



## 'Til the Boys Come Home: A World War I Novel

*Jerry Borrowman*

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A gripping tale that brings to life the meaning of freedom and patriotism and how the now little-appreciated Great War engulfed the lives of young Americans. A valuable addition to LDS literature.

## 'Til the Boys Come Home: A World War I Novel Details

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Author : Jerry Borrowman

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# **From Reader Review 'Til the Boys Come Home: A World War I Novel for online ebook**

## **Tami Reed says**

I enjoyed Borrowman's character development. And I loved how the main characters weren't invincible. It was a touching tale and educational for me. Not as gripping as other war novels, but I enjoyed it...a fast read.

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## **Peggy says**

Very good book and very well written. It started out with 4 boys growing up in a small town and how over the years their lives changed. Then WW I came and how each boy served in the military and how it affected each of their lives in a different way.

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## **Lindsay Dalton says**

This is a great read if you like historical fiction, which I do. It really gives you an idea of the times and the hardship of WWI. It is also a great story of how much you can impact someone's life, whether they were born into your family or put there later because they needed you.

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## **Danni says**

very interesting couldn't put it down.

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## **Alyse says**

This book is sooooo good!!! And so sad! The characters were real and well developed, and the plot was cool, especially since we got to grow up with the characters! And the ending is just....!!!!!!

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## **Meghan J. says**

'Til the Boys Come Home was an action-filled, heartwarming, incredible tale about the great World War I. Borrowman did an outstanding job at capturing the audience's empathy because right away you fall in love with best friends Dan O'Brian and Trevor Richards. It's August 1911 when the novel begins. Trevor Richards is the new kid in town, and at first it seems highly unlikely that the two boys will become friends. But at time passes, Dan and Trevor realize how much they have in common and that they were destined to be together. In April 1917, America finds itself in World War I. Trevor is excited at this point, because this is the perfect opportunity to pursue his dream of flying so he goes and joins the Air Services. Nevertheless, Dan finds

himself in the War as well, but he will share his part in fighting in the trenches down below. The boys find themselves in various attacks along the book that I found myself holding my breath for. Borrowman really made me feel as if I was going down for a nose dive in the fighter plane with Trevor, or laying down in the disgusting, muddy trenches with Dan. Either way, as I was reading I found my anticipation rising and rising by the second. You'll find that you'll tear through this novel, because you're dying to find out if they've come out alive. I absolutely enjoy history, and my knowledge of WWI has increased highly because of this novel. Not only did I learn so much, but I found myself addicted to a heart-warming tale of great friends who try to survive to see each other at the end of a horrible war. You'll anticipate the ending, and find yourself in shock for an ending that will hurt your heart. But most of all, you'll find yourself waiting until the boys come home.

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### **Jonathan says**

I really enjoyed "Till' the Boys Come Home" by Jerry Borrowman. Until I read this book, I knew very little about World War One, other than that it was a large war. But after reading it, I understood more and more about some really interesting, and really sad history about America. But the book isn't entirely about World War One. This book also tells the story of a boy in a city in Idaho, and it's was fascinating to see how the war affected the boy's life and his family, and his values and standards as a person. The courage and sadness and especially the joy contained within this book makes it worth reading. I think that people who don't even like historical fiction, would find this book entertaining and interesting to read. I really liked this book and hope that other people have a chance to read it as well.

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### **Alison says**

Really enjoyed this book. It is a WWI historical fiction with an LDS viewpoint. I love how it gives a lot of information about the time period and the type of fighting that occurred during the war but weaves it into a story that captivates the audience and pulls you right along. The story takes place in 3 sections, beginning during the boys teenage years and the closeness they develop as part of a teacher's quorum at church. It is not until the middle section that some of them go off to war. I love how it ties in some church history, US history, and ultimately world history. I am planning on reading one of his WWII books next.

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### **WabbitSeason says**

I read this book in 8th grade and can confidently say that this is the only book I've ever cried over; it wasn't necessarily amazing writing, but rather the characters that made it one of my favorite books of all time (which I guess can be attributed to the writing). Release order is the ranking I'd give for the books in this series.

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### **Alyssa says**

I enjoyed this book. I didn't know much about WW1, so this was educational for me. The characters were great, Dan, Trevor and all the boys. Life seemed so much more simpler back in the early 1900s. Especially in a small town of Pocatello. Which was also a railroad town, My grandpa and dad worked/work for the

railroad. So this was also kind of a cool thing to see how it was during this time. I loved at the end of the book it explained how the war started and such. I really had no idea! Airplanes were the big thing back then, the future of airplanes wasn't known yet. So the freedom the early pilots had seemed amazing. Anyways, back to the story, Trevor and Dan were great well thought out characters. And the fact that each did there own thing to contribute to the war. It was also neat how Dan journeyed through his darkness and came out. He found a great friend while in the trenches, Philip. I know it was all about brotherly love and such, but it would have been better if there was a great love story (but it wasn't necessary to make this a great book!). Great book, and Great Author. Can't wait to journey through the rest of the series.

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### **Michelle Llewellyn says**

World War II gets all the attention. This book is a gentle reminder that before the Hollywood portrayal of The Good War in all its glory and Great American Heroes that spawned The Greatest Generation, there was another Great War, equally important in American history. Considering the one-hundred year anniversary of WWI this is the perfect opportunity to remind ourselves that human terrorism is always with us.

Here is the story of two young boys growing up in rural Idaho who would go on to fight in the War to End All Wars. One would experience the joy of learning to pilot an airplane as a World War I flying ace. The other would suffer the horror of the trenches. Will either survive and see their families again? Read this book and find out. It is hard not to get caught up in the drama Jerry Borrowman creates in his excellent account of what life was like in America pre-WWII.

The best way to study history is to read historical fiction. When a book like this comes along you can't easily put it down. Read it and pass it on.

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### **Taylor G. says**

I recently read “ ‘Til the Boys Come Home: A World War 1 Novel" by Jerry Borrowman. I honestly didn't enjoy this read. Not only was the book slow and drawn out in the beginning, but I had a challenging time getting through the book due to its large size. I appreciated the author specifying the boys' childhood and their growing friendship, and experiences, but it truly was WAY too detailed and I didn't feel it applied to the actual topic (World War 1), until I continued to read to the second part. This is when main characters, Danny O'Brian and Trevor Richards, go into war on the front lines. Part two was when the book became somewhat interesting. Both boys went through training; Danny trained to be a sniper, and Trevor learned how to battle in the skies with an airplane (this was again a VERY lengthy and monotonous section), but if you are interested in details of training you may enjoy this part. Following the training, the friends get deployed to war; Trevor in the air and Danny in the trenches on the front lines. Predictably tragedy strikes, but you have to read the book to feel the overwhelming story of loss, beyond the boundaries of war. The ending was the most interesting part and applied to the topic (WWI). I couldn't put the book down during the last few chapters and then I realized I had reached the last page. If you can get through the first 300 pages or so, the last 100 will have you intrigued to learn more about the First World War!

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## **Roy says**

My grandpa (the only one I was able to meet in this life) served in WWI so I was way stoked to read this book and come to understand him better. I am so very glad that I read this book!

First of all, what a truly awful war this one was! All wars are of course awful, but this one seems to take the cake in my way of thinking. Talk about a bunch of stupid male posturing and terrible tactics with weapons that none of the commanders even seemed to care how they truly work. My grandpa always refused to tell me about this war and I never really understood why until I read this book. Truly a bunch of needless human suffering brought on by many people with self-serving agendas, including the Bolsheviks in Russia.

Second of all, what a story of human exploration! Danny seems to be a character a bit like me, able to best express oneself through art. He had made some mistakes through life, but his biggest mistake was to take credit for things he didn't directly do. Forgiving oneself is probably among the hardest things to do. This book well portrays that struggle!

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## **Victoria says**

great story of two young men from Pocatello who become great friends in spite of very different social backgrounds. they end up volunteering during WW1. one a pilot, the other in the trenches

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## **Ed says**

I liked the book, but after something happened that I didn't like, I stopped reading it for a time. Then I allowed myself to finish it and it got good again.

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