



## Walks Away Woman

*Ki Longfellow*

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Ki Longfellow, acclaimed author of *Flow Down Like Silver*: *Hypatia of Alexandria*, *The Secret Magdalene*, and *Houdini Heart* has penned *Walks Away Woman*, a remarkable story of an ordinary woman driven to an extraordinary decision. Overwhelmed, overwrought, and overweight, an everyday housewife walks into the Sonoran Desert to die.

But there's more to a desert than sand or death. There's thorns, venom, claws, heat, thirst, other people—and unexpected adventure.

As she says, "It's because your gums are receding and your hair is thinning and your neckline is sagging. It's because all you ever had was your youth, and you spent that so long ago now it's hard to remember what you bought with it. Mrs. Warner shuddered in her loosening skin, was almost running now. It's because you're scared. Lately you're so scared and so aimless and so useless you sleep half the day and panic half the night. In between, you watch TV to ward off the evil of watching yourself. So—if not death, then what?

"When she tripped over a rock—and in tripping, plunged over the edge of a cliff—Mrs. Warner had forgotten the desert, the cacti, the heat, the hunger, the thirst. All that was left was an ever increasing panic and an ever deepening desperation. And then there was the shock of falling and the screaming inside: Here we go, here we go—but don't hurt, don't hurt. Oh god, please! Don't hurt!

After that, there was nothing."

Until she woke up at the bottom of an arroyo with a lot of surviving to do. And all she had was her purse. It wasn't much to face a desert with, but Mrs. Warner, born Molly Brock, was in a fight for her life, the life she didn't want until she was just about to lose it.

What's an everyday housewife to do? In Molly's case, a lot. And every bit of it changing her from ordinary to extraordinary.

## Walks Away Woman Details

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Author : Ki Longfellow

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## From Reader Review Walks Away Woman for online ebook

### **Paul Gefflinger says**

A zinger. Loved this book.

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### **Devlin says**

I'm crazy for books about people surviving against the odds. (Just saw Redford's new movie. Great.) So of course, I had to read this one. Plus it's by one of my favorite writers. This one was especially fun because the woman could barely make it in suburbia, what was she going to do in a desert full of creepy crawlly things? Molly Brock is now my hero.

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### **Zachary Noble says**

It will make you smile, laugh, gasp, worry, and wish you could do as she did. It might even make you want to walk away. Not into a desert maybe, but away from the life you're living into the life you'd like to live. I admit that's how it's made me feel. So much so that I bought a plane ticket. Now I just have to get on the plane (which I hate, by the way) but after reading this wonderful tale, I realized I too want to walk away. Read this book. See if you want to walk away. You could be surprised.

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### **Nevermore says**

I love Molly Brock Warner. I go to see this as a movie immediately. But as a book, it's so vivid and so real and so charismatic, it might as well be a movie. As they say, this is one of those books once you start, you're there and you don't want to leave.

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### **Justonemorebook says**

I like reading a book's bad reviews much more than its good reviews. The bad ones, the one and two stars reviews, are usually written by a.) illiterates and often hilarious, or by b.) highly educated well-read smarties and almost always hilarious. (I search goodreads for these and I've found enough to make, if gathered up and organized, a great book of their own.) This book has no bad reviews since it's brand new - and I ain't about to be the first person to write one. I loved the damn thing. Wandering around in the desert with a clueless helpless hapless housewife, facing down bobcats and gila monsters and tarantulas and New York City cowboys and rude old bald women and drunken bone snatchers and thorns and kissing bugs and heat, what could be better than that? She makes best friends with an ass. I came to love that ass as much as I came to love Molly Brock (Mrs. Peter Warner as was) growing up at a late age in a world of certain pain and potential death. Longfellow keeps writing completely different books in perfectly suited prose and this one is no exception. She doesn't repeat herself. Some people want to read the same book over and over and make

some writer rich. Some people, like me, love to read really good books, period. In its own way *Walks Away Woman* is as meaningful as *The Secret Magdalene* or *Flow Down Like Silver*.

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### **Ohmeohmy says**

I read Stephen King's "Joyland" at the same time. Being a fan, I was eager to live in his head for awhile. But as I just wrote on "Joyland"'s page, it was oddly flat ride, dull really. And then I read "Walks Away Woman" and everything amped up about 200%. The energy, the feel of the desert, the voice of the woman tramping about with her purse and then her donkey, was alive and witty. I couldn't wait to be done with "Joyland." I set "Walks Away Woman" aside with a sigh. Maybe in a few months or so, I can read it again. I sure want to.

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### **Brian Hetherington says**

Lucky me. I got this as a proof because of my blog. I can't believe this writer. She can handle any genre. This one is right up to date and covers one of my favorite things... a person against the elements. And this person is a wimp (you'd think, and so does she), a bullied wife, an unappreciated mother, a Valium addict, a telly watcher, nobody really. So she decides, what the hell, why keep on living? What for? So she walks out of one of those mega grocery stores and into the desert around Tucson, Arizona, to end it all. How could she miss? Illegal aliens die there all the time. But not Mrs Warner. Mrs. Warner discovers (once she stops whining) that she's more than equal to a desert. She becomes Molly Brock again, the girl she would have been if she hadn't made chickenshit choices. Now, this would make some terrific movie for an aging Hollywood leading lady. Susan Sarandon, you listening?

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### **Mauditia says**

Longfellow writes books that are not only great books, they'd make terrific movies.

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### **Bookheavy says**

For me, this was a mystical quest hiding in a deliciously simple tale of what everyone secretly wants to, not just women. We all want to walk away from the mess we've made of our lives, from the commitments, the hardships of owning things, of striving for things, even from the burden of those we love. We want to set those burdens down and be free. Go Molly!

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### **Samanthag says**

I'm a big fan of survival books. This one exceeded my hopes. It wasn't just a matter of facing danger or beating the odds, it was a woman freeing herself from what our society expects of a female. She began as Mrs. Warner and she became Molly Brock. It was better than climbing a mountain or sailing solo around the

world. It was the survival of not just the body, but the spirit. It's made me think of walking away.

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### **Vivienne Gallagher says**

I can totally relate to Mrs. Warner's need to just walk away. I often wish I could it. But it takes bravery. I'm stuck in a world of fear, and I love my kids and my husband, but if I'm honest, I think I'd love to walk away like Molly Brock Warner does.

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### **Lawrence Sclink says**

Read it twice. Gave it a week after finishing the first time and then read it again. Did not want to stop being in the world of the book. I'm having trouble adjusting. Will there be a sequel? If so, I'm there.

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### **Bookbrigade says**

My favorite book this year. Everyone wants to walk away at some point in their life. I want all my friends to read it, so it's my birthday present now. To all of them.

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### **Helloyoureaderyou says**

You can find any number of books about men matching their wits against nature. Sailing, climbing, hiking, running, whatever. I can't think of any book where a woman matches her wits against nature. And certainly not a normal American soap opera watching, pill popping, aging housewife kind of woman. It's a simple tale and it isn't. To outline it is to spoil the absolute delight in following this woman out beyond the "trash line" (her great description of approaching human settlements) as she tries to die, and then, of course tries not to die. Along the way, she does not do as most men trying to survive do which is discover or rediscover what we've lost - our connection to nature. And in a man's case, our attempt to dominate it. This woman discovers nature, true, but she really discovers herself. Or perhaps she reinvents herself. This is a total page turner. I went to bed reading it. And then I kept reading it straight through the night. Big Thumbs Up.

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### **Booktrek says**

Because it was a new one by Longfellow, I had to get it right away. You never know what you're getting with this writer, but I always wind up with something I savor to the last page. This time it's about a lonely housewife (not my thing) at the end of her rope (not my thing) who just gives up (not my thing) so does as the title says, walks away to die (not my thing). Since she lives in some 'burb in Tucson, Arizona, what she walks into is the Sonoran desert, the one with the really tall armed cactus plants. And the spiders and snakes and gila monsters and hot hot hot. The desert is my thing so I walked with her. I am so glad I did. As I already said, I savored it to the last page. A great last page, by the way. Great.

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### **Mort Gomez says**

Want to follow Molly Brock and her ass wherever she goes. Will there be a sequel? A movie? Great writing, compelling story, colorful world, fascinating characters - and what a character arc!

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### **Carol says**

Well, what *did* I think? I've taken to reading best sellers lately. I want to know why they sell. So far, I haven't a clue. Maybe it's nothing more than genre. We went through our vampire years. And then came that wizard kid. (Or the other way round, I forget.) These were followed by zombies. But as I already know what to expect from Longfellow, I thought I'd try her latest. Well, blow me down with a bellows, it wasn't what I expected at all. This one was set in the present, it was about a "normal" American woman living a normal American life who does what so many wind up thinking they'll have to do. They'll end it all. A nice house, a nice car, an easy life, the kids grown and gone. You'd think it would be time to, I don't know... what do normal people do at this stage of their life? Buy a boat? Sail the Caribbean? But Mrs. Warner's husband is having an affair. Mrs. Warner is watching TV and taking a lot of Valium. Mrs. Warner's husband and his father are planning to have Mrs. Warner sent away to a nice "rest home" somewhere. When Mrs. Warner walks away before they can net her, she doesn't buy a plane ticket to Greece where she meets a good looking fisherman. Mrs. Warner walks out into the desert to die. And there begins a tale I spent the night reading non-stop. It was simple, it was fast, it was honest, it was funny, it was wonderful. God Bless Molly Brock (Mrs. Warner as was).

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### **Devin Porter says**

I'd walk through thorns and around rattlers for another 300 pages. LOVE THIS.

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### **Adriana Vasquez says**

From the spiritual profundity of *The Secret Magdalene* and *Flow Down Like Silver* to the fantastical horror of a thriller like *Houdini Heart* - and now this? A compelling tale of a woman who finds herself as she sets out to die? This writer is doing things to my head.

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### **Nils9 says**

Every page of this book I saw as a movie. Every scene is so visual I saw it as if it were on a huge screen. I was IN it. I could taste it, smell it, feel it. Great tale of survival. Not by some sportsman or adventurer. By some average housewife lost in the desert. Turns out she's not so average. Maybe none of us are. HIGHLY RECOMMENDED.

