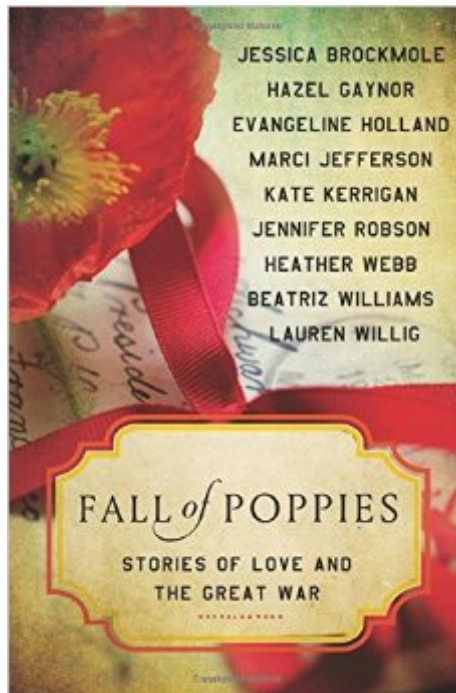


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# Fall Of Poppies: Stories Of Love And The Great War



## Synopsis

Top voices in historical fiction deliver an unforgettable collection of short stories set in the aftermath of World War I featuring bestselling authors such as Hazel Gaynor, Jennifer Robson, Beatriz Williams, and Lauren Willig and edited by Heather Webb. On the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month... November 11, 1918. After four long, dark years of fighting, the Great War ends at last, and the world is forever changed. For soldiers, loved ones, and survivors the years ahead stretch with new promise, even as their hearts are marked by all those who have been lost. As families come back together, lovers reunite, and strangers take solace in each other, everyone has a story to tell. In this moving anthology, nine authors share stories of love, strength, and renewal as hope takes root in a fall of poppies. Featuring: Jessica Brockmole, Hazel Gaynor, Evangeline Holland, Marci Jefferson, Kate Kerrigan, Jennifer Robson, Beatriz Williams, Lauren Willig, Heather Webb.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Every once in a while, I like to leave my romance genre comfort zone and read something a different. Fall Of The Poppies is an interesting collection of short stories, all set around the end of World War One in 1918. Here are my three favourite stories from this historical anthology: A moving story about a single mum. The Daughter of Belgium by Marci Jefferson "Amelie has lived within the confines of the Cavell Institute in Brussels for three years. Now it is time to move all the patients into another building. Amelie is informed she is to stay behind and use the training she has gained

during her time at the institute to look after the only patient who isn't moving too. Lars Ludvig is not who Amelie thinks he is and finds out they have much more in common than she ever dreamed. *Betrayal. Something Worth Landing For* by Jessica Brockmole – "A beautiful story of an artist who develops feelings for an injured American serviceman who is being fitted for a mask to cover his facial disfigurement. He then goes back to his home, after being told tragic news about the beautiful young lady who helped him. Years later the woman finds out that the serviceman was told of her death, so she actively tries to track him down. *Compassion and hope. All For the Love of You* by Jennifer Robson – "A young pregnant woman who is and about to lose her job and home meets a pilot who offers to marry her on a whim. He tells her she can claim Widows benefit if he dies. Neither would have guessed that during the time they wait to become legally married, they both are falling in love with each other. All the contributing authors are new to me. Each has their own individual style, covering vastly different plot-lines but all share the poignancy of the Great War.

"November 7, 1918 Brussels, Belgium Sister Wilkins caught my eye from across the nurse's parlor of Institut Cavell. The day I'd been dreading had arrived. The British nurse had lost much during this war, though she knew better than anyone that I'd lost more. She also knew my secret, and that I'd do anything to protect it." (pg 1- *The Daughter of Belgium*, Marci Jefferson) Hard to believe the life of those who survived the Great War, must have been as both survivors and those who served in the war that came back with more lost than they had going in. History is that great teacher, opening the eyes of those who weren't born then to remember a time when so many lost so much and paid the ultimate price. For some, it was simply coming home wounded and having to face a life they would no longer have. That is just what you will find in *The Fall of Poppies*, a collection of short stories by nine different authors who each take their turn at weaving a beautiful story of recollection of the Great War and the results of Armistice Day, the day the war was over and celebrations took place all over Europe. They all have the same central theme but with vastly different results. I believe my favorite was *The Daughter of Belgium*, a story of a young girl, Amélie, who had been her own survivor of the war along with her young daughter Hope. Left to deal with the outcome of a hospital that was moving, Matron Cavill asked her to care for one remaining patient they couldn't move, a wounded soldier that was being hunted for treason. Her only job was to see to it that he didn't starve. It was a soldier that she despised at the horrors committed to her when the German soldiers arrived at her family's tea shop and beat and raped her family.

Riding high on the current wave of interest in the Great War, *FALL OF POPPIES* (William Morrow,

March 1) offers lovers of historical fiction a poignant array of stories from some of the genre's most popular writers. The nine-story collection explores the panoply of emotions that gripped the war-weary world on Armistice Day, dramatizing the effect of the end of conflict on those who survived to see it. Like the blood-red ceramic poppies planted in the moat of the Tower of London to commemorate the war's fallen soldiers, each story pays tribute, through the evocative, emotional power of fiction, to the soldiers and civilians that experienced the relief, joy, grief, and hope that swept over Europe and America on that long-awaited day. FALL OF POPPIES includes stories by Jessica Brockmole, Hazel Gaynor, Evangeline Holland, Marci Jefferson, Kate Kerrigan, Jennifer Robson, Heather Webb, Beatriz Williams, and Lauren Willig. Each story exhibits the sound, vivid writing expected of established authors. Linked only by Armistice Day as a point of reference, the collection presents a broad range of characters, settings, and conflicts. The selections move from an Allied hospital in Belgium to a coffee plantation in Kenya to the nightclubs of Paris to a museum in Dublin. Novice pilots, generous sculptors, vengeful mothers, and conscientious objectors all search to make sense of their disrupted lives and disordered worlds. The fallen are mourned as new births are celebrated; aspirations die through tragic mistakes even as happy coincidence opens unimagined futures; destruction and upheaval force change and forge opportunity.

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