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Colonial New England is in revolt, not only against the British, but in many other aspects of life as well. Ardent patriot, Oliver Tewkesbury, unceasingly strives to answer the call to serve his fledgling country. The townspeople of Granville, Connecticut send Oliver and two young local comrades off to join up with Washington's forces in New York.

The enthusiastic patriots face unforeseen trials and an unanticipated fate, while Rebecca White faithfully awaits Oliver's return, knowing he is already betrothed to another.

Meanwhile, in Granville, congregants rebel against their officious loyalist minister, and young women thirst for their own freedom. But life becomes so fragile that God is summoned by all, Tory and Whig alike, as the hardships of war take their toll.

When Revolution Calls Details

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Author : Jo Gillespie

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From Reader Review When Revolution Calls for online ebook

Mary Hosmar says

I received this book as a good reads free book. The cover immediately got my attention and I eagerly began reading. The first chapter set the tone for the book. There would be mystery and intrigue mixed with the history. My kind of book.

While the story was enjoyable and well-researched, I did find that some of the incidents our characters were caught up in fall a little short. For example, I would have liked to see the battle scenes told from one person's point of view with more emphasis on the sights, sounds and smells of the battle instead of short sections for each. It seems as if there are three or four stories intertwined. But that is my personal preference and may not bother other readers.

A couple of other items pertaining to editing bothered me as well. The double spacing between each paragraph interrupted the flow of the story. Perhaps using that technique when switching characters may have been good, but not between each paragraph.

The second item is the spelling of one of the character's name. When we first meet the nurse, she is called Rachael. A little further the spelling is changed to Rachel. I had to go back to see if this was still the same character. These two spellings are used interchangeable throughout the book.

I don't mean to be negative. I did enjoy the story. It is well-paced and holds the readers' interests.

It doesn't say anywhere but it seems this was written with tweens in mind. And, as such, it is a good read. They would not be bothered by my minor hang-ups.

I'm looking forward to finding out what did happen to Oliver.

Amy says

I normally do not read historical fiction and took a chance to read this since my husband suggested it to me. I found that I thoroughly enjoyed it and found that it was hard to put down. It was nice to see the other aspects of the revolutionary war through the eyes of common folks than straight from the front lines along with Washington.

Jamie says

This book was a pleasant surprise. An engaging story that moves at a quick pace and has plenty of history to set the context.

The characters were simply crafted, but easy to grow attached to.

Overall, an enjoyable read for any historical fiction fan.

Taylor Hawkins says

Well-written engaging novel about the American Revolution. While I found it to be a bit too quick of a read,

perhaps not detailed enough (though I mainly read historical fiction in the vein of Philippa Gregory and Alison Weir). Overall well done. :)

I received a copy of this book from Goodreads' First Reads program.

Marlene says

Quite enjoyed this. Great stuff. Worth reading/buying. I was a bit overwhelmed at first with the number of characters, but they quickly started to make themselves distinct. By about 40% in I didn't want to put this story down. The further you get into the novella, the more tightly written and visceral it becomes until at the end you're fully present with Jacob and Rachael and Oliver and Sarah as they follow their stories.

I don't think the story of Jesse is needed. There's so little time to develop his character that he comes across as two-dimensional and there's no real connection to his character, so I wasn't really invested in what happened to him and the actions he took. I'd say if this were developed into a longer novel, this storyline could be developed but it doesn't feel needed to me. It's enough for Rebecca and Oliver to meet and follow that storyline, which I felt was fantastic. Plus, I think the parade of characters in the tavern at the beginning would be helped by at least one less person.

I picked up the second book and while I haven't looked at it yet, I'm hoping that I get to be with these characters again.

Patty says

Very well written book. This book was easy to read and I enjoyed it.

Claire says

I was pleasantly surprised by this wonderful little book! As an avid reader of historical fiction, with a special interest in books about colonial America, I was impressed by the vast amount of research Ms. Gillespie did to make her story feel as genuine as possible. It is an almost perfectly paced story; you'll be flipping pages rapidly and hours will feel like minutes! The characters are fleshed out, the setting wonderfully described, and the historical details accurate. I'm looking forward to a sequel!

Tanya says

Enjoyable historical fiction accounting of the immense impact of the Revolutionary War on three soldiers and their families. The author is not too graphic in her depiction of the battle scenes and she is restrained in her development of the love interests in the book, keeping them appropriate for younger readers. Bravo.

Don says

I just finished the book and I was more then pleasantly surprised with the story. I enjoyed how fleshed out the characters were and loved the attention to detail was nice without going too overboard. At first I was a little concerned with the story and it's pacing, but that was quickly reeled into what turned out to be a wonderful story. I enjoyed how everyone's separate stories wound together into a rather pleasant ending. The one thing I could say that bothered me the most through the book was less about the story itself and more of the makeup of the printing. The double spacing between each paragraph had a tendency to make the story a bit choppier then I would have liked, so I had to concentrate a bit more to keep the flow of the story going. Other then that, I felt that this was a rather refreshing story from a new author and I look forward to her future endeavors.

Anna says

Great story about the trials and tribulations that war has on family and friends and the toll it takes on individuals themselves. But it is also a story of joy and comfort that people find with each other in these trying times. I received this book free from the author/Goodreads for an honest review. Look forward to future books by Mrs. Gillespie.

Crystal says

I completely enjoyed this little book. It is not long, or maybe it is just not long enough. The characters and storyline were well researched and while there was some concern about where things might go, it all came together beautifully. And I think this is a book that is good for a wide range of ages. While my grandson is not quite ready for it yet, he will be in a few short years. Thank you Jo for a wonderfully written story. I'd love to see a Part 2! Can't wait to see what you do next. Bravo on your first novel :D

Sarah says

This book was hard for me to finish. The story just did not keep my interest, the characters seemed flat and stereotypical. I usually love historical fiction but this book just did not do it for me.
