



# **No Regrets: A Novel of Love and Lies in World War II England (The Thornton Trilogy Book 1)**

*Mary Christian Payne*

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## **Synopsis**

“No Regrets” is a captivating, straight from the heart novel. This is a story for everyone who has ever wondered: Are there truly Soul-Mates?

Sloan Thornton is the heir to Highcroft Hall, the family seat of the Earl's of Wessex, in the quaint village of Thornton-on-Sea, on the southeast coast of England. He has always dreamed of finding his soul-mate. However, in a moment of weakness, just before he leaves to fight in World War II, as an RAF pilot, he proposes to his childhood sweetheart, Anne Whitfield. There is no question how deep his devotion is to her, and how naturally they bring out the best in each other.

But, one fateful afternoon, Sloan encounters Elise, in a rural farmhouse on a French country road. It is May, 1940, and the Dunkirk Beaches are being evacuated. Sloan is wounded when his plane is shot down by the Luftwaffe. After he meets, Elise, he can never forget her. He carries her memory with him throughout the war. In the meantime, Elise suffers terrifying misfortune.

When they meet again for the first time in over five years, the spark is still there. But, there is still Anne, who refuses to be left heartbroken and rejected. Sloan begins to question whether the life he's living is the one he's meant to live. Elise wonders the same thing.

“No Regrets” is a powerful story about one woman at the crossroads of true love and real life.

## **About the Author**

Mary Christian Payne is an accomplished business woman, who has held high ranking, management positions with Fortune 500 companies, in New York City, St. Louis, Missouri, Orlando, Florida, and Tulsa, Oklahoma. She is a recipient of the Mayor's Pinnacle Award in Tulsa, for directing a highly successful program at The Women's Resource Center at the University of Tulsa. All of these positions involved significant amounts of writing. She has also acted as a speech writer for high profile political figures, and for executives of major corporations.

She is now a retired Career Psychologist. She was the founder and President of Transitions Counseling Center, in partnership with her father, the retired CEO of a four billion dollar retail organization. She has taught seminars throughout Oklahoma. Mary Christian is a world traveler, and has spent extensive time in England, thus creating an excellent foundation for writing novels set in Great Britain. The era of World War II has always held tremendous appeal for her, and she is a committed Anglophile. The daughter of an Army Major during World War II, she grew up hearing countless stories of that tumultuous and romantic time.

She lives with her husband, Jim, who is a Pharmacist, and their two beloved Maltese Terriers in Broken Arrow, Oklahoma. She is also the mother of two, adult children, and three grandchildren.

**Get the rest of the books in the Thornton Trilogy:**

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Book 2: No Gentleman -- [amazon.com/dp/B00Q8UKBUU](https://amazon.com/dp/B00Q8UKBUU)

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