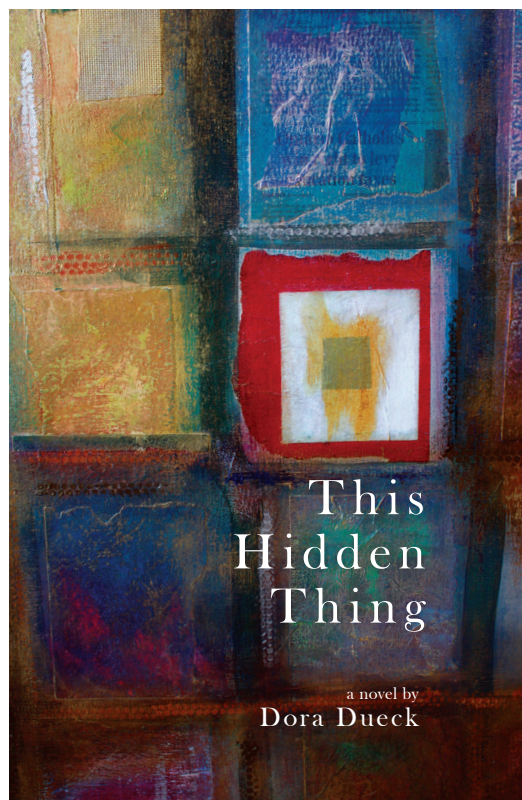


# This Hidden Thing

a novel by Dora Dueck

MARIA KLASSEN is an exemplary woman, living in Winnipeg in the early part of the twentieth century. We first encounter her at 19, meeting the many unpredictable challenges of “working out” with a prosperous Canadian family who are unaware that Maria’s own people once were prosperous. Later we meet Maria in adulthood – devout, industrious, and dedicated to her extended Mennonite family. Yet Maria is reserved and intensely private, stubborn. This is the story of a life that contained passion and suffering that no one knew.

*This Hidden Thing* is a lyrical and moving novel that offers one woman’s compelling, ordinary, and surprising life.



This Hidden Thing  
Dora Dueck

CMU Press 2010 | 350 pages, paper | \$19.50  
ISBN 978-0-920718-86-5

To order, contact the CMU Bookstore  
Email: [cmubookstore@cmu.ca](mailto:cmubookstore@cmu.ca)  
or call 204-487-3300 (877.231.4570 toll-free)

To request a copy for review, contact  
CMU Press: [cmupress@cmu.ca](mailto:cmupress@cmu.ca)

*I never knew what the next page of This Hidden Thing would bring, never could guess what way the story would go, never imagined what the end would be for Maria, whom I had come to love so deeply.*

Katherine Arnoldi, author of *The Amazing True Story of a Teenage Single Mom* and *All Things Are Labor*

*Dora Dueck’s powerful and deeply engaging novel follows the fortunes of Maria Klassen, a young immigrant whose heart’s purest desires are in tension with domestic service, sexual passion, and the demands of family and church. Beautifully and intelligently written, the story transcends its Mennonite particulars to shed light on the universal and timeless struggles of the human spirit.*

Sarah Klassen, author of *A Feast of Longing* and *A Curious Beatitude*

*Dora Dueck tells a compelling woman’s story too often obscured by history. She inhabits her characters in such a way that the reader is drawn into a living, breathing world that lingers even after the covers of the book are closed. This Hidden Thing offers a worthy female, urban counterpart to Rudy Wiebe’s Peace Shall Destroy Many.*

Ann Hostetler, author of *Empty Room with Light* and editor of *A Cappella: Mennonite Voices in Poetry*



**Dora Dueck** is author of the novel *Under the Still Standing Sun* and co-editor of *Northern Lights: An Anthology of Contemporary Christian Writing in Canada*. Her stories have been featured on CBC Radio, and in journals such as *Room*, *Prairie Fire*, *Rhubarb*, and *Journal of Mennonite Studies*. She lives in Winnipeg.

**CMU PRESS**

500 Shaftesbury Boulevard | Winnipeg, MB, Canada | R3P 2N2 | [www.cmu.ca](http://www.cmu.ca)