



## Phoebe's Light

*Suzanne Woods Fisher*

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Phoebe Starbuck has always adjusted her sails and rudder to the whims of her father. Now, for the first time, she's doing what she wants to do: marrying Captain Phineas Foulger and sailing far away from Nantucket. As she leaves on her grand adventure, her father gives her two gifts, both of which Phoebe sees little need for. The first is an old sheepskin journal from Great Mary, her highly revered great-grandmother. The other is a "minder" on the whaling ship in the form of cooper Matthew Mitchell, a man whom she loathes.

Soon Phoebe discovers that life at sea is no easier than life on land. Lonely, seasick, and disillusioned, she turns the pages of Great Mary's journal and finds herself drawn into the life of this noble woman. To Phoebe's shock, her great-grandmother has left a secret behind that carries repercussions for everyone aboard the ship, especially her husband the captain and her shadow the cooper. This story within a story catapults Phoebe into seeing her life in an entirely new way--just in time.

In this brand-new series, bestselling author Suzanne Woods Fisher brings her signature twists and turns to bear on a fascinating new faith community: the Quakers of colonial-era Nantucket Island.

## **Phoebe's Light Details**

Date : Published February 6th 2018 by Revell (first published February 2018)

ISBN :

Author : Suzanne Woods Fisher

Format : Kindle Edition 352 pages

Genre : Historical, Historical Fiction, Christian Fiction, Romance, Inspirational

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## From Reader Review Phoebe's Light for online ebook

### Laura says

PHOEBE'S LIGHT is the first book in Ms. Fisher's newest series, this one about the Quakers. I'm a long time fan of her contemporary Amish, and have to admire the research she put into the historical Amish series she wrote, and this new historical venture, set on Nantucket and centered around whaling and Quakers is just as worthy of admiration.

Suzanne Woods Fisher is a stellar, award-winning author. Some would call her the Queen of Amish fiction (others would say it's someone else such as Beverly Lewis) but all will admit, Ms. Fisher is one of top. She's definitely one of my favorite go-to authors.

Phoebe is an eighteen year old innocent sweetheart, in love with a man probably double her age and one who thinks what she wants and does what she wants even though she doesn't take the time to think things through. She has a lot of growing up to do on the voyage through this book. I'm anxious to read more about her, her sea captain, and even her shadow the cooper. He won my heart.

I know that not all Amish readers read Quaker fiction, and not all historical readers read "Plain" fiction, but for those who will, don't miss this book. A good read. Definitely eye-opening about a sect I didn't know much about beyond elementary school history and a book or two.

I was given a copy free. All opinions are my own.

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### Carole Jarvis says

Reviewed at The Power of Words: <http://bit.ly/2BDXQAg>

Suzanne Woods Fisher is an exquisite storyteller, and with Phoebe's Light, she continues to hone her skill as a writer of historical fiction. Even when writing Amish fiction, I've always said that her stories had a much broader appeal than any niche audience, and that is certainly true here. Phoebe's Light is rich in characterization, historical detail, and plot twists, a story that I didn't want to put down for a minute. I won't say that this is the best of Fisher's books, because I tend to think that about whichever one I'm reading at the time, but Phoebe's Light is certainly among my favorites.

I've always been drawn to New England and actually visited this story's island setting twice, Nantucket off the Cape Cod coast. Everything about Nantucket was vividly conveyed – the land, inhabitants, religion, and industry. Between the whaling industry and Quaker faith, I learned a lot of fascinating history in an

entertaining way.

Phoebe Starbuck was a well-drawn character that I loved, although I wanted to shake some sense into her for the first half of the book. Phoebe, a young woman “overly impressed by wealth, by luxury and lavishness,” and Captain Phineas Foulger, a man who “loved himself best of all” ... there’s no way that marriage built upon deceit could last. The realistically-flawed Matthew Macy was a favorite, as was Captain Foulger’s cabin boy, Silo, who showed that the speaking isn’t the only way to communicate.

The dual timelines of Mary Coffin in 1658 and Phoebe in 1757 were skillfully written; I was equally invested in both stories and enjoyed following family lines. God’s faithfulness in spite of our shortcomings is reflected throughout, as is the contrast between a personal relationship with God versus religion.

I just can’t say enough good things about Phoebe’s Light. The whole Nantucket Legacy series promises to be excellent and I eagerly await the next story, Minding the Light.

Highly recommended.

I was provided a copy of this book through Celebrate Lit. The opinions expressed in this review are entirely my own.

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### **Lorraine says**

This is the first novel in Fisher's new debut series Nantucket Legacy. It contains a dual timeline that is interwoven quite well: Phoebe's story from the 1700's and her great grandmother, Great Mary's, from the 1600's. Phoebe is a Quaker and descended from one of the original families who settled Nantucket Island in order to escape from the persecution that we received from the Puritans (Now that's a twist since the Puritans left England due to their religious persecution!). I loved the glossary at the beginning that explained the Quaker terms that Fisher included as many of them were definitely not part of my vocabulary. Fisher's historical research of both the time periods was very evident in her storytelling.

There were several things that kept me from giving it a 5. I thought the first half of the book although interesting moved rather slowly and could have used more action. Usually Fisher's books have a more prominent romance aspect. This book definitely had a lighter romance side although a strong historically developed plot. Once Phoebe and Captain Folger were on the ship, there seemed to be no connection between them, even from the beginning; and they had just been married.

The characters were quite varied. Captain Folger was a jerk from beginning to end, and I couldn't believe that Phoebe never did catch on to the fact he was probably after the journal and what it revealed. He also ran roughshod over his crew and let his first mate use his cat o' nine tails on the boys for insignificant breaches. And to leave Phoebe on an island and go off without her was inexcusable. Phoebe started out stubborn and self absorbed; and even though she was warned away from Captain Folger, she could only focus on being wealthy and secure. I did feel sorry for her continued sea sickness on the ship. I can't imagine being that sick for that long. As Phoebe began to rely more on God, she began to stand up for herself and take control of her life. I absolutely loved Silo and the relationship between Phoebe and he. Loved the role his scrimshaw carvings allowed him to speak to others.

Overall a good read and I look forward to the next book: Minding the Light.

I received a complimentary copy of this book from Revell through NetGalley. Opinions are mine alone. I was not compensated for this review.

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### **Kristina says**

Phoebe's Light by Suzanne Woods Fisher is the first book in the Nantucket Legacy series. On September 8, 1767 on Nantucket Island, Phoebe Starbuck, a Quaker, turns eighteen. Her father, Barnabas Starbuck presents her with Great Mary's journal (her great grandmother). It passes from one generation to the next to the one who would benefit most from Great Mary's wisdom (it is a shame that Barnabas never read it). Phoebe is excited to see that Phineas Foulger, captain of the Fortuna, has returned to the island. Phoebe fancies herself in love with the older widower and hopes to finally capture his attention. After a short time, Phineas and Phoebe are wed and set sail on the Fortuna. Phoebe has longed for adventure her whole life, but she soon discovers that life at sea does not suit her (she suffers from mal de mer). She spends her days in her quarters with the comfort of Great Mary's journal. Matthew Macy and Phoebe were once betrothed to one another until Matthew turned away from God. Matthew, though, has never stopped caring for her. When Barnabas asks him to join the crew of the Fortuna to keep an eye on Phoebe, Matthew agrees. Phoebe is in for a life altering journey, and she will soon need the wisdom in Great Mary's journal and help from Matthew to aid those she loves.

Phoebe's Light is a captivating historical novel. It was fascinating to go back to this time period and read about life on Nantucket Island. The author did a wonderful job at integrating the diary entries into the book. I was afraid the entries would pull me out of the story, but it did just the opposite. I kept wanting to know what else was in the diary and what would happen next to Phoebe. Phoebe's Light well-written and it has a nice steady pace with vivid descriptions of the island, people, the ships, whales and etc. I appreciate authors whose words allow me to picture the scenes in my head as I read (just the right amount of detail). The transitions were smooth between chapters and the diary entries. I could tell that the author did her research for this novel especially on Mary Coffin Starbuck and the whaling industry. She captured the speech of the Quakers and the people of this era (there is a glossary). The story contains incredible characters that are well-developed and realistic. There are characters readers will love and others that you will dislike intensely (and hope that they get what they deserve). I like that Ms. Fisher did the book on Quakers. There are few fiction books that incorporate this religious sect and it was interesting to learn more about their history (how they came to America and the persecution they suffered). The mystery element added another level to this rich story. There is a lovely ending that will have you anxiously awaiting Minding the Light (second book in Nantucket Legacy series).

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### **Amanda says**

I expected to like this book but I didn't expect to love it (which I did). This story focuses on the island of Nantucket, taking place in two time periods. The reader gets a glimpse into Mary Coffin's life, who was the daughter of one of the original settlers on Nantucket. The story also follows Phoebe Starbuck, Mary's great granddaughter, a Quaker who lives on Nantucket.

I loved learning about the rift between the Puritans and the Quakers as well as the origins of Nantucket and how it was settled. There is also a lot of talk of the whaling industry, which was extremely interesting. The

story is very atmospheric...there are many scenes on a ship and I could almost feel the waves and smell the salty air.

The author is a very gifted writer...I flew through the story and never felt that it dragged. I loved the characters, although there were a few times I wished that one of them would wise up. I also liked that this story was light on the romance...there is a bit of romance but it's never the main focus of the story. (I'm not a romance reader).

The story was open ended and I'm eagerly awaiting the next release in the series! This is one of my favorite books of the year so far, highly recommended!

My Rating: 5 stars

I received this book from Baker Publishing Group to review. All thoughts and opinions are my own.

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### **Heidi Robbins (Heidi Reads...) says**

So rich in historical detail! I loved learning about an era and location in history that I knew pretty much nothing about, and now I'm fascinated. I'm not usually a fan of a dual time-line story, but the author balanced it perfectly, with Phoebe and Matthew's perspectives told in third person POV, and the journal entries of her great-grandmother Mary in first person. The majority of the book is about Phoebe and her growth through harsh trials, which is enhanced by the parallels of Mary's growth in the well-placed excerpts. The pace of the book was rather slow at first, but I've found that with this author's beautiful writing I appreciate the time she takes to build the setting and develop the characters so that when the pace quickens and the plot climaxes, I'm completely enthralled and invested in the outcome. Hard lessons are learned, secrets are revealed, yet Phoebe's stalwart faith supports her and encourages those around her when they need it most. I'm loving this new series by one of my favorite authors and am looking forward to more!

(I received a complimentary copy of the book; all opinions in this review are my own)

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### **Chautona Havig says**

#### **Characterization**

It's so easy to create villains who are "all bad" and heroines with token flaws. It takes a masterful storyteller to combine sympathetic characters with realistic flaws and virtues—on both ends. Fisher does it with both stories.

Oh, yes. This book weaves two stories together—one told in a family heirloom—a journal. And the other in the narrative. And through two completely different storytelling styles, she shows flawed and beautiful characters both. Phoebe is the protagonist every reader loves. She's strong, but gentle. Her virtues are plenty and faults real. She learns and grows as the story emerges but not in some moralistic tale that makes you want to run.

The Captain, her father, her friends—every person in the book has a consistent character—even as that character grows and changes, those changes fit within the character itself.

Good characterization makes any story more enjoyable—more delightful.

### Setting

One of the things I love most about Fisher's writing is how skillfully she weaves description into the tale. You feel as if you're there—can smell the salt and brine. You dread the whaling because you know you'll be glad you're not on that ship—really smelling it.

Yet she never overloads the narrative. Every single gets placed exactly in the right spot to ensure you experience the book as if you stood beside those characters and lived their lives with them. But Fisher NEVER smothers you with that description.

### Surprise

Yes, she surprised me. Few authors do, and no, she didn't surprise me on everything, but that she surprised me at all was a delight. There was one small bit in the book—pivotal but small—that I became so wrapped up in the story and missed it.

Brilliant.

Do I have any complaints?

Two.

First, one element regarding Phoebe's future I found rather conveniently wrapped up. Look, I know why she did it, and I'll be honest. I probably would have been annoyed had she not. How's that for unfair?

Still, it's true. Sometimes the most satisfying ending is also a bit too convenient to be realistic. I chose to decide that I'd take satisfying, though. Because realistic would have just been way too disappointing.

And second, I am not looking forward to the wait for the next in the series. Sigh. I just hope I have an opportunity to receive another review copy, but if I don't, I'll be buying it. No doubt about it.

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### **Carrie Schmidt (Reading is My SuperPower) says**

First, let me ask – “Why couldn’t I have been assigned this book instead of Moby Dick in high school?!?” I mean, they both deal with whaling ships. But Phoebe’s Light is much more entertaining. I think it would be a fair substitute... just sayin lol.

In all seriousness, the history geek in me is so intrigued by the overarching story told in Fisher’s new Nantucket Legacy series. While each book focuses on a ‘modern-day’ (at least so far as 1767 is more modern than 1660) storyline, it also zeroes in on Mary Coffin – a real historical figure who had tremendous impact on a young Nantucket. Through Mary’s author-imagined journal entries (Fisher includes an author’s note at the end that details what is fact and what is fiction), we get more insight into this fascinating historical figure.

As far as the 1767 thread of the story, Phoebe is the kind of heroine you like a lot but still want to shake for part of the book – yet you also end up being really proud of her by the end. There’s a bit of ‘Beauty and the Beast’ flavor to Phoebe’s story, too. Her father is an eccentric whim-chaser who always has a new (quirky) venture brewing, to their financial detriment. There’s a Gastonish character – a beast disguised as a prince – and a prince-type character disguised as somewhat of a beast. The allusion to this classic fairy tale doesn’t

dominate the tale – and may not have even been intended by the author – but especially as the story begins the similarities come to mind.

As Phoebe's reading of Great Mary's diary progresses, we begin to see more intersection with the 1767 thread (Phoebe's thread), as surnames merge between the two. How it all fits together becomes part of the story's intrigue in both timelines, and there's more than one mystery to solve as we sail along. While some aspects of the story are fairly predictable, I wasn't sure, ultimately, how either thread would play out – and there were some bumpy moments when I feared (and discovered) the worst!

**Bottom Line:** Phoebe's Light by Suzanne Woods Fisher detours from her typical Amish genre to spotlight Quaker history and that of Nantucket. Both Mary Coffin and Phoebe Starbuck, though not without their flaws, are admirable heroines and the men they truly love are the best of heroes. The history here is as richly atmospheric as the setting, and while the thees and thous take a bit of tedious navigating this story is an enjoyable read with the promise of more fascinating stories to come!

(I voluntarily reviewed a complimentary copy of this book)

first seen at Reading Is My SuperPower

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### **Christy says**

This read suffered because I knew more than Phoebe in the beginning of the story. As a reader I could sense the predictability for over 200 pages before things started happening that I did not see coming. The history and excellent writing kept me plodding along though. I haven't learned so much about Nantucket and it's "greasy voyages" since watching a family favorite of American Ride on channel BYU. I could see so much of what was written; and the scenery was really beautiful.

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### **Nicki Olsen says**

\*My Thoughts\*

Suzanne Woods Fischer is a popular in-home name for readers of Christian Fiction. She's written dozens of books, and she's very well known for her Amish Fiction. A beautiful storyteller, her books always bring to mind that of a grandmother telling stories to her grandchildren in the living room by the fireplace.

Her newest series is not an Amish series but follows a series of Quakers. And let me tell you, this series is going to be her best one yet if Pheobe's Light is any indication.

Skillfully written in stunning detail, Suzanne masterfully shares (in a timeslip, no less), the story of Great Mary through a journal. Phoebe is given the journal for her 18th birthday but has little interest. At the end of each chapter, Suzanne would insert a page or two of Mary's journal to impart wisdom and shed light on Quaker life in the 1600s. Rich with historical detail, I found myself entranced in both stories, and couldn't decide which I looked forward to more each time I picked this delight up.

Throughout the story, Pheobe learns the importance of family and that people and riches aren't always as

they seem. Desperate to show Phoebe and the world he's changed, Matthew is an endearing character who I ached and rejoiced alongside throughout the story.

With beautiful detail, Suzanne makes you feel what her characters feel, smell what her characters smell, and see in your mind's eye both the beauty of Nantucket and the horrors her characters may face. A captivating story, Phoebe's Light is not one to be missed.

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**\*My Rating\***

I give Phoebe's Light...

5 stars!

\*I received this book from the publisher, but was in no way required to give a positive review.

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### **Megan says**

"Phoebe's Light" by Suzanne Woods Fisher is a unique story set on Nantucket Island during the 1600s and 1700s when whaling was prevalent. I used to read a lot of books about the Amish, Quakers and Mennonites. It has been awhile now since I've picked one up and I was especially excited that this book is about Quakers since I don't know as much about them.

Ms. Fisher weaves history and detail deftly into her story. I love the setting of Nantucket, especially since I have visited there before. I learned a lot about whaling, ships, Quakers and Nantucket during this time period. The author obviously put a lot of research into her book. It is fascinating to learn about the Quakers and their faith, and what sets them apart. It is helpful that Ms. Fisher includes terms and a character list in the beginning of the book.

I really enjoy the way Ms. Fisher writes the characters in this story; especially Phoebe, Matthew and Great Mary. All three of them have wonderful character arcs, and their characters undergo transformations throughout the book. At the beginning of the story, I did not like Phoebe and thought the choices she made were unwise. By the end, the author made me admire the way Phoebe handles certain situations and she really becomes a stronger and much more likeable person. I loved reading the journal entries of Great Mary, and laughed at how she sometimes crosses out her real feelings (which you could still read).

“Phoebe’s Light” is an inspiring and original story that will hopefully help us each examine our faith. Ms. Fisher explores what it means to truly be a Christian and the difference between religion and true Christianity.

Content: I would give this book somewhere between a PG and PG-13 rating for some content. Examples: Some graphic descriptions of violence against Quakers and sailors; indicates a man is a drunkard and fights a lot; a man smokes tobacco; reference to the wedding bed; says a man curses, but the actual curses are not written; a woman mentions a demon is the cause of her low spirits and there is thought that a demon possesses a baby; a short scene where a man tries to force his wife to fulfill her marital duty, but they are interrupted; a woman uses opium to escape, becomes addicted and goes through withdrawal.

Rating: I give this book 4 stars.

Genre: Christian fiction; Historical; Romance.

I want to thank Suzanne Woods Fisher, Revell and Celebrate Lit for the complimentary copy of this book for review. I was not required to write a positive review. The opinions I express in this review are my own. This is in accordance with the Federal Trade Commission’s CFR 16, Part 255.

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### **Deanne Patterson says**

Very interesting book. The author really knows how to captivate and keep her audience reading. The description of the scenery is mesmerizing and one feels as if they are there with the characters. I can smell the salt in the air from the ocean, hear the shouts from the crew and feel Phoebe's pain as she realizes the man she has married is not who she thinks he is. The book is a time slip as it has two time periods to it, 1661 and 1767. 1661 is Great Mary's life which Phoebe reads about in an old journal her father gives her and 1767 is Phoebe's life. Captain Phineas Foulger is quite the respected man and when he starts to call on Phoebe she is quite pleased. After their marriage she comes to understand her father's warning about the man is true. He is not the man he portrayed himself to be.

I learned some interesting historical facts which is one reason I find historical books so fascinating to read. I learned about a greasy voyage and what a mortgage button is.

This book is about the the Quakers living on Nantucket Island and their main source of income is whaling. The author takes you on quite the seafaring voyage in this the fist book in the Nantucket Legacy series. Looking forward to reading the rest of the series.

Pub Date 06 Feb 2018

Thank you to NetGalley and Revell for a review copy. I was not required to write a positive review.

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## **Tiffany Jones says**

\*\*FTC DISCLAIMER: I RECEIVED AN E-ARC FROM THE AUTHOR IN EXCHANGE FOR AN HONEST REVIEW. RECEIPT OF THIS BOOK IN THIS MANNER DOES NOT AFFECT MY OPINION OF THE BOOK OR THE CONTENT OF MY REVIEW.\*\*

Phoebe Starbuck has always adjusted her sails based on the whims of her father. But, this time she's going to do what she wants, no matter what he or anyone else has to say about it. She's going to marry Captain Phineas Foulger, and has already convinced him to take her along on his next whaling excursion. She takes along with her the old sheepskin journal of her great-grandmother, "Great Mary", which the Captain has shown an unusual amount of interest in. And, despite how much she feels she doesn't need a minder, her father has talked cooper Matthew Mitchell to go along and keep an eye out for her. It doesn't take long for Phoebe to realize that life at sea is just as difficult as life on land, if not even harder. She's homesick, dealing with intense seasickness, and lonely being surrounded by a crew that despises her and is convinced that having a woman aboard is a bad omen. In her loneliness, she turns to her great-grandmother's journal and learns of a secret that "Great Mary" left behind that carries repercussions for everyone aboard ship, especially her husband, the Captain, and her shadow, the Cooper. What follows changes the coarse of each of their lives forever.

This is the first book in Suzanne Woods Fisher's Nantucket Legacy Series and it's an amazing beginning. The story had me captivated from the very beginning and is full of beautiful imagery and descriptions of the island that were clear enough for me to almost visualize it myself. It alternates between Phoebe's perspective and her great-grandmother's through the use of her journal and that really added to the story. You can really tell how much research the author did into the period and into the whaling industry of the day. She also did an amazing job with the characters. I really enjoyed reading Phoebe's story and am looking forward to seeing what is in store for Phoebe, her father, Matthew, and the rest of the beloved people on her island.

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## **Amanda Tero says**

This was my first time to read Suzanne Woods Fisher. The era and setting intrigued me: whale-hunters in 1776? Definite yes! In ways, this book made me think of Elizabeth George Speare's "Witch of Blackbird Pond"—likely because it hinted a lot about the superstitions and injustices done toward the Quakers in the 1600's.

While most of the story was written from Phoebe's perspective in 1776, she received her great-grandmother's journal from 1658 and beyond. At the closure of each chapter, a portion of Mary's journal was shared. I found her story to be quite intriguing.

The mystery in these pages was also interesting. I like a good mystery, and though at times you didn't realize there was actually a mystery abroad in the community, as the pieces began falling together, I enjoyed it!

I really tried my hardest to like this book. I'll admit I was a bit turned off on the first page when the main character used "Drat!" in her thoughts. Not only did this phrase not emerge until the 1800's, a strict Quaker lass would not have used such a strong euphemism (if it had been used in her time). But, I seriously tried to push that away and enjoy the book... but so many cliché phrases kept bringing me back to the 1900's, and my history brain just has a hard time with that.

There were also a lot of unanswered questions, but I realize it could just be my over-curious mind. Questions such as: if great-grandmother Mary wasn't Quaker (and was suspicious of them) and was persuaded by other Christians to be baptized (Anabaptist), then how is it that Phoebe is strict Quaker? When in the family line did that major switch happen?

I suppose if you really like romance stories, this might appeal to you. Most people know I'm not a huge romance fan, but I can tolerate a good bit of it. The part that was just "okay" for me was Mary's journal, where she is in love with and pining after one man while keeping company with and nourishing a friendship with another (though it is resolved that she didn't mean anything by the friendship, the whole "I want this man and I will get him, but I don't know how" really bothered me). But what I really had a hard time with was this book's love triangle. I don't dislike a love triangle, but when it is between a married couple and a third person...yeah, no. Sorry. Once a person is married, they shouldn't be pining after their first love. The married girl shouldn't be falling in love again with her jilted childhood love—or realizing that she never stopped loving him—while she's married and her husband is still alive.

**\*SPOILER\***

There were two scenes in which the captain began undressing or started undressing Phoebe and talking of the marriage rights. A little too suggestive for my tastes. And back to the love triangle, wonderfully for Phoebe, the captain is killed, so now she can marry the man she loved since childhood. Oh, and also, the captain was already married to another woman and Phoebe is his second wife, which she discovers mid-book. I just have a problem with all of the above. I realize terrible situations happen in real life, but this is not the type of stuff I find pure and righteous for entertainment purposes.

**\*END OF SPOILER\***

The spiritual side of this book was really confusing. Given that it's Quakers and Anabaptists and an era in which they were at each others' throats and stuck on rules rather than following God, I suppose it should make sense. But it was all very vague. "Follow the Light" and "the Light is within you." There was a casual mention of Scripture, but it was more the "wisdom of Great Mary" that was followed rather than the wisdom of God's Word.

Like I said, I did give this book an honest go. I was prepared to like it, and I did try to. But it just wasn't really for me.

**\*I received this book from Celebrate Lit and happily provided my honest review\***

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### **Victoria Lynn says**

4 stars

This book was highly insightful, and again, not what I expected. The last time I read a book by Ms. Fisher, I was pleasantly surprised by the actual story and the depth therein.

This was the same way. The story was a bit slow in the beginning, picking up the pace as it went on. I loved the journal entries interspersed at the end of each chapter and the insight that it was seeing two different eras of Nantucket living.

I learned a lot about that time in history, but more importantly, I learned a lot about the Quaker community and how it works. The religion has always been something I was curious about, and I was delighted to find that it holds a lot of beliefs similar to my own.

The characters were not my favorite, mostly because they were so unlike me as to be relatable, but they were still very real. Personally, my favorite was Matthew and I did find some things in common with Phoebe; though I would say I am most similar to Mary Coffin. I enjoyed her part of the story very much as I saw myself in some of her younger days. Phoebe was petulant, thought she knew best, and went ahead and did it, even when those around her expressed their concern with the plan.

Her marriage was something that made me angrier than anything because we as the reader could tell that Captain Foulger was a scoundrel. I didn't realize how much of one however which gave us a quite a bit of suspense throughout the book.

Definitely an interesting tale that was historically accurate about a time in history that not many people write about. That made this story unique and I think all the more interesting.

I docked a star for content. There was some mention of "the marriage bed" and the obligations of a wife. Unfaithful marriage, a mention of polygamic practices. Some violence in the way of descriptions of Quakers tortured or imprisoned for their faith as well as punishments aboard ship such as floggings and a few hand to hand fights. Also mentions of how a man died after a blow to the head.

All of that being said, I do think this was an interesting and page-turning read and after the cliff hanger they left us on at the end of the preview chapter for book 2, I will definitely be interested in reading the next installment of this book.

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