



# **Till the Boys Come Home: War at Home 5**

*Cynthia Harrod-Eagles*

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*In 1918 the Great War has taken so much from so many and it threatens to take even more still from the Hunters, their friends and their servants.*

Edward, in a bid to run away from problems at home, decides not to resist conscription and ends up at the Front. Sadie's hopes for love are unrequited, and Laura has to flee Artemis House when it is shelled and she finds herself in London driving an ambulance. Ethel, the nursery maid, masks her own pain by caring for other people's children but she must take care not to get too attached.

The government has to bring in rationing, and manpower shortages means the conscription age is extended. The Russians have fallen out of the war and a series of terrifying all-out attacks drive the Allies back almost to the Channel, and for the first time England faces the real prospect of defeat. No one can see an end to the war and yet, a small glimmer of hope remains . . .

***When the Boys Come Home* is the fifth book in the War at Home series by Cynthia Harrod-Eagles, author of the much-loved Morland Dynasty novels. Set against the real events of 1918, at home and on the front, this is a vivid and rich family drama featuring the Hunter family and their servants.**

## Till the Boys Come Home: War at Home 5 Details

Date : Published June 28th 2018 by Sphere

ISBN :

Author : Cynthia Harrod-Eagles

Format : Kindle Edition

Genre : Historical, Fiction

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## **From Reader Review Till the Boys Come Home: War at Home 5 for online ebook**

### **Teresa says**

I love this series and I think this has been one of the best books of the lot. This is a time period I've always been interested in and love reading about.

We're back with the Hunters again and this time a lot of the focus is on Edward. He gets his call up papers and even though he can get out of it because he's working for the government he decides to go. This decision is made for the wrong reasons but in the end works out as he settles into a soldiers life and distinguishes himself in the field of battle.

David is still full of self pity and spends his days drinking and snapping the heads off everyone around him. I know he's in pain but he ends up being a pain. He doesn't deserve his wife, Antonia, who is willing to do anything for him to make life easy.

Beattie who hasn't been a good wife to Edward of late, is still living in her own world until it comes crashing down around her and what a crash!

William is in the RAF now and Sadie is still working at Highclere and driving ambulances. I like Sadie but she seems put upon and her family don't even notice her most of the time. Things are looking up for her this time and I was so glad for her.

There's a marriage and a tragedy for the servants. Ethel is one of the most horrible people and continues to be so here. I think in the next book her story may step up a gear and I think we might have a clue as to what it'll be.

Having to wait so long for the next book in a series can be torture. Also it's so long since I read the others I've forgotten a few things. Still, it's a series I'll read again at a future date when I have them all. Highly recommended.

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### **Kelly Shiver says**

#### **Don't Stop Reading!**

More is needed! This series cannot end until every character is resolved! You simply must read every book of the series to understand why these are so very addictive.

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### **Lehtomaki says**

Fiction

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### **Alison West says**

I have read all five of these books and all 35 of her Morland dynasty series. Compelling characters and well researched historical background. Only 4 stars because I thought this one was a bit trite in places - still a fan though.

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❀??❀ ?aroline❀??❀ says

\*\* MAY CONTAIN SPOILIERS \*\*

I have absolutely loved the 'War at Home' series. CHE is such a wonderful storyteller, her attention to detail is superlative. As a 'HUGE' Morland Dynasty fan, I was delighted to see Venetia Lady Overton making an appearance. It would have been super if she could have tied some more of the MD characters in - alas!

In 1918 Edward Hunter receives his call-up papers and decides not to resist, but to do his duty and go to the Front, especially as owing to his career he could have been exempted. If I was Edward I would have gone to the Front to get away from Beattie. She was such a shallow, self-centered woman, I wanted to slap her. I hated her much more than Ethel, one of the Hunter's servants, and, even more than Lord Holkham from MD, who you really are meant to hate. I was really quite glad when a tragedy befalls her, though even then she still continues to exist in her own little bubble - thinking only of David because he was Louis' son, her other children, especially Sadie, whom I really liked, she barely thinks about.

Most of TtBCH concerns Edward's time in the Army, and the Hunter's third son, William, joining the RFC, soon to be the RAF, like his second-eldest brother Bobby who was killed in action. As a result, Sadie does not get as much story time as previous books. I really enjoyed reading about her time with the horses, and the conversations she has in her head with Nailer her dog were priceless. Is it wrong for a dog to be possibly your favourite character in the whole series?

I didn't expect CHE to have Rupert killed in action, that was a surprise. Reading between the lines, I can see Diana marrying Guy Lord Teesborough, one of Rupert's army chums, currently convalescing at Dene Park - now a military hospital - after being badly wounded on the Western Front; in 'Pack Up Your Troubles' the final 'War at Home' book. I wonder if Diana will have it explained to her about Rupert?

I must have forgotten this, but why hasn't Frank who was Munt the gardener's apprentice way before the war, been called up? Has he been turned down for medical reasons? Gardening certainly wasn't an occupation you could have an exemption for; and, I'm sure if he had been a conscientious objector CHE would have explored that avenue.

It has been so interesting to read about the Great War on the Home Front from all levels of society - the poor, the servants, the middle-classes, and the aristocracy. As well as seeing how women took over so many jobs previously done by men which freed them from their previous shackled lives, especially the upper-class ladies who had to be escorted everywhere. Laura and Sadie's stories highlight these changes wonderfully. I think it gave more weight to their campaign for the vote than all the previous years put together.

I cannot wait to see how all the loose ends are finally tied up in the final book. The only problem is I read these books so quickly, I now have to wait another 12 months for 'Pack Up Your Troubles' to be published.

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**Ashley says**

I really loved this entire series, and this was a fitting conclusion.

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### **Suzanne says**

The end of another saga, maybe?

I hope there's another in the pipeline

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### **Bet says**

I really enjoyed this whole series. It's perfect when you need something completely absorbing- like a beach read, or, as in my case, something to distract from the pain of recovering from surgery!

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