



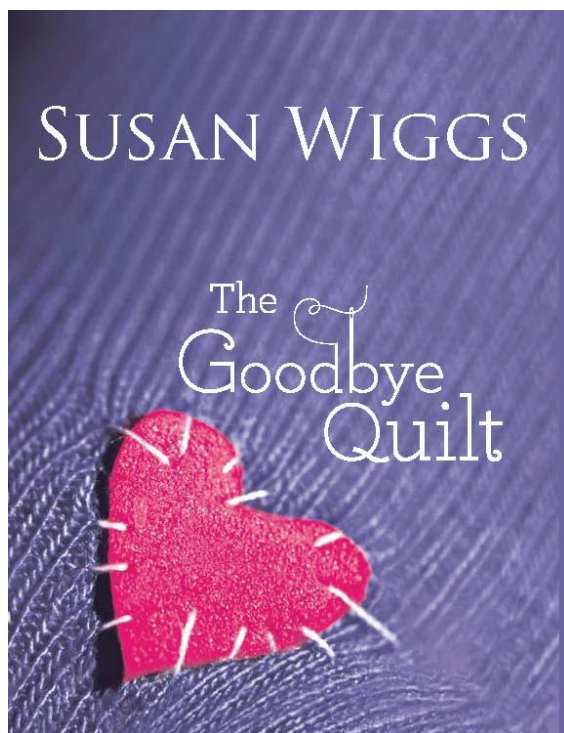
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#1 *NEW YORK TIMES* BESTSELLING AUTHOR SUSAN WIGGS
KNOWS SOMETIMES IT TAKES A LIFETIME OF MEMORIES TO LET GO

THE GOODBYE QUILT

April 2011



A woman examines her life as she takes a cross-country road trip with her college-bound daughter, all the while preparing herself to let go of her only child in *THE GOODBYE QUILT* (MIRA Books, April 2011, \$16.95 U.S./\$19.95 CAN.), by #1 *New York Times* and *USA TODAY* bestselling author Susan Wiggs. *THE GOODBYE QUILT* paints a vivid picture of all the love and energy that goes into raising a child—with some of the bumps along the way.

Linda Davis has simultaneously looked forward to and dreaded this moment ever since she became a mother. Her only child, Molly, is preparing to leave their Wyoming home for her

freshman year at an East Coast college. Mother and daughter decide to share one last adventure together by taking a cross-country road trip to move Molly into her dorm.

As they drive across the country, Linda works on a very special going-away gift for her daughter—a memory quilt comprised of scraps of material she’s saved over the years that are mementos from Molly’s young life. As Linda sews the pieces together—a swatch from her dog’s bandanna, a Girl Scout badge, a button from Molly’s first Christmas dress, a bow from her prom corsage—she flashes back over the years and recalls the events that have gone to make up not just Molly’s, but also her own life.

However, Linda is not the only person grappling with this life-changing move. Molly has her own reservations; chief among them is leaving her boyfriend, Travis, behind in Wyoming. As Linda and Molly wind their way across the country, they encounter strangers and unexpected surprises that help bring into focus not only their relationship as mother and daughter, but a sense of what the future holds for them as individuals.

The book also includes a goodbye quilt pattern that instructs quilters on the fabric requirements and cutting and sewing instructions necessary to make one’s own goodbye quilt.

THE GOODBYE QUILT is available wherever books are sold, and at www.MIRABooks.com.

THE GOODBYE QUILT
SUSAN WIGGS
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Susan Wiggs

LAUGH . CRY . DREAM . READ



Susan Wiggs is pictured sitting on a Wiggs family heirloom quilt that is nearly one hundred years old. She lives on an island in the Pacific Northwest where the local fabric store is a gathering place for women, where master quilters come to share and teach and where handcrafts and art can be found around every corner.

When her novel *Fireside* debuted at #1 on the *New York Times* bestseller list, the author responded by jumping into her swimming pool fully clothed, despite the freezing temperatures of February. Why? “Because I never wanted to forget that moment,” she said. “It’s such a singular sensation. And so often for a writer, the good news comes during the odd time of day, when no one is around but the dog and the seagulls on the beach.”

Wiggs credits her books’ popularity to her loyal readers, whose unflagging interest has propelled her sales upward over her twenty-year career. From the very start, the author’s stories have illuminated the everyday dramas of ordinary people. *The Goodbye Quilt* is a valentine to her daughter, Elizabeth Wiggs Maas, a story about letting go and moving on. But the mother-daughter bond endures, as evidenced by the recent memoir she cowrote with her daughter, *How I Planned Your Wedding*, a hilarious all-true tale of planning life’s sweetest celebration.

She is an internationally bestselling author with millions of copies of her books in print in numerous countries. She continues to draw inspiration from her friends, family and the nuances of human nature that make the headlines every day.

Susan, who holds a graduate degree from Harvard, recalls that the first romance novel she ever read was *Shanna*, by the late Kathleen Woodiwiss, which she devoured while slumped behind a college textbook, studying to become a math teacher.

How did a math teacher become a bestselling writer? Susan says the real question is how did a writer turn to teaching math? “I was born to write. I always knew it. When I was in college, I took a career aptitude test that said I should be (a) a writer, (b) a teacher or (c) a speech pathologist. So I decided to go for two out of three. I chose teaching—and the subject of math specifically—because it was something I knew I’d love and be good at. Also, a math teacher can make a living. This is not always the case for a writer, not right out of the gate.”

Susan appears at writers’ conferences across the country, speaking to aspiring novelists about the profession. The author has won three RITA[®] Awards for her novels *Lakeside Cottage*, *Lord of the Night* and *The Mistress*. Her recent novels have all placed high on the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *USA TODAY* and *Publishers Weekly* lists. *The Charm School* was honored with the Dorothy Parker Award of Excellence and was designated a Favorite Book of the Year by Romance Writers of America. Wiggs belongs to the Authors Guild, Romance Writers of America and Novelists, Inc. She is often interviewed in the media on the topic of writing popular novels for today’s women, having appeared on *Talk of the Nation* and in the *Seattle Times* and *Portland Tribune*. Her blog, *The View from Here*, (susanwiggs.wordpress.com) is filled with her photos and observations and was featured in *Publishers Weekly*. It has quickly turned into a huge hit with readers.

When she’s not writing, Susan can likely be found hiking with her dog, Barkis, listening to music, seeing the world, reading books and doing what she calls “extreme crafts”—Fair Isle knitting, impossible faux-finish paint projects, furniture refinishing and upholstery.

Susan Wiggs’s lively website can be found at www.susanwiggs.com.

