



On a Sundown Sea

A Novel of Madame Tingley and the Origins of Lomaland

by Jill G. Hall



Fiction - Historical - Personage

384 Pages

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Book Review

Reviewed by Carol Thompson for Readers' Favorite

On a Sundown Sea by Jill G. Hall is a historical novel that blends social conscience, spiritual inquiry, and a sense of place. Set in late nineteenth-century New York, the story follows Katherine Tingley, a woman driven by compassion and guided by inner visions, as she navigates poverty, reform work, and unexpected encounters that begin to shape her future path. Hall's prose is carefully textured, capturing the grit of tenement streets, the hush of snowfall during the Great White Blizzard, and the quiet intimacy of personal reflection. The novel's attention to historical detail is thoughtful and well researched, grounding Katherine's interior life in the broader currents of immigration, labor unrest, and spiritual curiosity that marked the era. Hall skillfully explores themes of service, faith, and personal purpose without forcing conclusions.

The novel unfolds at a measured pace that mirrors its protagonist's reflective nature. Scenes are given room to breathe, with careful attention to atmosphere, dialogue, and internal thought. Readers who enjoy historical fiction focused on character development and moral reflection may appreciate this slower progression, which allows relationships and ideas to develop gradually. Rather than rushing toward plot turns, the story emphasizes the accumulation of experiences, insights, and subtle shifts in belief. This approach reinforces the novel's contemplative tone and aligns well with its exploration of spiritual seeking and social responsibility. *On a Sundown Sea* offers a story rooted in history and human concern. Jill G. Hall brings empathy and clarity to Katherine Tingley's journey, inviting readers to consider how individual conviction can intersect with broader movements for change.