

Magnolia Morning

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Synopsis

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inLanguage	english

A magnolia means stability and grace through changing times, and times were certainly changing in Louisiana after the Civil War. Energetic, hard-working Martha Bodine and her mother survive the war, but Captain Bodine does not return from the Confederate Army when expected, and the women must pay the back taxes or lose the family farm. A neighbor is eager to join his land with the Bodine property by marrying Martha, a solution which does not appeal to the young woman. In a desperate attempt to get the needed funds, the women rent a room to a controversial Northern gentleman, but this decision causes a rift between them and their neighbors. Peyton Anderson, a soldier from the same unit as Martha's papa, pays a visit to the farm on his way to join his family in Texas. He identifies their home by his officer's description of the large magnolia tree in the front yard. Sympathetic to their dismal circumstances, he offers to help the feisty Martha and her gentle mother. Determined to honor his obligations, Peyton fears that even his best efforts may not change the course mapped out for Martha's life or his own.

Reader's comments

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