

Springtime of the Spirit

✖ Maureen Lang | Tyndale House
Publishers

What turned your focus to World War I in The Great War Series?

Family history. My grandfather was in the Signal Corps in the first World War and gave me a whole box of pictures from France during that time. He'd written on the back what was going on in each shot, and it's fascinated me ever since.

What can readers expect in *Springtime of the Spirit*?

I learned so much writing this, mainly because the political drama of 1919 Germany seems to touch on many topics we hear about in the news today: How big do we want our government to be? How much should we depend on government to take care of us? Does faith play into the design of government?

Questions like those fascinated me, but to make the story fun instead of a textbook, I knew I wanted to include a romance. So my hero and heroine explore things like socialism and faith, and since they've survived different war experiences, they have very different opinions. How they work through those differences—eventually risking their lives in the process—is where the romance and drama really mesh together.

How did you tackle the classic question about God and suffering—how could God allow war?

Anyone who's lived long enough has probably asked why God allows suffering, and after the brutality of war, it seemed especially appropriate for my characters to question this. At one point my hero, whose faith is solid, says that if God had stepped in to end a war that we started of our own free will, He would have to step in and stop other mistakes we make as well. Where would our free will be then? As my hero says: Doesn't having to allow the little mistakes mean His having to allow the big ones, too?

Do you have a fondness for a particular character in the series?

I do love Christophe, the hero in this book. However, my absolute favorite in *Springtime of the Spirit* is Annaliese, my heroine. She's so determined, so sure of herself and so totally unafraid to do what she thinks best. And she has absolutely zero fear of speaking in front of the biggest audience she can draw—something I always admire, because I possess not one ounce of such a talent.

Where to next in writing for Maureen Lang?

I'm heading into an even more romantic thread with my next project, this one between a thief

and a sheltered
young woman aspiring to become a thief as well—until God
catches their
attention. My settings are headed home to the USA, placing my
next story in New
York City during the 1880s. No more wars for the time being,
but hopefully just
as much excitement.

Click [here](#) to purchase *Springtime
of the Spirit*.