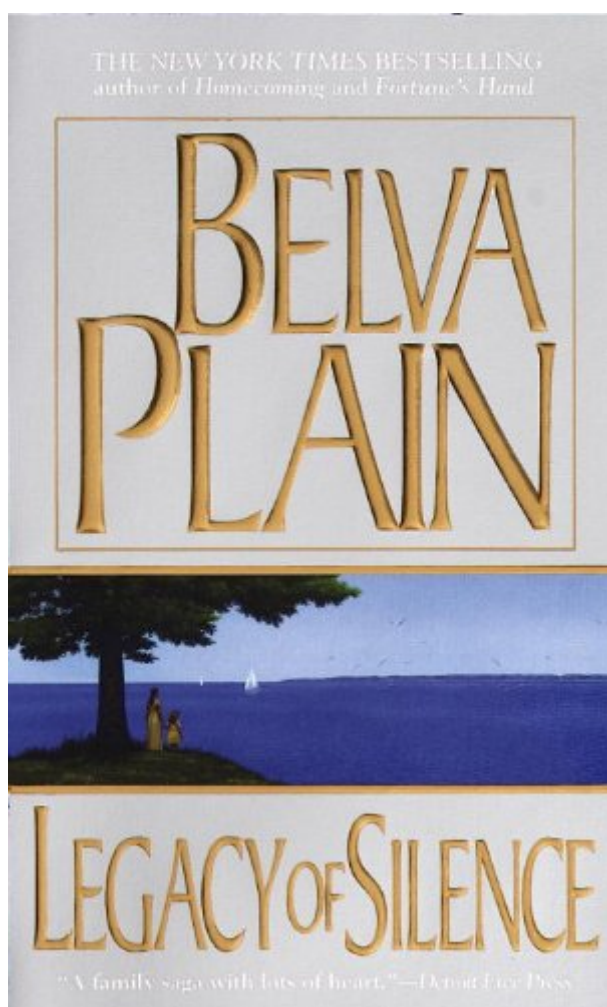


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Legacy Of Silence



Synopsis

In *Legacy of Silence*, New York Times bestselling author Belva Plain creates an unforgettable story of a remarkable family and a deception that reaches across continents, oceans, and generations. Caroline Hartzinger flees wartime Europe with a shattered life and a devastating secret. Pregnant and unwed, she arrives in America in 1939. Joel Hirsch offers marriage and respectability, hoping one day to earn her love, if not the passion she feels for a man whose memory still haunts them both. With Joel, Caroline builds a new life, determined to bury the past until her daughter Eve brings Caroline's carefully crafted world crashing down again, driven by a rage to learn the truth. Now it is Eve's secret, a legacy that taints her life and puts generations at risk. But with it comes a gift—a new sister, young enough to be her own daughter, who offers hope, then a truth that will finally break the hold of the past. From the Paperback edition.

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Customer Reviews

Belva Plain made the characters come to life in this novel. I thought the ending was excellent. Lore was a very interesting character and Belva kept her doing a secret to the end. There was a lot of interesting history in this book, the second world war, the nazis, the persecuted Jews. It really gave

you a feeling of what those years were like for some people. It was a very realistic story of what could have happened in those years. All of the emotions of life were displayed...death, birth, war, hate, love, loyalty, honesty, dishonesty and so on. Belva, hurry with another novel and I will be the first in line to buy it.

The book spins the tale of a family of Jewish heritage. The heroine, Caroline, fled Europe to the US when she was merely a teenager. Having lost her parents and her lover, she accepted the offer of a marriage of convenience. The peace Caroline yearned for disappeared when her daughter, Eva, found out the truth about her own father. The 'truth' was to haunt the family for many years before it finally came to light. This book comes with dramas and twists. It has also not failed to invoke many conflicting emotions in me. We are supposed to love Caroline, the heroine, who was brave and strong, but yet, we can't love her totally, from the way she behaves towards her lawful husband. Joel seemed to be the perfect guy, totally devoted to his wife but yet he married another in total contrast of his late wife, 2 years after her death. And of course, the truth about Walter and Lore, after we've hated and loved them for nearly more than 3 quarters of the book.... This is definitely one of Belva Plain's better books.

Stories of several generations fascinate me because they show how dependent we are on those who came before us. This book had the added element of being set before World War II when everyone was stressed to the max. I rated the book a 3 only because it lacked details of history. The story of the characters was excellent and I really enjoyed it. The story alone and the style of plain writing deserve a 4.5. I would recommend this book to all who like reading about families in good times and bad. From Nancy Anne

Belva Plain has crafted a splendidly stunning story in her novel, "Legacy of Silence," which leaves one begging for more. Not since Sidney Sheldon's "The Other Side of Midnight" have I encountered a story that I could not put down. It has all the ingredients a family saga needs: Two strong woman characters, a plot that continually moves along and unfolds and a great amount of suspense which finally explodes. To reveal the plot in any great detail would be a mistake. "Legacy of Silence" is about deceit, lies and the means in which one can control the history of one's family. The characters of Caroline and Lore will remain with the reader long after the last page has been read. The New York Times once said of Belva Plain, "She is the queen of family sagas." Yes, she is!

From the moment I started reading page one, I knew this book would be one that I couldn't put down. The fact that I had so much to do and was able to finish it in three days, is typical of Belva Plain's writing. I have read everyone of her books, as they come out and only hope she keeps them coming. I was a little bewildered as to where the the duplicity was to be, but when you get to the last few chapters, everything comes together. What an awful time for these people.

THIS BOOK IS EXCELLENT - and who writes "excellent" better than Belva Plain! There is never a dull moment from the moment you begin reading...the twists and turns take you by surprise just when you think you have it figured out! I don't know how she kept coming up with great book after book, but I think this is one of her best. You will not be disappointed!

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I loved this book. I couldn't put it down. It was a wonderful story and then it was just over. All the story lines came together and I thought there would be this huge revelation and all the loose threads would be brought together. Unfortunately, that didn't happen. It was more like, "oh well, it happened, let it go." I was so disappointed in the ending that it ruined the rest of the book for me.

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