



Solace Island

Meg Tilly

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A contemporary novel with a strong suspense element from Oscar-nominated actress Meg Tilly set on a peaceful island village in the Pacific Northwest.

Dumped on the eve of her wedding and looking for a quiet place to lick her emotional wounds, Maggie Harris joins her sister on Solace Island, where she hopes to recover from the stunning betrayal. At first, Maggie resists Eve's impassioned argument about relocating permanently so the sisters can open their own local bakery. What she definitely doesn't need on her road to recovery are Eve's efforts to fix her up with their mysterious and alluring neighbor, Luke Benson--even if he is incredibly handsome and desirable.

Just as Maggie starts to get comfortable in her new surroundings, a car tries to run her down in the middle of the street. If it weren't for Luke's extremely quick reflexes, Maggie could have been killed, leading her to wonder just who exactly Luke Benson really is...

Luke thought he'd left the violence of the high risk security world behind. But he can't stand by while Maggie's life is threatened. Luke will do anything to keep her safe--even moving Maggie and her sister into his house with its state-of-the-art security features. But with the secrets between them and an unknown threat stalking her heels, Luke will have to think fast to prove to Maggie that she can trust him with her life--and with her heart.

Solace Island Details

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Author : Meg Tilly

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From Reader Review Solace Island for online ebook

Zita says

A slow blossoming romance with added suspense...

This is the first book in the Solace Island series that can be read as a stand-alone.

On vacation in the Pacific Northwest with her sister Eve, Maggie Harris is trying to piece her life back together after being jilted by her fiancé on the eve of their wedding. To complicate matters they were partners in business, a partnership that now has to be dissolved after five years of an engagement, five years wasted on a cheating narcissist that she should have seen through. Her pride has taken a beating. Solace Island provides the beauty and peace for one to heal and perhaps relocate to if her sister gets her way. The island has an interesting resident, one very sexy bread baker that Maggie doesn't know what to do about considering the mess her emotions are and the trust issues she now has.

Retired owner of a lucrative security firm, after a serious injury to his leg that still pains him and a situation that destroyed his confidence in his professional instincts, the very wealthy Luke Benson now bakes bread on Solace Island with a wolfhound for a companion. One night a bit of a flaky newcomer intrudes on his solitude and he can't help but keep thinking about the gorgeous woman who he soon meets at the Saturday market. He's known betrayal in love and understands what Maggie is going through. When someone tries to run her down with a car he goes into caveman protective mode.

Luke thought his past in the security field had come back to haunt him but it's soon learned that Maggie is the intended target. Who would want to hurt Maggie is the mystery to be solved that heats up in the second half of this book. The suspense is slow to gain traction but jumps out of the pages when it does and there are some seriously twisted surprises. You think you know someone but you really don't know what anyone is truly capable of given the right motivations. You think you should have seen it coming but you didn't and that is sometimes more devastating to one's psyche than the betrayal.

The relationship between the main protagonists blossomed slowly. Theirs was a cute, sweet, romance with amusing banter, two people burned in the past had an undeniable chemistry they weren't quite sure what to do with at times. The heroine was a bit naive but she's smart and quick thinking when the need arises, she's tough when angry or in trouble. The hero had his hands full keeping her safe with the help of trusted friends. This was a good debut novel, a humorous read with likable characters. I look forward to the sister's story.

An advanced reading copy was obtained from the publisher's First to Read program.

SA says

I received the book on Thursday, read the whole book on Friday ~ did not put it down. I greatly enjoyed it. I deal with chronic, debilitating pain, which limits my ability to concentrate. I have so many books, partially read, that I stopped reading because I just couldn't get into them and couldn't be bothered to continue trying. I had no problems with this one. I want to move to the Island. None of the characters are perfect, but they are likable and perfect together. As a female, I love the male lead. I want to be friends with the female lead, and a sister to her sister. If I were a male, I would want to be in a relationship with the female lead, be a friend to

the male lead and have the sister be my sister. I did not determine all the antagonists, until I read about them. The writing style is fun and witty, quick paced and engaging. I look forward to enjoying more of Meg Tilly's books in the future.

Please note, I won the book in a competition, under no obligation for a review. I just enjoyed it.

Michelle (Michelle's Book Ends) Shealy says

"The car door burst open, and a woman tumbled out. Recognition flashed through him. It was the woman who had been weeping on the ferry.".....

Maggie is off to "Solace Island." An escape attempt from the worst thing that has ever happened to her. Her sister, Eve, goes to be with her. Seeking peace and quiet, it soon turns to anything but.

I instantly loved "Solace Island." It's the kind of place I hope exists somewhere. Is Maggie going to find what she's looking for? Part romance, and part suspense, made for a great combination.

Maggie meets danger and love. Is it a vacation, or a chance to change her life? A couple surprises along the way. There is danger waiting for her. Her new neighbor may be the only thing standing between her past, and catapulting her into the future.

Held my interest, as romance stories aren't often my genre. I definitely recommend this book as a way to take your own vacation to "Solace Island."

Thank you Meg Tilley, Netgalley, and Berkeley Books Publishing

Lynn says

FirstToRead and Penguin provided an eARC to review.

Meg Tilly has mastered the art of writing a suspenseful romance. The two "lost" main characters had chemistry all through the pages that both wanted to deny and the readers get to enjoy along with them. Both Maggie and Luke have a tough blow when it comes to love and their trust in themselves have taken the hardest hit. The circle of characters around them strengthen the story and provide for a cast for future books in this series. I cannot wait for book two and hope Eve finds the person she needs too.

Monnie says

Billed as a "contemporary novel with a strong suspense element," I must first and foremost warn those who, like me, aren't into "bodice-rippers" that this book is littered with the stuff. *"He was envious of the strands of [her] hair for their right to caress her face at will,"* is a mild example; most of the rest is far, far more graphic. The suspense part didn't rear its much-anticipated head until the 50% mark (and boy, was I ever happy to see it).

Suffice it to say, then, that had I not received an advance copy for review (which I'd requested because the author is an award-winning actress I admire), it's likely that I'd have called it quits early on. But I didn't; and given the excellent writing and almost edge-of-seat action (once it got going), I must say that overall, this is a very good book with which anyone who loves romance combined with suspense should be absolutely delighted (put another way, just because the romance genre isn't my cup of tea doesn't mean it isn't well done).

It begins with 27-year-old Maggie Harris getting dumped by her five-year fiance the day before the wedding. As they've been running a successful business together, Maggie insists that he buy her out or else she'll sell her interest to someone else. To get some much-needed "me" time, Maggie agrees to her sister Eve's proposition to take a three-week getaway on Solace Island off the Washington coast. On the ferry trip to the island, a distraught Maggie is noticed by hunky Luke Benson, a baker who lives on the island and sells his popular breads at the weekly market. When Maggie gets lost trying to find their rental cottage in the dark, she once again encounters Luke - a meeting that, as readers might suspect, arouses Luke's prurient interest in getting to know her better.

Also as readers might suspect, there's many a slip between the cup and Maggie's lips; when Luke fails to show up for a "thank you" dinner at Maggie and Eve's place, the sisters are, well, not happy. Because they've decided to try selling Maggie's sweet treats at the market but are thwarted by the local rules and regulations, they ask Luke for help with getting their feet in the door. Wanting to spend more time with Maggie, Luke agrees.

As mentioned above, at about the half-way mark, the plot thickens as Maggie is nearly run down by a car. In fact, it's likely she'd have been killed on the spot without a last-second shove by Luke (which in turn brings into question who he really is and what he's doing on the island besides baking). His background comes to the forefront even more when, for their safety, Maggie and Eve move into his high-tech, spectacular home on the island. By now, Maggie has pretty much decided that she shares Luke's lust, but given what she doesn't know about him, can she trust him? Of course, readers learn the answer to that question as the story - and more attempts on Maggie's life - play out. Everything leads to an exciting finish, part of which I expected and part I missed by a country mile. My conclusion? Except for the focus on body parts and innovative ways they can be utilized, this really is a riveting book.

Melissa Borsey says

I requested this book because it sounded like it would be an exciting book however, I was bored to tears pretty much throughout. I wasn't thrilled with the writing or the story. I thank Netgalley for the opportunity to read and review this book.

Holly B says

Review up soon!

Nic says

What a fab read!!!! Solace Island by Meg Tilly has it all! I couldn't put this sexy suspenseful romance down!

Review coming soon

I was provided a complimentary copy by the publisher in exchange for an honest review.

Book of Secrets says

I was hoping for a strong suspense element, and at 30% there still isn't one, so I'm calling it quits. While I greatly enjoyed the setting, and the idea of starting over on a small island in the Pacific Northwest, I just couldn't get into this book. Maggie's character acted so silly in the beginning, but I suppose some personalities are like that. Shelving this one for now. Digital ARC provided through Penguin's First to Read Program.

Lynda says

I was excited to dig into this book. It was listed as a suspense novel; but I have to admit that, at first, I was not seeing it. Although it was a fun story, with a bit of humor; and quick and easy to read, there didn't seem to be suspense anywhere in sight.

It was a good halfway through the book when the mystery kicked in. From there, the pace definitely picked up! It was a good read with an ending that managed to surprise me; even though, I thought I had it figured out!

Tammy says

A sentimental romance with that edge of attraction and danger. Likeable characters with a touch of whimsy. Easy to read at a smooth pace. Two sisters take a vacation trip to Solace Island in the Pacific Northwest after a marriage cancellation. Sorry that is all I will say, I don't like spoilers. Thank you Goodreads and Berkley Publishing/Penguin Random House for this free giveaway. It's a keeper.

Gary says

For Maggie Harris, life was falling apart. Her fiancé called her on her wedding day to share the news that he was not going to marry her after all; he was too busy hooking up with someone else. To make matters worse, her fiancé was also her business partner and the breakup of their relationship necessitated the breakup of the business. Since she was a 60% owner in the company she announced that Brett could either buy her out or she was going to sell to a competitor. Her sister Eve came to the rescue and arranged an extended trip to Solace Island, a favorite of theirs.

So begins the rebirth of Maggie Harris. Solace Island was a quiet place to let go of the pains of the past and prepare for an entirely new future. Almost immediately, Maggie came in contact with Luke Benson a very attractive man with a somewhat mysterious past as part of a security firm. As the relationship between Luke and Maggie grows it becomes clear that each has mysteries hidden in their past. The slow and carefully unfolding of those secrets generates the movement that propels the story forward.

I loved the smooth, easy to read flow of Solace Island as well as the quick wit and laugh out loud humor that dots the novel. My only complaint was that the elements that underlay the suspense that comes to the surface at the end of the novel were not adequately hinted at as the book progressed. As a result both the villain and the motivation of the villain felt as if they were plucked out of the hat at the last minute. I would have appreciated more of a slow build up with foreshadowing pointing to the suspense to come.

All in all it was a very readable and enjoyable romance, but it might have been better in the romantic suspense department.

Alicia says

Such a good story.

I could not put it down and managed to finish it in a few hours.

It's about a woman named Maggie who travels to this Solace Island with her sister after her fiance breaks off their wedding the day before.

Once there she meets Luke, a handsome baker, he saves her from almost being run over.

Looking forward to the second novel in this series.

I received an ARC from First to Read

Candice Gigious says

Solace Island is a slow paced story with a very misleading synopsis and too many explicit sex scenes.

Maggie's engagement is called off the night before the wedding and Maggie learns that her fiance, Brett, was cheating on her. She decides to sell her half of the company that she and Brett started and then heads off on a vacation with her older sister, Eve, to Solace Island. Her first night on Solace Island, Maggie gets lost and makes a fool of herself when she first meets her handsome neighbor, Luke. Luke points Maggie in the right direction of her cottage and then they can't stop thinking about each other erotically. They met again at the Saturday market and after a few mishaps they start to become close. Maggie and Eve decide to stay on Solace Island for good. Just as Maggie is working out the details of her new life, someone tries to kill her. Luke, who used to be CEO of a security company, has the sisters move into his very secure house to protect them. Luke and Maggie give into their passion for each other. They try to forget about the attack, but Maggie is still someone's target.

The story has little suspense and the romance is more erotica. The synopsis sounds interesting, but the story is slow and choppy with too many sexual scenes. The attack does not happen until about halfway through the book and most of the suspense is in a few chapters near the end. Our main characters Luke and Maggie are sex obsessed as Luke cannot talk or look at Maggie without getting an erection and Maggie gets wet panties when she thinks about Luke. The explicit scenes seemed out of character for the inexperienced and recently

heartbroken Maggie. Maggie was silly and naive, but also was not a damsel in distress waiting to be rescued. Maggie's ex Brett seemed so awful, you'll wonder why she ever engaged to him in the first place. Eve was a fun character. The author did describe Solace Island well. The identity of the person trying to kill Maggie is revealed, but their reasoning is stupid and did not make much sense. The ending wrapped up most of the story, but did not explain everything. The book would have been better without all the very racy scenes. I did not like the book and do not think I will try another book by this author due to those really steamy scenes. If you are looking for a romantic suspense, skip this one. If you want erotica with a little action, you might like this book. I received a digital advance copy from the Penguin First Reads program in exchange for an honest review.

Katiria says

*** I really loved and enjoyed this book a lot, I can't wait to read Eve's book next year! Full Review To Come Up Soon! ***
