

**RHIZA PRESS RELEASES *CHOCOLATE SOLDIER*
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Based on a true story of faith, courage and perseverance

Adults, especially those interested in history of World War Two, those with a strong stance on involvement in war versus conscientious objections, would be inspired by this book. There is a faith/beliefs struggle which some may identify with or be inspired.

Clarence Dover is a young man of twenty-two at the outbreak of the Second World War. The idea of taking up arms is abhorrent to him and conflicts with his Christian beliefs. Therefore he takes the stand of a conscientious objector. However, Clarence is not one to avoid his responsibility in a time of trauma for his country and offers himself for ambulance duties in London. He therefore finds himself in the midst of dangerous and frightening situations during the London Blitz. Despite this, he must face the ridicule and disapproval of some for his stance against taking up arms, even some of those closest to him.

Later, Clarence's work takes him to India and to China, where he again faces great danger as well as cultural challenges, and where he must struggle with his health. He learns a great deal about war, about human nature generally and about himself, and although he is constantly reflecting on and questioning his beliefs and the stance he has taken, he always come back to a position where he feels right before God as a conscientious objector to war.

During his years away from his family he keeps in touch by letters with his brothers and the girl he hopes to marry, so he is aware of happenings on the war front in Egypt and Europe as well as England. His hopes to return to England and settle down to family life keep him going, even though there are many experiences and diversions which keep him away longer than he had hoped and test his strength of character and commitment along the way.

'Historical facts taken from diaries of a real person going through the trauma of war make this compelling and very impactful. Interesting historical and cultural information about Britain in war as well as aspects of war from Egypt, India and China. Captures the internal battle of a conscientious objector in war: the prejudice he faced as well as the questioning of his beliefs.' CALEB unpublished Fiction Manuscript Report by Doctor Carol Preston, 12/4/2012

Hazel's debut novel *Chocolate Soldier*, and Book One of her memoirs *Heaven Tempers the Wind*, were released in 2016. Both books are set during World War Two – the former in England and the Far East; the latter in Burma.

For more information, visit her blog on:

<http://hazelmbarcker.wordpress.com/>