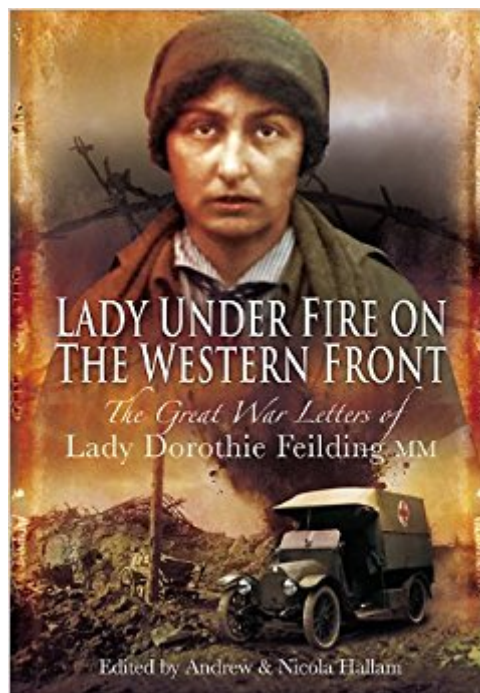




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Lady Under Fire On The Western Front: The Great War Letters Of Lady Dorothea Feilding MM



Synopsis

When Britain went to war in 1914 many people rallied to the cause, determined to join the colors or be useful in some other way. Lady Dorothea Mary Evelyn Feilding was one of the latter.

Lady Dorothea spent almost three years on the Western Front in Belgium driving ambulances for the Munro Motor Ambulance Corps, an all-volunteer unit. During her time in Flanders her bravery was such that she received the Belgian Order of Leopold, the French Croix de Guerre and was the first woman to be awarded the British Military Medal. She wrote home to Newnham Paddox, near Rugby, almost daily. Her letters reflect the mundane, tragedy and horror of war and also the tensions of being a woman at the front contending with shells, gossip, funding, lice, vehicle maintenance and inconvenient marriage proposals. Though Dorothea was the daughter of an Earl and from a privileged upbringing she had an easy attitude that transcended social boundaries and that endeared her to all that she came in to contact with whether royalty or the ordinary fighting man.

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Customer Reviews

Andrew and Nicola Hallam are authors and historians.

The letters are very good, and the accompanying explanatory material makes this a very moving narrative about a brave young woman making a huge difference in the horrors of the Western Front. Like most great memoirs, it is the story of several journeys: the traversing of the hazards of war and the growth and maturing of character. All of this set against the tragic sense of loss that the Great

War was for her generation. She was one of the giants to come out of the war.

She never became discouraged. What a gal! This belongs with Sagittarius Rising. My father was in WWI after the Somme, so these books were especially meaningful to me.

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