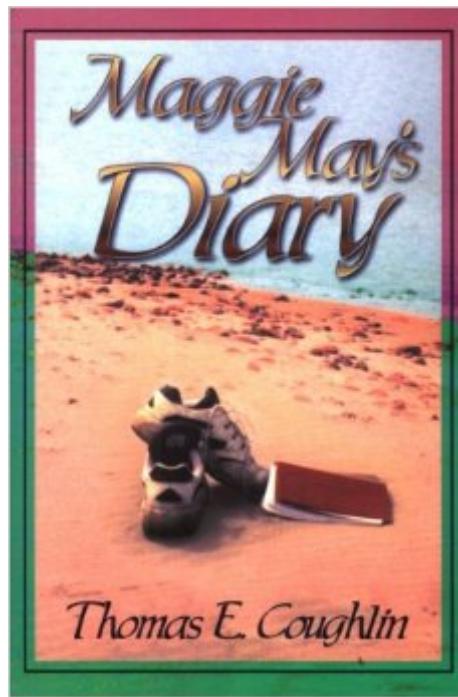


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# Maggie May's Diary



## **Synopsis**

Margaret Keogh-Olson, an attractive CPA, is searching for a high school photo to send to her high school reunion, when she discovers the diary she wrote at age fifteen. The young Maggie May Keogh had just discovered boys - one that got her pregnant and one that loved her. Eighteen years later, her marriage on the rocks and her daughter about to graduate from high school, Maggie May's diary brings back memories, an agonizing discovery and a question: What has happened to Brian Kelly, who professed his love so many years ago? Margaret begins her search for love and new awareness of who she is and what she values in this memorable romance played out in the affluent suburbs of New Hampshire and the beach communities of Maine.

## **Book Information**

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Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 starsÂ  See all reviewsÂ  (14 customer reviews)

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## **Customer Reviews**

While vacationing in southern Maine, I purchased "Maggie May's Diary". I was drawn to the book by its high recommendation by the clerk in the bookstore and also by its setting. I was quick to learn that this book was far from a formula romance. The strong character of Maggie May Keough was so unlike any other female protagonist I could remember! It was only through her relationship with the book's other principal character, Brian Kelly, and with her daughter, that I could see the framework of a decent human being. Driven by her career and social standing, she represented everything I've come to detest in a personality; it was in the character of Brian that I found a decent human being to root for in this unpredictable romance between a CPA and Maine motel operator. The author has a gift for writing dialogue as evidenced in the many spirited exchanges between Maggie May and Brian - intelligent compared to the conventional romances. Coughlin also goes a few notches above

the norm in a steamy, sexual interlude. I get the impression that he puts more effort into this book than the standard romance writer following some cookbook formula. Many of the plot twists and ideas were fresh and unexpected. I would theorize that the author gives us Maggie May and Brian to represent symbolically materialism and humanism at odds. The quandry, you want Brian to be happy but he's only going to be happy if he gets his Maggie May. The novel's ending is unpredictable and most satisfying. I feel like I stumbled onto something a little special in this book. I look forward to a sequel perhaps, but certainly many more pleasurable hours of reading in future books by this author!

I have never read any of Thomas E Couglan books, but when we were vacationing in York Maine, I saw in a book store, they had him listed as a local author, I have since read the book when I returned to Florida, Mr Coughlin made you feel like you were part of Maggie May's life, and his writing is so efficient I actually could picture the different areas of Maine he was writing about. From the minute I purchased the book, I was so intrigued by it I couldn't put it down, trust me this book was worth every penny. I can't wait to read Route 1. Thank-You :-)

I picked up Maggie May's Diary ... The storyline caught me quickly and was a pleasant and page turning read. Would highly recommend to everyone and have just ordered the companion book. Hope more books keep coming as the characters grow on you. Great Book !!!

(...) I found the book to be superb! I was drawn back to my own high school days and recalled some of the students from that era. I then remembered my first 15 year reunion and the way some of the people had changed. A few were just as obnoxious as they had been in earlier years and some had become more sensitive to people's feelings. Coughlin was right on target. I enjoyed his dialogue, related to his characters, understood his scenes of intimacy, and felt for the individuals in the story as they faced the issues that challenged them. Once started, I could not put the book down, contrary to what the other reviewer stated. I also enjoyed reading the locations mentioned in the book. As a Mainer, I could visualize each place and put the characters in perspective. Having visited those areas years ago, it brought a feeling of nostalgia to me that I had not thought about in years. All in all, I found Maggie May's Diary to be a great read and I would recommend it highly to anyone who likes a romance novel with a wonderful biting twist.

Tom Coughlin captures the feeling of revisiting a old love... everyone has done that... What is more

impressive is the way he takes a female CPA from NH and makes her a strong person that eventually requires your empathy....She is too real to dislike..there are real life female CPAs in NH and they probably would vacation in Maine. Living in NH and knowing Perkin's Cove and Wells ME as well as I do, I find the plot real and Coughlin sensitive. He loves Maggie or he wouldn't put up with her...This book is for anyone who has ever looked back and searched for an old love....It is a great summer read and I have the feeling that Maggie May will appear again in a sequel...I am told that the book has taken the Maine coast by storm. I look forward to Coughlin's next book....He actually inspired me to publish my own novel. Thanks Tom!

I read this book because it was based in Manchester NH and Wells ME, two areas I know quite well. It was wonderful to read descriptions of places and be able to picture in my mind exactly the setting. The story line was not extraordinary, however. It seems a great deal of books I've read lately are about women who move on with life after their husbands walk out on them. This one also has a woman going in search of a lost love and how they rekindle old relationships. The best thing going for it was that it was short, so it was very quick. I wouldn't have wanted this book to go on much more than it did.

Maggie May's Diary is a different romance than any other I've ever read in that the heroine is not very likeable until the end of the story, but Brian Kelly is the kind of guy female readers fall in love with! As a girl who kept a diary in high school, I identified with the diary entries -- surprising since written by a male author! The story unfolds really nicely though and these 2 main characters play off each other very well; there are parts of the book that made me laugh out loud. I especially liked the setting of the story since I vacation in Maine a lot. And the ending of the book left me with a smile on my face!!! All in all, a refreshing change from the usual romance formula.

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