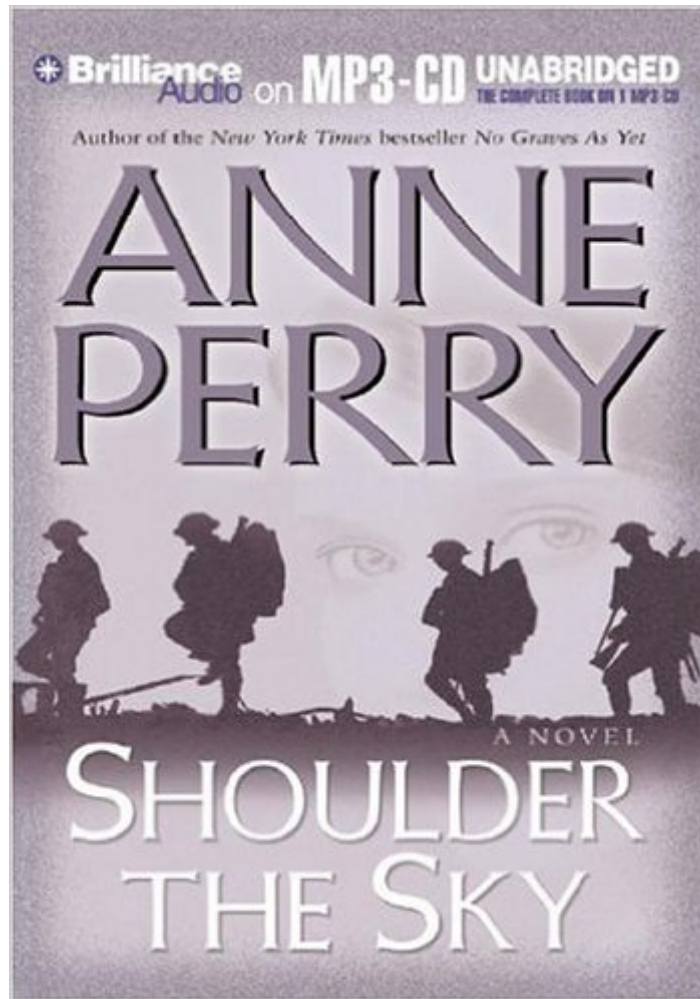


The book was found

Shoulder The Sky (World War One Series)



Synopsis

By April 1915, as chaplain Joseph Reavley tends to the soldiers in his care, the nightmare of trench warfare is impartially cutting down England's youth. On one of his rescue forays into no-man's-land, Joseph finds the body of an arrogant war correspondent, Eldon Prentice. A nephew of the respected General Owen Cullingford, Prentice was despised for his prying attempts to elicit facts that would turn public opinion against the war. Most troublesome to Joseph, Prentice has been killed not by German fire but, apparently, by one of his own compatriots. What Englishman hated Prentice enough to kill him? Joseph is afraid he may know, and his sister, Judith, who is General Cullingford's driver and translator, harbors her own fearful suspicions. Meanwhile, Joseph and Judith's brother, Matthew, an intelligence officer in London, continues his quiet search for the sinister figure they call the Peacemaker, who, like Eldon Prentice, is trying to undermine the public support for the struggle - and, as the Reavley family has good reason to believe, is in fact at the heart of a fantastic plot to reshape the entire world. An intimate of kings, the Peacemaker kills with impunity, and his dark shadow stretches from the peaceful country lanes of Cambridgeshire to the twin hells of Ypres and Gallipoli.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I became interested in WWI not as a person looking for tragedies (which it most definitely was) but

rather in doing genealogy and learning about a great-uncle of mine who served in Europe during that time period. That genealogy also led to my finding out that my great-grandmother who suffered from epilepsy was placed in a 'poorhouse' due to epilepsy, where she died from influenza that struck the world at the end of the war. All this information made my family seem more real to me, and made me want to read more about their lives then, what was good, what was bad. I've found a few very excellent mystery writers who write within this time frame, such as Charles Todd. I love his books, and though I am not absolutely crazy about Perry's other mysteries, I knew she was a fairly good writer...so I thought I'd give these a try. Other than being overly repetitive, Perry did an interesting story here. There are a few subplots going on, involving a family of four adult children who in the midst of living their lives are also trying to find the person who assassinated their parents (in the first book which I have yet to read). Two of the children are at the front; one as a chaplain who is feeling somewhat useless in the face of so much carnage, and one is a voluntary ambulance driver who seems to have found her calling. A rather objectionable journalist finds his way to their area of the front, and proceeds to antagonize everyone, and it is obvious that he means to blow the lid of this can of worms about how useless this war is and discourage other young men from signing up for the draft and keeping other countries from assisting Germany.

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