

History's Dark Halls

Margit Liesche's new mystery novel 'Triptych,' set in Chicago and Budapest, portrays a young woman's search for identity against a background of murder, betrayal, love, and the 1956 Hungarian Revolution

The American-born daughter of Hungarian refugees, Ildiko Palmay is saddled with guilt and loss since her mother Edit died mysteriously beneath the wheels of an elevated train in Chicago. Suicide? Accident? Murder?

Unsettled by her life and romantic failures, Ildiko seizes a chance to learn the truth. She uncovers a trail of secrets and betrayals that her mother followed 30 years earlier, searching through family roots in the 1956 Hungarian Revolution and into a tangle of European wartime agonies that still permeate their Chicago neighborhood.

Like both *Madonnas of Leningrad* by Debra Dean and *Sarah's Key* by Tatiana de Rosnay, *Triptych* uses a split narrative, braiding past and present, to evoke the terror and heartbreak that is life in wartime, and how those experiences impact participants and their loved ones for generations afterwards.

Mirroring today's world of civil wars and revolutions, Margit Liesche's third novel follows parallel stories of mothers and daughters forged in the brutalities of revolution, and, ultimately, salvaged with the healing power of forgiveness.

The author of *Lipstick and Lies* and *Hollywood Buzz*, WWII home front mysteries featuring the engaging WASP pilot Pucci Lewis and highly praised for their authenticity, Margit Liesche has appeared on PBS' *History Detectives* program. The child of Hungarian missionaries who settled in the U.S. after WWII following years of service in China, she grew up near Chicago and has lived in the San Francisco Bay Area for nearly 40 years.

Triptych publishes with Poison Pen Press in October 2013. For review copies and interview opportunities, contact Jessica Tribble at jessica@poisonpenpress.com. Learn more at www.margitliesche.com

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