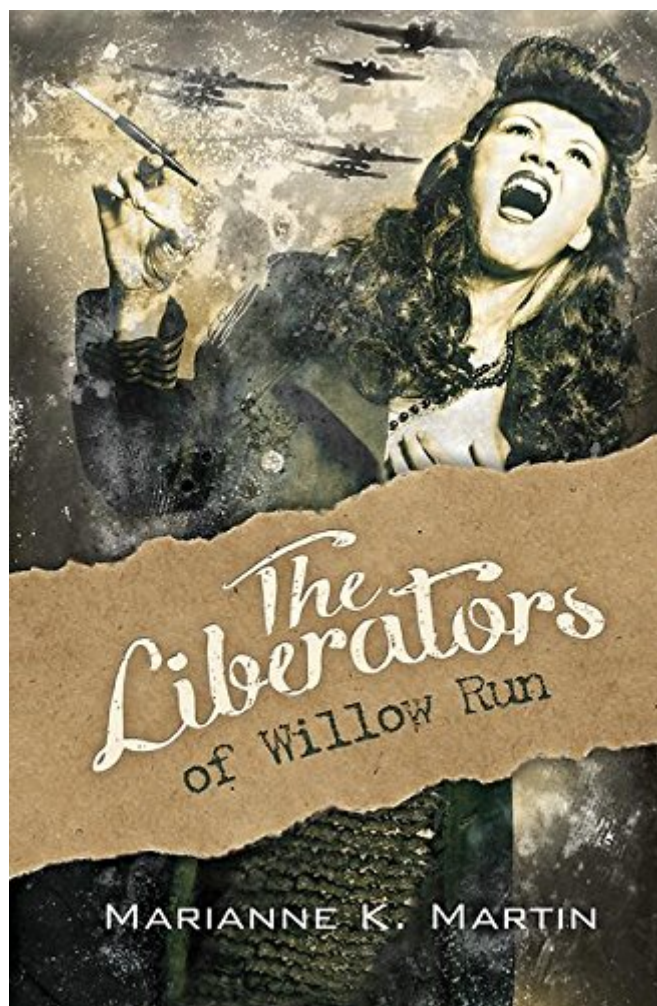


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The Liberators Of Willow Run



Synopsis

During World War II, Allied victory rested on the wings of America's Liberator, the B-24 bomber. The only way to build them fast enough was to bring women into the work force. Join Audrey and Ruth as their search for freedom leads them to risk everything to rescue an abused young girl, somehow finding love and redemption along the way.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

MKM is one of my favorite authors. I have not read a book of hers that does not entertain me into the wee hours. So self-identifying as a lot biased over this author, I wanted to share a somewhat different view, perhaps. Historical fiction can be spot on or so devoid of fact checking that it is almost painful to read. No worries in this book. MKM based this story firmly in its time period and I felt excited to learn about the Willow Run B-24 program. This is more fun for me because I work at a USAF depot so I am familiar with the disassembly and reassembly of a few large planes. It is amazing what the depots then could produce so quickly. MKM could have made this just a fictional drama but by placing this at a real place in time made it that much more interest grabbing for me.

The great thing about these type of books is that one can look up so much information on the internet to fill in the history and, even better, catch the YouTube videos from a certain period to really immerse. As an aside, I did the same thing with "The Boys In the Boat" and it was fabulous. I watched a few Air Corps films and added to my head images as I was reading. I learned about "Rosie" in school but never really considered what that really meant in the bigger picture of womanhood. This book reminded that being outside the social norms in the not so late 1940's could be extremely dangerous by gender or orientation. I am not fond of synopsis reviewing so I will leave that for others. I had difficulty getting to eventually appreciate the main characters. This is solely on me. I had trouble placing myself into that time period when women just weren't allowed to be more than decorative so I had a small struggle understanding why Audrey or Ruth would react a certain way. The author established well developed leads, maintained steady transitions, and created a thought-filled, historically pointed enjoyable read that was also educational. Though there is eventually a romance developed, this is not a romance novel.. It is a well-written story of different times, fear, loss, forgiveness, friendship and the strength of women. I highly recommend. What I liked: An historical, accurate fiction that felt on point front cover to back. What didn't I like: Umm, ???

This story has it all: A solid plot, believable characters and a love story that fits the time period. I was a frustrating time for women who loved women during the time frame of this book, the 1940's war-time America. They had to be extra careful so as not to be found out, but love is love and it visits us in its own way, in its own time. Ruth and Audrey find this out for themselves. Ruth, a waitress, works at a diner where the crew from the Willow Run plane factory go after their shift is over. Audrey is a riveter at the factory. They meet at Ruth's workplace and slowly and sweetly fall in love. Their stories and pasts collide and blend into a cautious but complete love story. I liked all the characters, and the ones you're not supposed to like are integral to the story. Read this book. You'll be glad you did.

What a terrific read! I just finished this book, and I know that the characters and storyline will stay with me for a long time. Another reviewer has already gone into wonderful detail about the book, so I won't add any spoilers here. However, I believe that this historical novel of women on the homefront in World War II is essential reading for every lesbian and those who would be our allies. We all need to know our history, and appreciate the heart-wrenching challenges those who came before us faced to live their lives authentically. Ms. Martin is a brilliant author who has crafted many wonderful novels in previous years. This one, however, may very well be her best.

It was very well written Unfortunately this made the characters come off a bit cold I didn't warm at all to the main characters

A little too tidy at times for such a messy time period but good writing and good characters. Worth reading.

The "Liberators of Willow Run" is a story of WWII and a few of the women who worked to put B-24's in the air but that isn't all it is. These women don't just work on "Liberators" they are also liberators in their personal lives as well. They fight against so many of the attitudes and customs that kept women down for years. Audrey works on the assembly line riveting wings for the B-24's but she is also fighting against the family that is still waiting for her to find the right man and settle down like a normal woman her age. She befriends Nona who has moved to Michigan to find work in the war effort and save enough to go to college. Together their friendship liberates them from the normal racial constraints of the times. There is Ruth who is also looking for freedom from a family disappointed by her unmarried status and pregnancy. Staying in a home for unwed mothers she plots for her own liberation from a life that would make her miserable. These women liberate themselves and others as they work to support the war effort and each other. Perhaps it's because I love history, perhaps it's because this book triggered memories of movies I saw as a kid that dealt with some of these same issues or maybe it's simply because I'm a fan of the author that I thought this was an excellent book.

I had the pleasure of hearing Marianne K Martin read excerpts from this book which enticed me to buy and then read it. It took me one night to finish. I was drawn in from the first chapter. I am not normally intrigued by stories of war but the historical accuracy intrigued me and I felt I was reading a non-fiction novel. Every character was fully developed and I wanted, no, I needed to know what happened to Audrey, Ruth, and Nona. From the fighting in Europe to the bomber plant outside Detroit; from the local diner to the new found independence of our characters, The Liberators of Willow Run is a great read which I highly recommend.

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