if I had known it was part of a series before getting to the last page. All the different storylines seemed really loose, but would make more sense if characters had a bigger role in the first book and just needed wrapping up in this book.

I know this is weird but I don't like the title either. It would make sense if the book were from the perspective of the "married girls" but it was from everyone's individual perspective.

I don't know, I may end up reading the first book...

Nadia Jones says

I really enjoyed this book as the follow on from "The girl with no name" which I would recommend is ready before this book!

Didn't want the book to end! Would have liked to hear a bit more about how life continued for Harry Black after his return to Australia as we know how things have ended on a happier note for Charlotte! Another great book by a fantastic author!
