



The Way We Were: A Novel

By Marcia Willett

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Marcia Willett captured the hearts of Rosamunde Pilcher and Maeve Binchy fans across the nation with her previous heartwarming stories of family devotion and abiding compassion. Now, in her newest novel, *The Way We Were*, Willett introduces a deeply moving and utterly real tale that is sure to win over a whole new set of readers.

Tiggy arrives at the remote house on Bodmin Moor in the middle of a snowstorm. All alone, having lost

her partner in a tragic accident, Tiggy is welcomed into her best friend Julia's warm and chaotic family. With the Tiggy begins to live again as she eagerly awaits the birth of her son. But nearly thirty years later, when her son is about to become a father himself, the next generation discovers that there are some secrets from the past that still live on...

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The Way We Were: A Novel By Marcia Willett Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Willett (*Echoes of the Dance*) gives us a domestic novel of quiet yearning, haunting memories and onerous guilt, oscillating between the present of 2004 and the late 1970s, when bighearted mom Julia welcomed her pregnant, widowed best friend Tiggy into her home to live. With lush descriptions of pastoral Cornwall as a backdrop, Willett explores the life of naval wives Julia and Julia's Aunt Em, daughter-in-law Caroline and nemesis Angela, each of whom spend much time waiting for her husband to return. Julia and her daughter, Liv, grapple with echoes of their former lives: for Julia, it's the specter of her husband's infidelity, in the form of Angela; for Liv, it's the one that got away, in the form of unhappily but intractably married co-worker Chris. And that's hardly all; Willett piles on the conflicts and tragedies, overloading her suffering characters. The women are largely faultless and sweet—particularly the insouciant, lovely Liv—which undermines their well-earned gravitas. Still, Angela makes a delicious antagonist, and the friendships at the novel's heart—especially the tender relationship between Julia and Tiggy—are believable and warming. (Apr.) Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

From [Booklist](#)

On a cold winter day in 1976, unmarried and pregnant, Tiggy packs up her camper van and drives west to the Cornwall moors to live with her friend Julia. Tiggy's fiancé recently died, and Julia, alone with her kids while her husband is at sea, gladly accepts Tiggy as her houseguest. Life is chaotic with the two women, two dogs, and Julia's three children, but for Tiggy, with no family and a growing belly, it's a haven. But there's something sinister lurking under the idyllic days on the moor, and years later, Julia, having buried the memories as best she can, finds herself watching her children make mistakes that could expose family secrets about Julia, Tiggy, and her visit so long ago. How can Julia protect and guide her family but still stay true to Tiggy? The always captivating Willett (*Echoes of the Dance*, 2007) accurately traces the tangled threads of family relations and the complications in untying them, understanding that sometimes it's wiser to tie them tighter. --Hilary Hatton

Review

Praise for Marcia Willett

"Like Rosamunde Pilcher and Maeve Binchy, Willett creates such fully dimensional characters that readers feel as if they should phone or e-mail them to keep in touch."

- *Rocky Mountain News* on *A Week in Winter*

"A must for women fiction readers."

- *Booklist* on *The Children's Hour*

"Tender and moving, Willett's tale expertly weaves a family's past and present together to illustrate the strength of familial bonds. A memorable and emotional read to be savored."

- *Romantic Times* on *The Children's Hour*

"Readers will enjoy the heartwarming ending, vibrant characters, and the excellent depiction of the English countryside."

- *Booklist* (starred review) on *A Summer in the Country*

“Thoroughly engrossing, with richly drawn characters, a mysterious locale, and a beautifully crafted plot.”
- *The Sun-Sentinel* (Fort Lauderdale, Florida) on *A Week in Winter*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Marie Michael:

The reason why? Because this *The Way We Were: A Novel* is an unordinary book that the inside of the reserve waiting for you to snap the item but latter it will jolt you with the secret it inside. Reading this book alongside it was fantastic author who also write the book in such amazing way makes the content interior easier to understand, entertaining technique but still convey the meaning thoroughly. So , it is good for you because of not hesitating having this nowadays or you going to regret it. This book will give you a lot of advantages than the other book have such as help improving your talent and your critical thinking means. So , still want to hold off having that book? If I have been you I will go to the e-book store hurriedly.

John Jacquez:

The Way We Were: A Novel can be one of your beginning books that are good idea. We all recommend that straight away because this reserve has good vocabulary which could increase your knowledge in words, easy to understand, bit entertaining but nonetheless delivering the information. The writer giving his/her effort to place every word into joy arrangement in writing *The Way We Were: A Novel* but doesn't forget the main stage, giving the reader the hottest and also based confirm resource info that maybe you can be among it. This great information may drawn you into completely new stage of crucial pondering.

Sarah Jackson:

This *The Way We Were: A Novel* is new way for you who has intense curiosity to look for some information as it relief your hunger associated with. Getting deeper you upon it getting knowledge more you know or else you who still having little digest in reading this *The Way We Were: A Novel* can be the light food to suit your needs because the information inside this specific book is easy to get by means of anyone. These books produce itself in the form and that is reachable by anyone, that's why I mean in the e-book web form. People who think that in reserve form make them feel sleepy even dizzy this reserve is the answer. So there is not any in reading a e-book especially this one. You can find what you are looking for. It should be here for a person. So , don't miss that! Just read this e-book type for your better life and knowledge.

Jerry Brower:

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