

PDF | At the Edge of Summer: A Novel

by Jessica Brockmole



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The acclaimed author of *Letters from Skye* returns with an extraordinary story of a friendship born of proximity but boundless in the face of separation and war.

Luc Crépet is accustomed to his mother's bringing wounded creatures to their idyllic chateau in the French countryside, where healing comes naturally amid the lush wildflowers and crumbling stone walls. Yet his *maman's* newest project is the most surprising: a fifteen-year-old Scottish girl grieving over her parents' fate. A curious child with an artistic soul, Clare Ross finds solace in her connection to Luc, and she in turn inspires him in ways he never thought possible. Then, just as suddenly as Clare arrives, she is gone, whisked away by her grandfather to the farthest reaches of the globe. Devastated by her departure, Luc begins to write letters to Clare—and, even as she moves from Portugal to Africa and beyond, the memory of the summer they shared keeps her grounded.

Years later, in the wake of World War I, Clare, now an artist, returns to France to help create facial prostheses for wounded soldiers. One of the wary veterans who comes to the studio seems familiar, and as his mask takes shape beneath her fingers, she recognizes Luc. But is this soldier, made bitter by battle and betrayal, the same boy who once wrote her wistful letters from Paris? After war and so many years apart, can Clare and Luc recapture how they felt at the edge of that long-ago summer?

Bringing to life two unforgettable characters and the rich historical period they inhabit, Jessica Brockmole shows how love and forgiveness can redeem us.

Praise for Jessica Brockmole's *Letters From Skye*

“A remarkable story of two women, their loves, their secrets, and two world wars [in which] the beauty of Scotland, the tragedy of war, the longings of the heart, and the struggles of a family torn apart by disloyalty are brilliantly drawn.”—*Publishers Weekly* (starred review)

“Tantalizing . . . sure to please readers who enjoyed other epistolary novels like *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society*.”—*Stratford Gazette*

“An absorbing and rewarding saga of loss and discovery.”—Kate Alcott, author of *The Dressmaker*

“A sweeping and sweet (but not saccharine) love story.”—*USA Today*

“[A] dazzling little jewel.”—*Richmond Times-Dispatch*

“A captivating love story that celebrates the power of hope.”—Vanessa Diffenbaugh, author of *The Language of Flowers*

From the Hardcover edition.



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