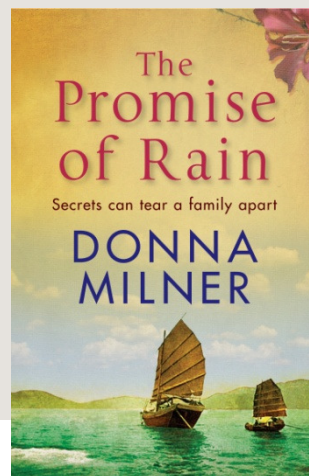


<b>Title</b>	The Promise of Rain
<b>Author</b>	Donna Milner
<b>ISBN</b>	9781847249524
<b>Imprint</b>	Quercus
<b>Binding</b>	Trade paperback
<b>Extent</b>	352 pages
<b>Dimensions</b>	234 x 153mm
<b>RRP</b>	\$32.95
<b>Release Date</b>	February 2010
<b>Category</b>	Fiction



### Description

*My mother died the same day as Marilyn Monroe. August 4<sup>th</sup>, 1962. Mom's death would force my father to 'return' to our family. Even though he came home every night, a large part of my dad was not really there.*

Ethie Coulter was born after her father Howard returned from the war in 1945. She never knew him as he was before, never knew that he had been an open, loving man and a devoted husband. When his wife dies in bizarre circumstances, Howard must take on the burden of looking after eleven-year-old Ethie and her two older brothers. Why, Ethie wonders, is he so silent and withdrawn? She can't help noticing that his breath often carries the smell of alcohol.

Howard was one of hundreds of Canadian soldiers sent to the Far East following the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbour. Surviving the fierce battle for Hong Kong, he became a POW, moving from camp to notorious camp, watching his friends die of disease, starvation and worse.

Yet Howard carries more than the physical and mental scars inflicted by his captors. Something happened in Hong Kong, a secret that he has carried for nearly two decades. Ethie, inquisitive and fearless, will be the one to work her way towards the truth and help her father come to terms with the past.

### Sales Points

- From the author of *After River* comes a poignant novel about the experience of war for one Canadian soldier and the effect on his family when he comes home
- Donna Milner writes strong commercial fiction with broad appeal to female readers of all ages
- *The Promise of Rain* is a brilliantly executed novel in the vein of Anita Shreve and Julia Gregson

### Author Profile

Donna Milner lives in British Columbia with her husband. Her first novel was the acclaimed *After River* (ISBN 9781847242822, RRP \$29.95) which was sold all over the world. *The Promise of Rain* is her second novel.