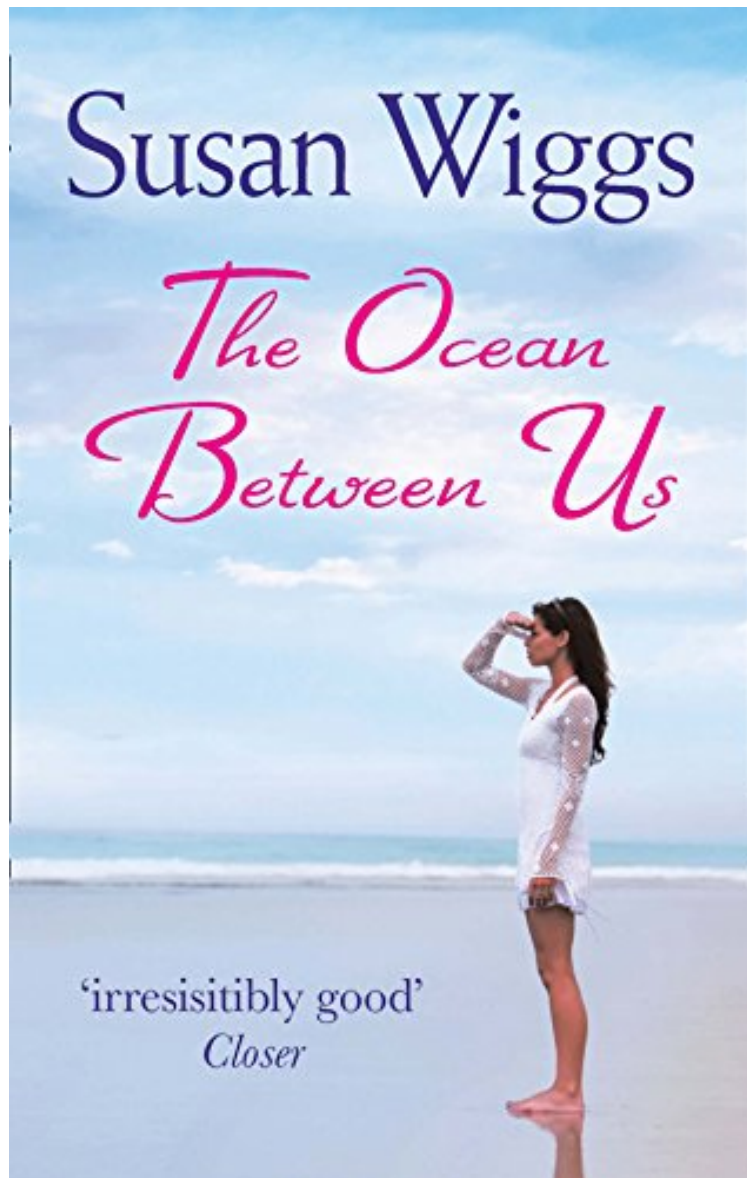


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The Ocean Between Us (Mills Boon MB) (Mira)

Von Susan Wiggs

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Von Susan Wiggs : The Ocean Between Us (Mills Boon MB) (Mira) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Ocean Between Us (Mills Boon MB) (Mira):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Another brilliant and touching story from Susan WiggsVon Helen HancoxSusan Wiggs is one of those authors I've stumbled across who seems very at home in many different genres and settings. I've read books of her set in different centuries

and with very different stories/angles. "The Ocean Between Us" is set in modern times and it focuses on a husband and wife, Steve and Grace Bennett, and a time of learning and trouble in their relationship. This sounds rather gloomy and in fact I was a little worried when I started the book that it would be depressing. There are some aspects of this book that are sad but the overall feeling is definitely uplifting. Steve is a Navy Captain who is away on an Aircraft Carrier for six months at a time; Grace has been a brilliant Navy wife, bringing up their three children well despite Steve's long absences. But now that Grace is turning forty she finds herself looking again at aspects of her life and wondering if it is worth carrying on with her marriage. A secret from Steve's past threatens her sense of security and with him away and her changing her life she wonders if there's room for him. There are some side-plots involving a friend of Grace's with her new Navy boyfriend, Grace's children and of course Steve's view of the situation from at sea. I particularly enjoyed the descriptions of life at sea - and on land - for a Navy couple. There was a lot of detail about the Aircraft Carrier and flying a Prowler which was fascinating - and rather unusual for a book authored by a woman and aimed at women. I also thought that the way that Susan Wiggs described the sort of marriage that Navy personnel have - requiring long separations - was excellent. Once again Susan Wiggs has provided an excellent book which explores human emotions, family and individuality and it's a book I can very much recommend.

Kurzbeschreibung In *The Ocean Between Us* Susan Wiggs deftly portrays the struggles and triumphs of an American family facing life's greatest challenges as they come to understand the timeless lessons of the heart. On the surface Grace Bennett has it all: three wonderful children, a devoted husband and a life of adventure and travel. But somewhere between her husband Steve's demanding career, raising a family, the constant uprooting and the Navy's routine, Grace has lost her sense of self. And when a nearly forgotten secret resurfaces, her discontent comes into sharp focus. Something needs to change. She needs to change. Then duty calls. Now, separated by an ocean of regrets and longing, Grace and Steve are forced to take a hard look at their faltering marriage. But when the unthinkable happens, Grace is left to face a Navy wife's worst nightmare: the cold truth that life's biggest chances can slip away while you're looking for guarantees. From Publishers Weekly: A midlife marital crisis threatens the stability of a squeaky-clean navy family in Wiggs's latest, which overcomes a listless, saccharine start thanks to a rousing finale aboard an aircraft carrier. Steve and Grace Bennett look like the perfect military couple: Steve, a former pilot, has become an ambitious officer, and Grace successfully cares for their three bright, talented kids while he's deployed. But cracks appear in the marriage fabric when Grace, seeking more in life, starts a relocation business, begins a fitness program and buys a small but lovely house near the Seattle base they temporarily call home. Wiggs's light, engaging style keeps the story moving in the first half, despite too many syrupy family scenes and a far-fetched subplot in which Josh, a fledgling pilot under Steve's command, is revealed to be his long-lost son from a brief, ill-advised teen marriage. This revelation widens the gap between Grace and Steve, who never told her about wife number one, and Wiggs balances their turmoil with a subplot involving their oldest daughter, Emma, and a hunky but predatory high school boy whose father is Steve's boss. But the tension isn't all emotional: Josh goes on a training exercise that nearly turns deadly, and Steve, trying to stop a deadly fire aboard his aircraft carrier, gets swept overboard into the icy Pacific. While Wiggs tends to nip suspense in the bud and linger on overripe romantic sentiments, her characters are sympathetic and her tale of frayed loves mended is sure to strike a responsive chord in a maturing audience. Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From Booklist: Steve Bennett is a perfect navy officer with a perfect navy family, and he's confident that his world is just the way it should be. But his son wants to be an artist instead of attending the U.S. Naval Academy, and his stalwart and capable wife of 20 years, Grace, is tired of being the perfect navy wife. She wants her own home, and she wants her own career. She's feeling altogether unsettled, but nothing is more unsettling than the secret her husband has hidden from her their entire marriage. Nothing, that is, until the accident on the carrier. Wiggs has done an excellent job of depicting what lies beneath the surfaces of relationships--assumptions, misunderstandings, and expectations. She's created a family in emotional transition and has explored their feelings so well that we feel as if we know her characters. Readers who enjoyed Dee Holmes' *The Boy on the Porch* (2003) and LaVyrle Spencer's *Home Song* (1994) will also enjoy this emotion-filled novel of military life. Shelley Mosley Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved.