



## Eternity Between Us

*Stephenia H. McGee*

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## **Eternity Between Us** Stephenia H. McGee

Two sides. Two hearts. And a gulf between them as deep and wide as eternity.

"This tale brings a turbulent time to life with nuance and sensitivity."

JOCELYN GREEN, award-winning author of the Heroines Behind the Lines Civil War series

Virginia, 1861

After being forced to use a pistol against invaders, Evelyn Mapleton is no longer the timid girl her extended family expects. The more her aunt and cousin resent her new independence, the more Evelyn is determined she'll make her missing father proud by taking up his cause and aiding Confederate soldiers--even if she has to outmaneuver the Yankees guarding her home to do it.

Samuel Flynn's life is consumed with two priorities: learning to become a proper guardian for the young orphans he's adopted and obtaining his physicians license. When his final testing sends him to a Federal Army field hospital, the last thing he expects is to be entranced by a mysterious woman. But when Evelyn's misguided exploits put her life in danger, will he risk everything he's worked for to save a woman he thinks is his enemy?

Based on first-hand accounts from the Civil War and with a strong romantic thread, this is a tale of faith, espionage, hope, and courage historical fiction fans won't want to miss.

## **Eternity Between Us Details**

Date : Published October 9th 2018 by By The Vine Press

ISBN :

Author : Stephenia H. McGee

Format : ebook 355 pages

Genre : Historical, Historical Fiction, Romance, Historical Romance, Military History, Civil War, Christian Fiction

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## From Reader Review Eternity Between Us for online ebook

### Amy says

Eternity Between Us is a beautiful written historical by Stephenia H McGee. I love reading Civil War era novels and this one does not disappoint. I love Evelyn from the start. I enjoyed her strength, bravery, and courage. I, also, enjoyed getting to know Samuel. I thought the two captured the turmoil and struggles of how it was for their time in history.

I am giving Eternity Between Us a well deserved five plus stars.

Highly recommended.

I received this book from the publisher. This review is 100% my own honest opinion.

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### Paula Shreckhise says

Eternity Between Us by Stephenia McGee is a top notch historical book set during the Civil War.

This book focuses on a Southern girl, born and bred, and a Northern man at the end of his medical studies. Can the gulf between them be crossed?

Evelyn Mapleton is beholden to her Aunt and cousin while her father is away reporting on the war. They have no real fondness for her, she is more of an obligation to them. She is outspoken about her support of the South and intends to help in some way.

Samuel Flynn, a Yankee, has one desire: to finish his practical requirements under his Mentor, Dr. Porter, and go back home to help his father in his medical practice. His job for the foreseeable future is to tend to the broken soldiers at a field hospital near Washington D.C.

This book has a different slant of usual Civil War stories. The reasons for loyalty to one side or the other is not so clear cut. It shows the everyday problems that occur when war rears its ugly head.

Stephenia writes a very detailed account of certain happenings. She has researched well and tells us of women spies and how they helped their chosen side.

Each of the main characters has a strong faith in God and staunch reasons why they believe as they do. But they can always be led by the Spirit of God. God comes through and keeps them and shows them the best way to resolve their differences and carry on.

The author's lyrical prose and characterization is a joy to read. And there were a few surprises just to keep the reader on his toes! Stephenia McGee is fast becoming a favorite author!

I recommend this book to fans of Civil War stories. You will not be disappointed!

\*I was given an ebook ARC of this novel by the author. I was not required to give favorable review. All opinions are my own.

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### Chastity Ray says

I never really cared for history in school. It was always so boring to me and I could never remember one battle from the next. Stephenia McGee writes in such a way you forget you're reading historical fiction. The characters leap off the page and you forget they aren't real!

When I was reading the scene where the Yankee soldiers broke down the door to Evelyn's Aunt Mary's house I could picture it so vividly in my mind's eye. She has a way of describing people, places and events that make them stand out to you but not bore you with too many details.

I was hooked literally from the first sentence and couldn't put it down!! The story moves along at a nice place and even though there are historical events mentioned you don't get bogged down. There is just the right amount of drama and intrigue. You never know what's going to happen next.

Evelyn was my favorite character, probably because I relate to her the most. I tend to feel like I don't belong no matter how hard I try. I seem to be the odd duck or just blend into the back ground. Unlike me though, Evelyn doesn't let this stop her! She is determined to make a difference in the cause she believes in at any and all cost. You have to admire her gumption! It's not an easy time for a lady to make a fuss and not know her proper place but she did it anyway simply because she felt it was the right thing to do.

I could go on and on but I want you to read *Eternity Between Us* for yourself. When you do come back and let me know what you think!!

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### **MJSH says**

This is the first book I have read by Stephenia McGee and I can't believe it's taken me this long to discover this wonderful author of historical romance! If you are a fan of historical romance and you haven't yet read her books, you absolutely must. The author combines fluid descriptive writing with deeply-layered characters, well-executed plot with twists and turns, and well-researched historical facts and background. *Eternity Between Us* focuses on the beginnings of Civil War and tells the story from both Federal and Secessionist side. The difference of opinions and passions misdirected into violence and injustice rages on both sides of the war and the author clearly knows how to pull these emotions to form the core of the storyline. There is plenty of intrigue and espionage in the story as Southern women band together for their war effort.

Samuel, the steady, determined, kind, loyal, compassionate medical student, is a Northerner who only wants to earn his degree and license so that he can heal and comfort, no matter the skin color or loyalty. Evelyn is a gently-bred Southern lady who has been taught that Northerners are evil and wrong. She is young and naive, though compassionate and passionate about what she believes is right. Samuel is the swoony hero in the story and easy to love. Evelyn, in her self-righteousness, is a little more difficult to connect with; however, she does mature in her ways and does indeed become a woman worthy of Samuel. The two children in the story are quite endearing and bring joy to the darkness that envelopes Samuel and Evelyn's world as war descends.

I received a copy of the book from the author/publisher and was under no obligation to post a positive review. All comments and opinions are solely my own.

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### **Beth Erin says**

Full review on [FaithfullyBookish.com](http://FaithfullyBookish.com)

If you're a fan of Civil War era fiction, like me, this story's intriguing intersection of medicine and espionage is sure to please. As an added bonus, readers who aren't necessarily fond of the battles themselves can dive in with eyes wide open. It's refreshing to read a Civil War book set neither on a battlefield nor a sprawling plantation.

Evelyn's failures make her a more authentic and relatable character. Samuel has all kinds of distractions (seen and unseen). The author's careful research and entertaining story go hand in hand and I encourage my fellow readers to read *Eternity Between Us* as well.

I received a complimentary copy of this book from the publisher and was under no obligation to post a review. The opinions expressed are my own.

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### **Clara says**

What an endearing story! This is my first book by Stephenia, and will certainly not be the last!

*"How could a person set a foot on each side of such a divide? Deep and wide as eternity, there would be no spanning it"*

Filled with mystery, intrigue, and espionage, the characters are sure to steal your heart with their courage as well as their tenderness - towards the ones under their care, their country, and the enemy. And, experiencing such kindness, Evelyn Mapleton might be surprised by the possibilities of her dreams coming true and her heart beating faster beside a Yankee; nevertheless, believing in a Father of immense mercy and who doesn't see the color of uniforms as merit, a love that bridges a divide and a hope that mends are not just fantasies but the sweetest truth.

I couldn't recommend this book enough since its biggest defect was that it ended.

\*I received a review copy from the author. All opinions are my own.

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### **Fiction Aficionado says**

*Eternity Between Us* is an engrossing story of torn loyalties and espionage set during the beginning of the Civil War. What makes it even more fascinating is that many of the events in the story are based on historical accounts. Why make stuff up when history provides all the drama you could ask for?

This story also has one of my all-time favourite dilemmas: Characters who fall in love despite being on opposite sides of the political divide. It doesn't just create delicious romantic tension; it also creates engaging intellectual tension as the characters consider what is driving their loyalty to a particular cause and how to meet each other on the middle ground. And in this case, there was one scene in particular where Evelyn and Samuel discussed their conflicting loyalties that may just be my favourite in the whole book!

And the espionage. Who doesn't love a bit of espionage? Boy did that get interesting in the last quarter of the book. All of a sudden it was all happening!

If you love historical fiction, make sure you don't miss this one. Engaging characters—including two very

lovable and believable children—vivid historical detail, and a story that will keep you turning the pages.

I received a copy of this novel from the author. This has not influenced the content of my review, which is my honest and unbiased opinion.

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### **Elaine Cooper says**

Such a pleasure to read a historical novel that is so well written, interesting in its plot, and with characters whose transformations are believable. All this, plus “Eternity Between Us” contains a sweet love story and two orphans in need of a family. Romantic and clean, this latest release from Stephenia McGee is a gem worth your time.

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### **Patricia Bradley says**

This book grabbed me from the first page. I could literally feel the rumble of wagons and the hear the drumbeat as the Union army advanced on Martinsburg, Virginia. And then the heroine, Evelyn Mapleton, shot a drunken Union soldier when she feared he would attack her cousin. Evelyn is no shrinking violet and her impulsiveness gets her into trouble sometimes.

From there, the scene switches to Samuel Flynn as he tends to wounded soldiers and two orphans who are about to be separated. My heart hurt for those two children who had already been through so much. I cheered when this bachelor doctor took them in, which causes more problems for Samuel. When the Union doctor and Southern sympathizer meet, sparks fly.

I loved watching their journey as they puzzled out the complexities of the war and their parts in it. It is a thoughtful love story that examines both sides of the War.

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### **Julia Wilson says**

Eternity Between Us by Stephenia H McGee is a fabulous Christian novel set in 1861 during the American Civil War. The action is a mixture of fact and fiction and keeps the reader entertained. I read the book in just one sitting as I could not put it down.

War is fought under many guises - the abolition of slavery, taxes, political gain- but the sad truth is, everyone loses. How can a country become so divided as to fight its own? Families were torn apart as sides were chosen. Hospitals were set up to tend the wounded from each particular side. "Shed the colour of their coat and they were the same underneath." Some medical personnel chose to heal from just one side. Others chose to heal all men.

There is a search for a father which reminds the reader that we need to search for Our Father - and He will always be found. This links to a search for love and to belong. We all want a home where we are loved. Our home will always be found in His Arms.

Within the novel there are spies and those who work undercover. There are no lengths to which some will not stoop. War brings out the very best and the very worst in people.

There is the theme of taking care of the widows and orphans. Two darling children just moved into my heart.

With the men away fighting, the women step up. They were seen as weaker but some certainly proved to have moral backbones. Some were lacking in moral fibre and content to use others for their gain.

I adored *Eternity Between Us* with its likable characters and fabulous storyline. I loved the hospital setting where soldiers of all sides could be treated. Vivid descriptions brought the landscapes to life. More please Stephenia H McGee.

I received this book for free. A favourable review was not required and all views expressed are my own.

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### **Rebecca says**

3.5 stars

"I swear, Evelyn Mapleton, you would be a fine catch for the theatre. Tell me, is it hard for you to fabricate such a persona or does it come easily?"

Never once did Evelyn Mapleton intend to put herself in the middle of a "space as wide as eternity", it just happened that way. Living in the much conflicted state of Virginia, where loyalties were wildly diverse in the midst of a young nation's civil war, she flees one place of supposed refuge in order to find another. But safety can be as fleeting as a wisp of smoke, especially after her path continually crosses with that of a young medical resident, Samuel Flynn. Just which Evelyn Mapleton can she manage to be, when kind, assessing eyes seem to follow her every move in his hospital; his very Federal hospital.

The first time Samuel Flynn laid eyes on Evelyn Mapleton, she emerged from the edge of a deep wooded forest, much like a fairy princess out of a child's storybook. But he soon learned that an iron will resided within the dark haired beauty, for the explanation of her whereabouts made absolutely no sense. Imagine his surprise when she appears once again, this time as a hospital volunteer, taking great care of his patients and confusing his heart, especially when her loyalties prove to be divided.

Stephenia McGee has taken a seemingly impossible possibility and crafted it into albeit dangerous, but satisfying reality when she dares to weave a determined secessionist into the life of peace keeping federalist, displaying history from a new, and possibly better, perspective.

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### **Sydney says**

A book based on both fact and fiction, author Stephenia H. McGee brings to life a story that takes place during the American Civil War. Throughout this well detailed historic novel, readers can see McGee's passion for the history and the tale of it through her characters. Readers of action packed historical fiction will enjoy this story of troubled times, torn loyalties, spies, and espionage. This story will touch the heart of readers as they delve into this beautifully written historical novel.

Genre: historical, Christian, American Civil War

Publisher: By the Vine Press

Publication date: October 9, 2018

Number of pages: 355

A review copy of this book was provided by the publisher via the author's review team. A review was not required and all views and opinions expressed are my own.

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### **Jocelyn Green says**

In Eternity Between Us, Stephenia H. McGee displays not just her passion for history, but her respect for it. Thoroughly researched and convincingly told with the detail readers are sure to appreciate, this tale brings a turbulent time to life with nuance and sensitivity.

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### **Jeanne Alfveby crea says**

A riveting civil war story that held me captive as I read about torn loyalties, spy rings, and a love story involving two people on opposite sides of the war. Historical fiction fans do not want to miss this! I love the author's historical notes at the end, and how fascinating history made it into her book. Stephenia McGee is one of my new favorite authors.

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### **Trisha Robertson (Joy of Reading) says**

I was blissfully whisked away to a bygone era on a tidal wave of literary enjoyment! Resplendent in historical details, yet not too cumbersome as to be weighty, this engaging story is sure to appeal to those who enjoy stories set during the Civil War.

I especially enjoyed the true story roots and first-hand accounts from Civil War journals. Stephenia McGee pens a story that you won't soon forget, by breathing new life into history and inviting us to come along for the journey.

Dynamic characters that when faced with life-altering decisions will have you either cheering in approval or cringing in dismay. With deep soul searching conversations that will have you thinking how you would answer the same questions if you were there yourself.

The first quarter of the book focuses on setting the scene and building up the characters, then the action really ramps up in the last quarter and I was fully engaged in the drama! I recommend this book to anyone who enjoys stories set in the Civil War period.

(I receive complimentary books for review from publishers, publicists, and/or authors, including Netgalley. I am not required to write positive reviews. The opinions I have expressed are my own.)

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