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The Enchanted April (Classic Bestseller)



Synopsis

The discreet advertisement in The Times, addressed "To Those who Appreciate Wistaria and Sunshine", offers a small medieval castle for rent, above a bay on the Italian Riviera. Four very different women - the dishevelled and downtrodden Mrs Wilkins, the sad, sweet-faced Mrs Arbuthnot, the formidable widow Mrs Fisher and the ravishing socialite Lady Caroline Dester - are drawn to the shores of the Mediterranean that April. As each, in turn, blossoms in the warmth of the Italian spring and finds their spirits stirring, quite unexpected changes occur.

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Customer Reviews

Over the years some people become more fun and interesting. On the other hand some become staunch and passionless. Seems that Lottie picked the latter to marry. One day at her club she sees an advertisement to rent an Italian villa for a month she shows this to a friend Rose and offers to share the cost. This leads to four women with different backgrounds sharing the cost of a great adventure at the beautiful Italian villa "San Salvatore." The story is well written and was made in to a good play as it has all the elements of understanding and misunderstanding needed for a good play. Even some explosive scenes. There all the characters, looking for a retreat from life, find each other

again; for some the first time. You will find yourself wanting it to join in. Do not overlook the two movies with the same title.

A book written by a woman for women
Full of insights to a woman's mind; endearing and profound
It made me smile in acknowledgement and cry empathically
Every woman over her 30's should read this book

I would actually give this 4.5 stars. I found the book to be charming. I ordered this book when I ordered the author's other book, Elizabeth's German Garden, after reading a memoir by Susan Branch (she mentioned the book several times). I had never heard of this author, but am quite taken by her. In this book, the characters are well developed; in fact, that's really the point of the book. Even though there were a few times when I thought that I knew what was coming, I was often surprised. It's an easy book to read, but it's not fluff.

This is one of those books that takes you away to another world and makes everything around you disappear. You are transported to an Italian villa in the most perfect April ever and you suddenly feel as if all is right with the world. You join the characters as they sort out their lives and their feelings and it helps you get your own back into perspective. One of those books that makes you feel better every time you read it, and you come back to it throughout your life. It truly enchants.

Comfortable reading with just the tiniest worry for the totally human characters. The scenery, necessary for the work was satisfy to me but possibly a bit slow for the more vigorous reader

I loved this book. It made me want to rent a villa in Italy! Well written and descriptive. The book was written shortly after WW 1 when life was pretty dismal and so many men had died. Rose and Lottie find themselves renting a villa in Italy seeking relief from their dreary housewife life. I felt I could relate to Rose and Lottie and how they felt the need to go somewhere beautiful where there was sunshine and flowers blooming. Read the book and then watch the movie (The later one with Michael Kitchen) With only a slight variation the movie actually follows the book. One of my favorite books!

Though this is an old classic it touches the heart of the reader. The only thing that would need to change to make it modern is the clothing styles and modes of transportation.

A enjoyable light read with interesting period characters from different backgrounds. A little too predictable but still a good read.

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