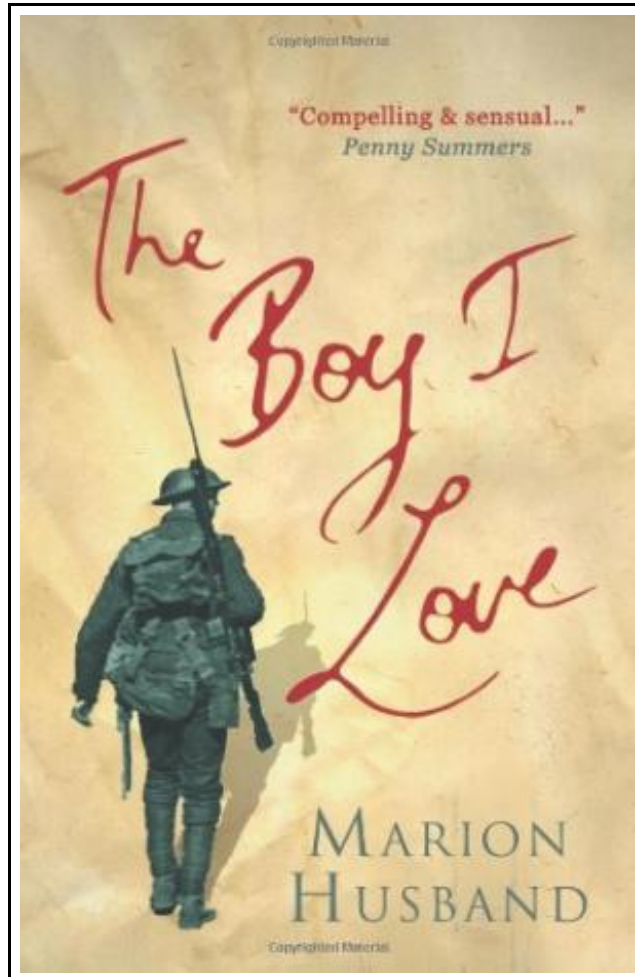


The Boy I Love



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Reviews

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THE BOY I LOVE

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Accent Press Ltd. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, The Boy I Love, Marion Husband, This is the Blackwell and Andrea Badenoch Fiction prize winner. The sequel is confirmed for 2006. The story is set in the aftermath of World War One. Paul Harris, still frail after shellshock, returns to his father's home and to the arms of his secret lover, Adam. He discovers that Margot, the fiancée of his dead brother, is pregnant and marries her through a sense of loyalty. Through Adam he finds work as a schoolteacher; while setting up a home with Margot he continues to see Adam. Pat Morgan who was a sergeant in Paul's platoon, runs a butcher's shop in town and cares for his twin brother, Mick who lost both legs in the war. Pat yearns for the closeness he experienced with Paul in the trenches. Set in a time when homosexuality was 'the love that dare not speak its name' the story develops against the backdrop of the strict moral code of the period. Paul has to decide where his loyalty and his heart lies as all the characters search hungrily for the love and security denied them during the war. It is superbly written with engaging characters that are simultaneously strong and weak, compassionate and flawed. The book is a controversial but compulsive read and readers will find their sympathies tugged in unusual directions as they engage with the lives of the characters. "The Boy I Love" is the first of a two book series - in the second book, based in World War 2 we follow the life of Mick, now a war poet, his son and Robbie, son of Paul and Margot.

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