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# *The Golden Hour*

*by Margaret Wurtele*

World War II-set fiction continues to captivate readers with its irresistible combination of fear and hope set against one of the most turbulent times in history. New American Library is proud to publish talented debut novelist Margaret Wurtele, whose beautiful and moving story is a testament to the indomitable spirit of the people struggling to survive during the strife of the World War II era. **Margaret Wurtele's** elegantly written debut novel, **THE GOLDEN HOUR** (NAL Trade Paperback Original; February 7, 2012; \$15.00), begins in the summer of 1944 in Tuscany and portrays love and hope in a war-torn nation. In a story woven with historical detail, Wurtele explores the emotion, fear, and hope that permeate the rarely explored landscape of World War II Italy.

In **THE GOLDEN HOUR**, seventeen-year-old Giovanna Bellini sees firsthand the devastating effects of the war. Following the Italian government's peace agreement with the Allies, Giovanna watches as the German military invades her town, forming a hostile occupying army. At first, Giovanna is fascinated by the Nazi officers, but as the war strips away Giovanna's naïveté and harsh realities are exposed, her brother Giorgio recruits her to aid in the Italian Resistance. When she is asked to hide wounded Jewish freedom fighter Mario Rava, Giovanna finds herself falling for the brave young man. The world around her is in constant turmoil and when terrible truths are revealed, threatening the lives of everyone Giovanna cares about, she is forced to make unimaginable sacrifices and decisions.

**About the Author:**

**Margaret Wurtele** is the author of two memoirs. She and her husband split their time between Minnesota and Napa Valley, where they are owners of Terra Valentine Winery. Visit her online at [www.margaretwurtele.com](http://www.margaretwurtele.com).

**THE GOLDEN HOUR**  
**By Margaret Wurtele**  
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