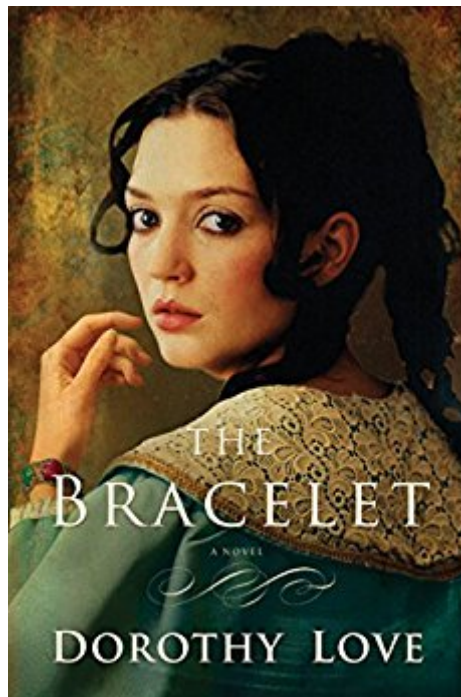


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# The Bracelet



## Synopsis

“There are no secrets that time does not reveal.” Savannah, Georgia “1858 Celia Browning dreams of the day when her childhood sweetheart Sutton Mackay comes home to Savannah after two years in Jamaica managing his family’s shipping interests. Sutton has all but proposed, and their marriage will unite two of the city’s most prominent families. But just as Sutton returns, a newspaper reporter arrives in town, determined to pry into twin tragedies that took place at the Browning mansion on Madison Square when Celia was a child. While the journalist pursues his story, someone is trying to frighten Celia. When she receives a series of anonymous notes, and a bracelet imbued with a chilling message, Celia realizes that her family’s past has the power to destroy her future. As the clouds of war gather over Savannah, and her beloved father’s health worsens, Celia determines to uncover the truth about what really happened all those years ago. Inspired by actual events in one of Savannah’s most prominent 19th-century families, *The Bracelet* is the story of a young southern woman whose dreams fracture under the weight of her family’s tragic past. “Historical romance with a sprinkle of secrets for readers to solve, Dorothy Love’s latest puts a new spin on an old idea.” *Romantic Times*, 4-star review

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I've got to give the author kudos for the historical details she incorporated and the research she did to set her novel. I felt like I really was in 1858 Savannah, from the dirty wharves, the bright gaslights, and the pageantry and glitter of rich parties. The author also incorporates a ton of historical events to set her novel firm historically within the conversations of her characters. There were a few times where this was a bit forced, like the author was trying too hard maybe, but overall it was very well done. I got the ambiance of the antebellum South loud and clear. The story overall was intriguing. The high drama of family secrets, dying loved ones, an upcoming wedding, and the faint rumbling of the Civil War on the horizon all made for a potent mix. I was kept intrigued enough that I wanted to find out what happened next. Yet, there were times I felt the author was a bit unbalanced with her storytelling. There were parts where it just seemed the characters were going from place to place, not doing anything. Some of the action stuff seemed to come out of left field as well. The whole fire thing seemed very out of place. The characters | Oy vey |. I liked them enough to be bound into their story, let's start with that. I wanted to know if they lived or died. But there seemed some real problems with flat characterizations. I felt Celia was too perfect, always beautiful, always forgiving, always compassionate | You get the picture. Sutton was every teenage girl's dream boy, dedicated to honor, love, and her. And Ivy was too manipulative and stupid for me. I can maybe see why she might be that way with her background, but overall her character also came off as slightly Sniddley Whiplash to me.

Book Review: The Bracelet, Dorothy Love, Thomas Nelson 2014 The Bracelet is an historical fiction novel set in Savannah, Georgia in 1858. Dorothy Love beautifully combines family drama and romance with mystery in a book that compels the reader to reach the end and learn the secrets of the Browning family. Many years ago, the Brownings suffered two tragedies in their home, followed by weeks of gossip. Now an opportunistic newspaper reporter dredges up the scandal in hopes of selling newspapers and books. Hurt by the judgment of her society friends, and hoping to protect her father and cousin, Celia Browning begins her own search for answers. Our lives are rarely occupied by a single issue and The Bracelet certainly reflects that. The tensions that were building in southern Georgia just three years before the outbreak of The Civil War must have overshadowed every relationship and every decision in 1858. In that cauldron of stress, Celia welcomes home the

man sheâ™s loved for years and hopes to marry. She continues charity work and social engagements while alternately ignoring the coming storm and resolving to live normally despite it. According to the authorâ™s note at the end of the book, each character was based on a real historical person and I believe that authenticity resounds in each one. However, there are no slave characters in the book and Love explains that not all Southerners owned slaves or made their living on cotton plantations. The big Browning town home is kept by a single, Irish housekeeper while a freeman serves as their driver. Since the Brownings are listed as one of the wealthiest families in Savannah, it seems unlikely that their home would be so scarcely furnished with servants and that they would not have owned even one slave.

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