

Content Guide

Ella's Promise

By Ellen Gable

Themes: Finding common ground through a shared Catholic faith, unconditional love, seeking inner strength to make it through difficult times, trusting in God's plan.

Educational Value: Readers learn about the Great War and the role of the Germans toward the end of the war.

Positive Messages: Good things come to those who wait. Even in war, it's important to be hopeful.

Spiritual Messages: 1 Corinthians 4: Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails.

Positive Role Models: Protagonists Ella and Garrett are both persistent and kind to others. Ella is given orders not to treat German prisoners of war and she ignores that order and saves a German officer.

Violence/Gore: Garrett is captured by enemy soldiers and is tortured.

Sexuality: An enemy soldier makes sexual advances toward Ella, but she is able to escape. A woman gives birth in the stationery hospital, but the description is not graphic.

Language: no swear words

Drinking, Drugs & Smoking: Morphine is given to injured soldiers in the field and at the stationery hospital.

WHAT PARENTS NEED TO KNOW Ella is a woman who is well before her time. The main character is a registered nurse with some medical background, but she's extremely bright and eventually attends medical school and wishes to become a doctor. Because she is fluent in German, she is used by spies to infiltrate German POW camps and these scenes are intense.

Rating Scale: ADVANCED

Light- For all readers.

Moderate - Story includes subject matter for teens 13 plus

Advanced - Although not graphic in description, the subject matter is recommended for teens older than 15.