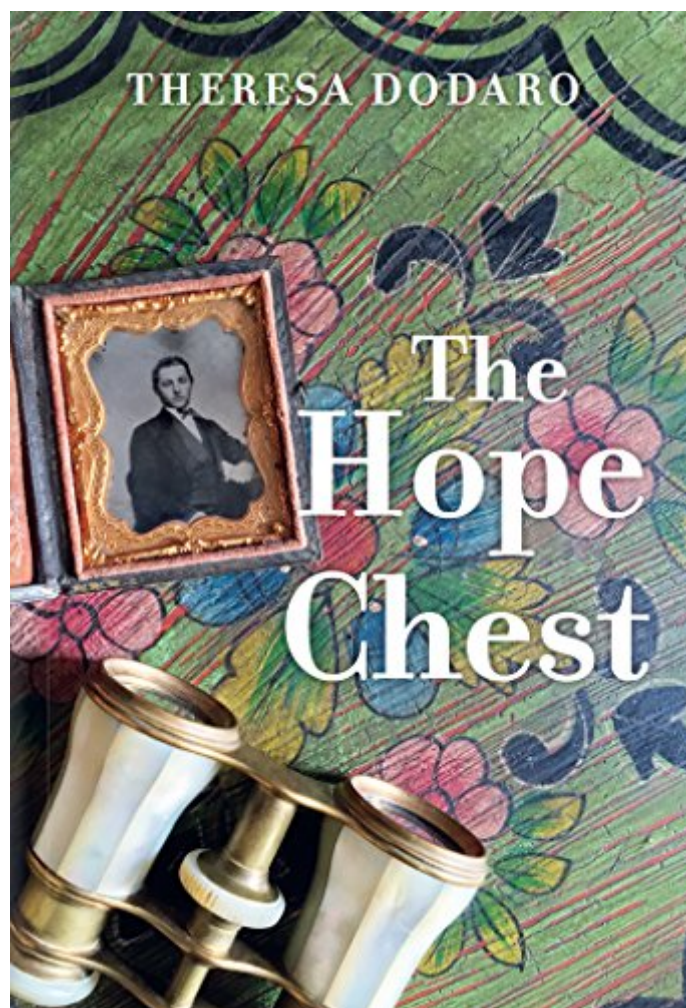


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# The Hope Chest (The Tin Box Trilogy Book 2)



## Synopsis

Tilly smiled softly and took Lottie's smooth hand in her wrinkled one. "Child, sometimes we make plans for our lives. We say, 'I choose this.' But forces in this world take those choices away from us. Then we've got to look around and see what we got left. You see, there is one choice nobody and nothin' can take away from you. 'What's that, Tilly?' 'You've got the choice to either let what's happened crush you into being nothin' or you can choose to rise above it and survive and thrive in spite of anythin' that life throws at you.' When Julie Ventura, from *The Tin Box Secret*, falls into a coma in 1969, she wakes up in 1863 and into her previous life as Lottie Clark. Lottie learns that in spite of having a loving and supportive family, life can throw some curve balls at you and The Civil War has done just that. During the Siege of Vicksburg, the citizens' lives were changed dramatically through weeks of starvation, disease and death. Somehow, Lottie finds a way to survive in spite of her losses. But as a young woman in 1860s, she does not have the choices that would be available to her in 1960s. From Vicksburg, to New Orleans, to Manhattan and Stone Ridge, New York, *The Hope Chest*, the second book in *The Tin Box Trilogy*, is a heart wrenching story that brings into focus how our choices are affected by the society and times within which we live.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

The second part of Theresa's trilogy "The Hope Chest" takes the reader back to the ending of the first book. Julie falls into a coma and relives her past life as Lottie Clark. We find Lottie in the middle of the Civil War. While I have read about the Civil War for various school projects Theresa's research showed a new part I had not heard of before. I did not realize that the town of Vicksburg survived in caves for the duration of the Vicksburg siege. This time period was stressful, full of death, disease, and starvation. In addition to this many people suffered horrific accidents if they dared to venture outside their cave. While Lottie is sick with a fever the readers learn of her time before the war started. We learn of two boys and how Lottie fell in love with one but was unable to contact him after the war. Theresa ends the novel by neatly tying up several questions I had at the end of "The Tin Box Secret". Theresa's second book is an enjoyable read with lots of action to keep the pages turning.

I think I liked this book better than the first only because I like reading about history. I have read many books on the Civil War but this book taught me a few things I did not know and were very interesting. When I read the last chapter, I was blown away. If I did not know better, I would say this book was written by a seasoned mystery writer! The author did a great job of tying up all the loose ends and the characters. If you have read the first book you must read the second. Now I will have to wait patiently for the third.

Wonderful second half to the trilogy. In this second book, The Hope Chest, we learn about the life of Lottie Clark, a southern from Vicksburg, Mississippi during the Civil War. Not only was the story engrossing, but I found the author's research impressive. I got a fictional story and a history lesson all in one. But the wonderful thing about this book is I couldn't put it down. Another great novel by Theresa Dodaro!

I wondered if this second book of the trilogy could hold my attention as well as the first book did. I was pleasantly surprised. The Hope Chest was just as interesting as The Tin Box Secret. Theresa

Dodaro is a talented writer. I hope she continues to publish books after this trilogy has been completed. Looking forward to the publishing of the third book "Reawakening" this spring. Thank you, Theresa Dodaro!

I finally had the chance to read this book. It was so good I finished it in one and a half days. It was written so well that I felt like I was living what the characters were going through. I did not want this story to end. I can't wait to read the third book.

This was the second book in the Tin Box Trilogy.. I really enjoyed it. Such a beautiful story with great characters. Can't wait to read the 3rd one!

A well done YA novel. An interesting look into a young woman's life during the Civil War, with some good and interesting descriptions of the horrors of war for soldiers and civilians . I'm certainly looking forward to the last book of the series!

I completely enjoyed reading The Hope Chest! The characters were so interesting and I loved their stories. Couldn't stop thinking about them! The Civil War setting was thought provoking. Definitely recommend reading this book because I am glad I did!

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