



Hearts Divided: 5-B Poppy Lane / The Apple Orchard / Liberty Hall

Debbie Macomber , Katherine Stone , Lois Faye Dyer

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Grandmothers know best . . . especially these three grandmothers, all soldiers' brides. Their generation lived through war and peace, good times and bad, love and loss.

***5-B Poppy Lane* by Debbie Macomber**

All her life, Ruth Shelton has loved visiting her grandmother in Cedar Cove, Washington. Now Ruth comes to ask advice about her own romance with a soldier -- and discovers a secret in her grandmother's past.

***The Apple Orchard* by Katherine Stone**

Clara MacKenzie's granddaughter Elizabeth arrives at Clara's Oregon farm needing comfort. That's exactly what Clara offers -- and so does a childhood friend named Nick Lawton. But Nick wants to offer Elizabeth *more* than comfort. More than friendship . . .

***Liberty Hall* by Lois Faye Dyer**

When Professor Chloe Abbot finds herself caught up in a troublesome mystery, she turns to her grandmother. She needs Winifred's expertise as a wartime code breaker. She *doesn't* need suggestions about her love life -- all of which involve an ex-marine Jake Morrissey!

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Marianne says

Hearts Divided consists of three short stories along the same theme: grandmothers who were soldier brides; granddaughters involved with soldiers. The grandmothers are friends from long ago, and the stories weave into one another.

5B Poppy Lane by Debbie Macomber is a Cedar Cove short story that occurs between 50 Harbor Street and 6 Rainier Drive, although it is not necessary to have read the Cedar Cove books to enjoy this romance. Ruth Shelton is studying in Seattle and has been corresponding with a marine, Sergeant Paul Gordon stationed in Afghanistan, although she is against war. Ruth's grandmother, Helen Shelton, lives in Cedar Cove, at 5B Poppy Lane, and was married to a soldier, Lieutenant Sam Shelton. When Paul and Ruth meet for the first time, they are very much attracted to each other, but Ruth's stance against the military and Paul's dedication to his military career presents them with a dilemma regards their ongoing relationship. When Helen meets Paul, she is reminded of her first husband, Jean-Claude, a resistance fighter in Paris during the war. She decides to tell of her wartime experiences, something she has kept to herself for over sixty years. Helen and Sam's relationship is echoed in Ruth and Paul's. A sweet romance.

Liberty Hall is the 16th romance story by Lois Faye Dyer. Professor Chloe Abbott is an English lecturer at the University of Washington. Attending a PR event about the donation of equipment for disabled returned servicemen with her grandmother, Winifred Abbott, Chloe meets Jake Morrissey, ex-Marine corps sergeant, now a demolitions expert. They are instantly attracted, and eventually begin seeing each other. Meanwhile, Chloe has the feeling she is being followed, a feeling Jake insists on treating seriously. When a document written in code drops through her mail slot, she enlists Winifred's help: Winifred worked as a code-breaker with her soldier husband, Richard, during the war. This is a romance with a bit of mystery and action added. A charming romance.

The Apple Orchard is the 24th romance story by Katherine Stone. Elizabeth Winslow is engaged to Matthew Blaine and looking forward to her wedding, although perhaps not as much as the mothers who are doing to planning. Just one thing is bothering her: her beloved grandmother, Clara McKenzie, seems convinced that Matthew is not the right man for her. When this proves, painfully, to be true, Elizabeth retreats to Clara's Oregon farm in the town of Sarah's Orchard, for the comfort only a grandmother can give. Although someone else is also standing by to give comfort: ex-Lieutenant Commander Nicholas Lawton, having saved Elizabeth once before, when she was too young to remember it, is only too eager to save her again. I thought the back-story for Nick was beautiful: a delightful romance.

Diana says

"Hearts Divided" was written by 3 females authors who are friends. It is an interesting concept. The basic story line is that there are 3 women who have been friends for a long time. They each were married to a man who was in WWII and they are now dead. They each have a grand-daughter who becomes involved with a man who is either in the service or has been. Each of the authors writes a very short novel about one of the women and her granddaughter.

It is a quick and easy but enjoyable read.

JoAnn says

Three interesting stories about three woman who fall in love with men who are soldiers or former soldiers with glimpses of their grandmothers' WWII romances.

The stories were very interesting, but far too short. I would have enjoyed reading more about the characters, granddaughters and grandmothers alike.

Andrea says

I thought being a military wife myself I would enjoy this bookI was wrong. It had interesting parts but the overall effect left me bored.

Jan Mcleod says

This book contains 3 stories by 3 different authors who are friends. All 3 stories are loosely connected because they deal with war brides.

"Liberty Hall" has an interesting twist. Winifred is an expert at breaking wartime codes which comes in very handy when John and Chloe are being stalked by a father who wants revenge for his Marine son's death.

Very interesting and a bit of a mystery, too.

"The Apple Orchard"

Clara lost her soldier husband after many years of marriage, but Nick has returned to town and is honored to help her with whatever she needs. Years ago, Nick rescued Clara's only granddaughter, Elizabeth, when she was a toddler and he was 7 years old, and they never forget what he did. Nick was treated like a son from then on.

Elizabeth came to Clara's for comfort after she broke her engagement, but Clare isn't the only one Elizabeth gets comfort from.

In this short story, we see what real, lasting love looks and feels like from two couples. Good plot that held my interest.

"5-B Poppy Lane" is reviewed in the Cedar Cove series books.

Stacy says

The short stories were cute. Too much insta love but the writing was good. May have to check out the other authors other works. I liked how the characters connected in this short story collection.

? Briansgirl (Book Sale Queen)? says

I actually quite liked this story (5B Poppy Lane). It's about a young couple falling in love, Helen's granddaughter Ruth and a marine. It's also about Helen finally telling her own story, about her young love in France during WWII and her part in the french resistance. It's only 113 pages long so it goes rather quickly.

Jill says

3 stories by 3 authors. All of the stories go together. Debbie Macomber, Katherine Stone and Lois Faye Dyer entwine the stories of Helen Winifred and Clare and their granddaughters. Sweet stories, easy to read and enjoy. I feel each story could make for a book to be on its own. I plan to look up the other authors (have read lots of Macomber books!). I like to try new authors and I think Stone and Dyer will be good ones to try!

Kathryn says

I very much enjoyed the two of the stories: 5B Poppy Lane by Debbie Macomber and Liberty Hall by Lois Faye Dyer, but I didn't really care for The Apple Orchard by Katherine Stone. This story just did not seem to flow and I really could not get into the story like the other two. The three stories were loosely connected and written by three authors who were friends with each other. I was going to read only the Macomber story at first, but since they were somewhat connected, I decided to read all three. Had I only read 5B Poppy Lane and Liberty Hall, this would have easily been a 4-star book, but after the final story, I could only give it 3 stars.

Angelie says

3 great stories about love found in time of war. 3 great grandmothers who found friendship and love in it and who deeply loved their husbands. 3 lucky granddaughters who found love with the help of their grandmothers' past. 3 amazing man in love. 3 different flavor of stories. 3 wonderful writers. thus, a hundred applause for this book! :) ♥

Nancy says

This was truely an amazing story. I could'nt put it down because I could'nt wait to see what happend next. I really liked the characters and was glad that they each had a happy ending. I was'nt sure I would like this book because I had never heard of these other two authors, but now that I've read this book I plan on trying to check out their books to. If you truely want an amazing book to read then this book is for you.

Victoria says

Absolutely impossible to finish.

Judy says

This was an enjoyable collection of three novellas by three different authors and all related to Debbie Macomber's Cedar Cove series. Macomber's 5-B Poppy Lane fits between 50 Harbor Street and 6 Rainier Drive. The three grandmothers in these stories were all WWII brides and now they are connecting with their granddaughters who are meeting the loves of their lives. The stories are touching and heartwarming.

Marsha Douglas says

I read this book as part of Debbie Macomber's Cedar Cove series. You can probably skip this and not miss a beat in the series, but it is an enjoyable read. Three grandmothers, all WW2 brides and dear friends since the war, each have a granddaughter who finds love with a GI. The three stories that comprise this book come together with the grandmothers' correspondence to each other. The granddaughters' stories are all unique, as are the stories of the grandmother's lives.

Rachael says

originally posted at <http://rachaelc94.blogspot.com/2013/0...>

I can't say that I think 5-B Poppy Lane really belonged in the cedar cove series. Charlotte Jefferson Rhodes was the only character of the Cedar Cove series mentioned in this short novella. Places of Cedar Cove were mentioned and I enjoyed the characters Debbie Macomber created for this novella.

Ruth was the main character and she has been sending letters back and forth with a marine named Paul although she doesn't believe in the war. He finally comes home on leave and Ruth and Paul finally meet. When Ruth takes Paul to meet her grandmother Helen Shelton in Cedar Cove she discovers mind blowing secrets about a woman she thought she knew so well.

There were parts of this novella that literally gave me goose bumps I was so enthralled in Helen's story. I had parts of the novella where I respected Ruth views and other times when I thought she was being crazy. I really enjoyed this novella and although it isn't really a cedar cove novel it is still a great Debbie Macomber novel. I would recommend reading it since it won't take long and you will love the story.
