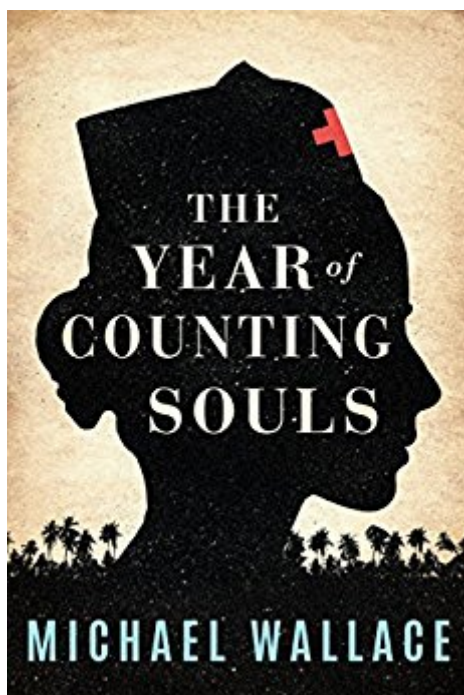


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# The Year Of Counting Souls



## Synopsis

As Japanese forces attack the Philippines in the aftermath of Pearl Harbor, US army nurse Louise Harrison waits to be evacuated from Manila. But with the enemy closing in, Louise is forced to flee with a handful of wounded soldiers to a field hospital deep in the mountains. Isolated in an unfamiliar country amid desperate conditions, Louise strikes up a friendship with Sammy Mori, an injured Japanese soldier with a secret. Deemed a traitor for reporting on the atrocities in Nanking, Sammy is being hunted by his brother, Yoshiko, a member of the feared Japanese military secret police. When Yoshiko discovers the hospital camp, Louise and her patients find themselves in even greater danger. Caught between new loyalties and old, Louise and Sammy must trust their unlikely bond to sustain them through deprivation and chaos. It's a bond that inspires unexpected acts of courage and sacrifice—a light of hope shining through the darkness of war.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This was a good book, with a different take of WW2. It begins in 1942 with the invasion of the

Philippines by the Japanese. The US forces are evacuating Manila, including Nurse Louise. She, along with other medical personnel and some wounded placed on trucks and sent toward Bataan, a difficult journey. On the way, they run into, literally into, a IJA bicycle troop, scattering some, hitting others. One of the injured Japanese soldiers lands in a truck, badly injured. The Americans are all for dumping him back in the road, Nurse Louise insists on his being treated as any other injured person. So, off the group goes into the jungle, pursued by the enemy. The rest of the book is about the struggle of the Americans, all wounded and all suffering from tropical diseases, to survive. The focus of the book is Nurse Louise Hamilton and her involvement in the life of the wounded Japanese soldier. He, of course, speaks English because he spent his youth in Hawaii, where his father worked. Drafted in the IJA, he was appalled by the Army's behavior in China. An understanding grew between the Nurse and the soldier that forms the center of the book. The book is pretty well written and the two primary characters nicely drawn. The historical facts seem accurate as do the backgrounds of the Philippine jungle terrain. The business about one GI and his pet mongrel was tiring, but the mutt does have an important part to play. True, but anything can happen in wartime. The book entertains as an easy and enjoyable read, not challenging or totally involving, but comfortable. Recommended for a quiet summer day on the beach. No sex but expect wartime violence, though not graphic.

I don't normally ever read any books that sound historical in any way. This book showed up on my Kindle screen when I turned it on one day and I decided to read what it was about and downloaded a sample to see if I would want to read it. Wow!! I LOVED it!! Easy to read, easy to feel the emotion of the characters and to become attached to them. I didn't want it to end. I wasn't really tickled about how the last page finished though.

It was such a beautiful book. If you are in a good place, I would totally tell you to read this. It's a happy book if that's the way you choose to read it and that was the way I choose to read it. It made me feel good.

Well written book that kept you anxiously awaiting what could and would happen next. Never thought I would enjoy reading about the war in the Philippines and how our troops survived (or didn't). Enjoyed the read, immensely.

Good read, it was interesting to read right after last man out, which was non fiction. A good story

about the bravery of woman as well as soldiers.

I found myself more interested in this book than intended. The title captivated me, and I enjoyed the story very much. Couldn't put it down, almost half way. Good story

Gave me insight into what our loved ones went through during these years.

Reads like a book for teenage girls. Good guys and bad guys

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