



Wartime's Horror Tests Improbable Love & Courage

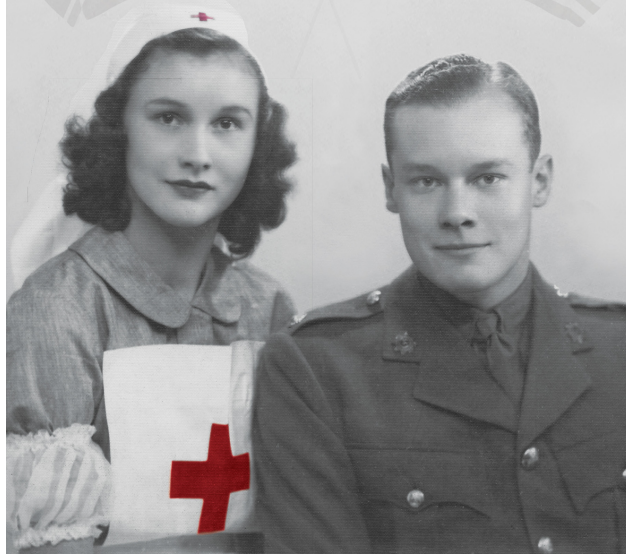
BRUNSWICK, MAINE—In her new book, Maine author Barbara Kent Lawrence brings to life a remarkable tale of loss and love in World War II: *Both Sides of the Pond: My Family's War (1933-1946)*. In January of 1939 when Barbara Greene, a beautiful and successful young British actress, met Joe Kennedy Jr., son of the American Ambassador, she could not have expected that their relationship would lead to her emigrating to America and piloting a plane around the eastern states to publicize Bundles for Britain. Nor could her brother, Kent, have foreseen his bitter retreat from Dunkirk when he left England in January 1940 to fight in France, or his subsequent service in Cornwall, North Africa, Sicily, and Burma. Their stories portray the war on both sides of the Atlantic Ocean, and on the home front and battlefield. In this intensively researched and highly readable story of war and love, we also hear the stories of other ordinary people who survived extraordinary circumstances.

"...an intimate, harrowing, and vivid portrait of two young people engulfed by a world war..."
—Evan Thomas, author of two *New York Times* best-selling books, including *Road to Surrender*.

BARBARA KENT LAWRENCE

BOTH SIDES OF THE POND

MY FAMILY'S WAR: 1933–1946



PRAISE for *Both Sides of the Pond*:

"Read this book and be shocked, thrilled and moved. From heady and improbable love affairs amidst the falling bombs to the gritty deprivations of daily life, it's all here in a timeless well-told tale."

—Evan Thomas, *New York Times* best-selling author

"What a wonderful book! The description of the humiliating retreat through Dunkirk is the best I have ever read."

—Roy V. Martin, Master Mariner and author of *Ebb and Flow* “

I loved this book and couldn't put it down. History and the complexity of human relationships unfold with uncommon grace."

—Barbara Lazear Ascher, winner of Pushcart Editors Award

I was immersed and riveted by this, a moving and beautiful narrative about a gifted brother and sister navigating the darkness of World War II.

—William Carpenter, award-winning author of *The Wooden Nickel*.



Barbara Kent Lawrence is the author of many articles and nine books, including an award-winning dissertation on the influence of culture on aspirations in Maine. A former professor, she has taught courses in anthropology and sociology, research, and writing non-fiction and memoir. Lawrence grew up in New York City and Washington D.C., then earned a BA in anthropology from Bennington College, an MA in sociology from New York University, and an Ed.D. in Administration, Policy and Planning from Boston University. In addition to teaching, Lawrence has worked for the Department of Social Services and the Housing Development Administration in New York, directed a small museum in Maine, co-run a brokerage and construction company, consulted for The Rural School and Community Trust and for KnowledgeWorks and started four non-profit organizations supporting the environment and students. She lives in Maine and is working on the third book in her *Islands* series.

Photograph by Kayte Churchill, Ledgehill Photography

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MEDIA INQUIRIES and EXCERPT AND IMAGE REQUESTS

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