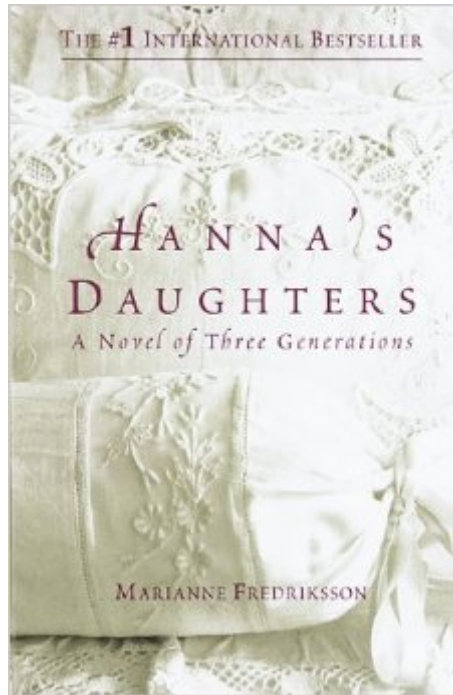


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Hanna's Daughters



Synopsis

Hanna. Johanna. Anna. Three women, three generations, one family. A #1 international bestseller in Europe, this luminous, heartfelt novel spans more than a hundred years in the lives of three remarkable women--a daughter, mother, and grandmother--lives shaped by the epic sweep of history and linked through a century of great love and great loss. As Anna holds vigil at her mother's bedside, she longs for reconciliation--not just with her mother, Johanna, but with her grandmother, Hanna, a woman she never really knew. Determined to piece together the fragments of her past, Anna sifts through tattered letters, cracked diaries, and old photographs, as the vivid lives of Hanna and Johanna at last begin to unfold. Through shades of memory and history, longing to join the ancient threads of the family tapestry, Anna begins searching for answers to questions that have haunted her for a lifetime. What was it like for her grandmother, Hanna, more than one hundred years ago, when she married a miller and raised an illegitimate child in a staunch, rural community? What drove Anna's own mother, Johanna, once a fiery revolutionary, to settle down and become a housewife? And why did the ties binding Anna to her mother and grandmother drive all three apart--only to bring them back together again? Rich in insight, and resonating with truth and revelation, Hanna's Daughters is an unforgettable story, exploring the volatile ties of mothers and daughters. If you have ever wanted to connect with the past, or rediscover family, this novel will strike a chord in your heart. Marianne Fredriksson has created nothing short of a masterpiece.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Funny how true the saying "Like mother like daughter" comes to life in this emotional and inspiring novel, *Hanna's Daughters*, by Marianne Fredriksson. Three generations of women are portrayed through family lives and a changing society. It is fascinating how the grandmother's lifestyle differed from the granddaughter's although still sharing a common thread. Love and loss, becoming strong through sacrifices, yielding to men and the hardships of running a household are constant themes. The novel also focused on the many complexities facing the families. A few examples are abusive and alcoholic fathers and husbands and unfaithful fathers and husbands. I was impressed with the way the author structured the sequencing of stories around each of the women. She used past letters, dreams, and flashbacks to compare and to contrast the daughter's lives. One that I enjoyed was about Broman and his love for his daughter, Johanna. I was able to parallel it back to Johanna's dream about going to the cave when she was a child. She was not cold because she was able to cuddle with her father. Such connections in the book made me eager to read on to uncover others. Throughout the course of the book similarities between the women's lives began to appear. Hanna's mother, Hanna, Johanna, and her daughter Anna had the emotional bond of child loss. They experienced the heartbreak of children dying in famine, of suicide, abortion and infant death. Another commonality was the struggle of Hanna and Anna as single mothers after the divorce or death of their husbands. *Hanna's Daughters* was an incredibly moving portrayal of the relationship between mothers and daughters, their love bond and the hardship that goes along with this love.

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