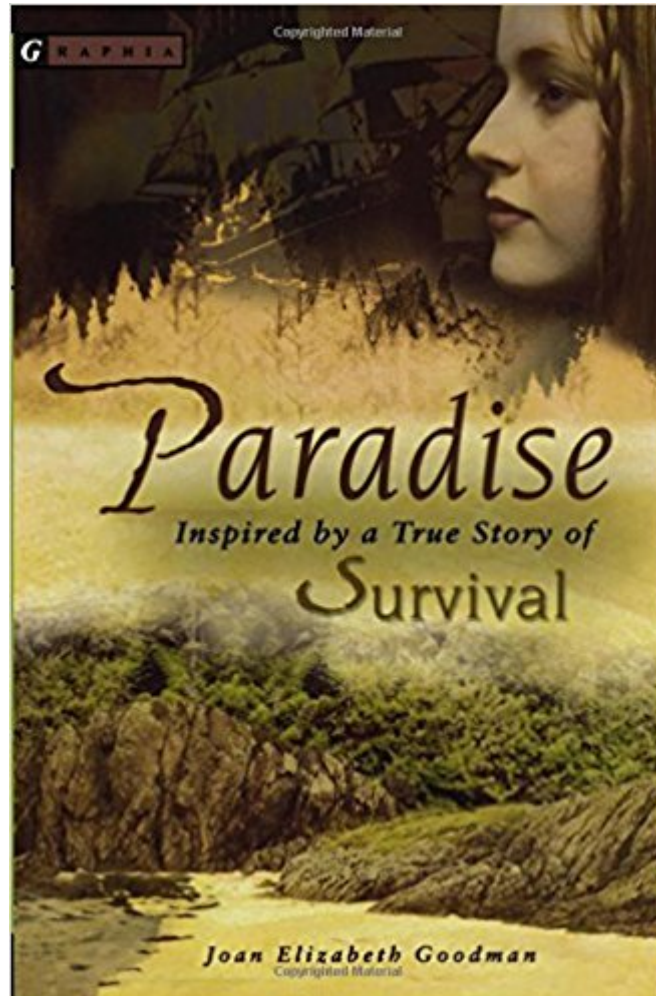




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Paradise



Synopsis

In 1542, when sixteen-year-old Marguerite is selected by her uncle, the Sieur de Roberval, as one of the young women to accompany him on his voyage to the New World, she seizes the chance to escape the oppressive household of her father. Marguerite persuades her forbidden young lover, Pierre, to join the voyage so they can be wed when they reach Canada. But when Marguerite and Pierre are caught together on the ship, they are banished to the tiny, wild Isle of Demons, off the coast of Québec and their voyage to freedom becomes a fight for their very survival. Inspired by the true story of Marguerite de La Rocque, *Paradise* is a gripping novel of adventure, courage, love, and hardship.

Book Information

Paperback: 224 pages

Publisher: HMH Books for Young Readers (April 17, 2006)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0618494812

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Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 2 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #2,401,599 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #84 in Books > Teens >

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Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 7 and up

Customer Reviews

Gr. 7-12. Based on a true story, this is an unromanticized, feminist version of adventure tales such as *Robinson Crusoe* and *Swiss Family Robinson*. When explorer Captain Jacques Cartier returns to France in 1536 with stories of great wealth in Canada, Sieur de Roberval sets sail for the Canadian wilderness. Among his passengers are his niece Marguerite; her serving lady, Damienne; and a stowaway, Marguerite's great love, Pierre. During the voyage Pierre is discovered and cast into the sea and Marguerite and Damienne are abandoned on the Isle of Demons. Miraculously, Pierre lives, swimming ashore into Marguerite's waiting arms. Thus begins the trio's fight for survival. As the newcomers battle the mosquitoes (the true demons of the island) and the natives, they struggle to

find food and shelter, and their paradise becomes a prison from which there is no escape. The author has fleshed out Marguerite's story from several historical sources, altering it to be more hopeful but no less amazing. The book will be an invaluable addition to the literature about the colonization of the New World. Frances Bradburn Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

"This historical fiction will definitely have appeal to teenage readers." KLIATT

Sixteen-year-old Marguerite de La Rocque lives in a strict Huguenot household in France in 1542. She is in love with a young man named Pierre, but they can never marry because he is catholic. When Marguerite's father tells her that she will be part of her uncle's colony in the desolate new world of Canada, she at least feels hope, because in the wilderness, she and Pierre might find a way to be together. Pierre has found a way to join the expedition, and Marguerite is accompanied by her maid, Damienne, who is more friend than servant. So though she fears the wild new land their ship is sailing for, she knows she won't be alone. All goes well until after they arrive in Canada, when Marguerite's uncle discovers she and Pierre have become lovers. Furious, he has Marguerite and Damienne abandoned on a desolate island known as the Isle of Demons. Pierre manages to join them, but will friendship, faith, love, and determination to survive be enough to keep the three alive in this desolate wilderness? I highly recommend this book to young adults who enjoy historical fiction. It's a wonderful story of friendship, love, and courage.

This novel was a good quick read. If you like historical fiction this is definitely a book I would recommend. A truly remarkable tale of survival which is actually based on a true story. Very good read.

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