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Find Me in the Garden

By Mel Walton



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Find Me in the Garden By Mel Walton

"Rich, descriptive prose and dialogue picked me up and transported me back to the South Africa of my history and youth" Paul Lourens, George Herald

"A real page-turner - I read it all through the night, by torchlight." - Nevenka Ristic

"a most beautifully written book" - Georgie Miller

"it brought real tears, laughter and love to my world" - Gillian Moore

At Mel's birth, the doctor shook his head, doubting that this scrap of a baby born without a breastbone would survive. The feisty little girl born during World War II not only survived but thrived, spending her youth in George and Herolds Bay in South Africa, surrounded by her large extended family, a pioneer family in the rural town. Her story sketches her journey beyond the safe, loving home, bounded by family and church, to a discovery of art and painting at college in Cape Town, to the cultural shock of her years as a young teacher in a newly established town.

Mel writes frankly about how she, a seemingly conventional daughter, teacher, and later wife and mother, came to challenge the thinking of the day at the height of the apartheid era. Her glimpses of a world heaving with conflict and change is interwoven with the story of her own personal journey of love and loss. Despite her searing experiences of personal tragedy and her fight against depression, she was intensely engaged with a changing world around her. which helped her to piece together her life, even when it lay in ruins at her feet.

Find me in the garden is an authentically told memoir of survival, grief and redemption: a moving portrayal of an ordinary life and its extraordinary highs and lows.



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