

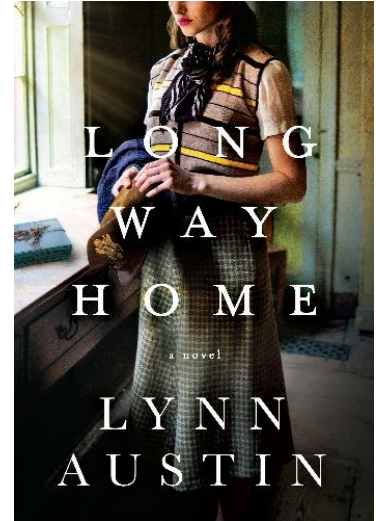


## Media Alert

### ***Long Way Home***

**In this gripping portrait of war and its aftermath from bestselling author Lynn Austin, a young woman searches for the truth her childhood friend won't discuss after returning from World War II, revealing a story of courage, friendship, and faith.**

Peggy Serrano couldn't wait for her best friend to come home from the war. But the Jimmy Barnett who returns is much different from the Jimmy who left, changed so drastically by his experience as a medic in Europe that he can barely function. When he attempts the unthinkable, his parents check him into the VA hospital. Peggy determines to help the Barnetts unravel what might have happened to send their son over the edge. She starts by contacting Jimmy's war buddies, trying to identify the mysterious woman in the photo they find in Jimmy's belongings.



Seven years earlier, sensing the rising tide against their people, Gisela Wolff and her family flee Germany aboard the passenger ship *St. Louis*, bound for Havana, Cuba. Gisela meets Sam Shapiro on board and the two fall quickly in love. But the ship is denied safe harbor and sent back to Europe. Thus begins Gisela's perilous journey of exile and survival, made possible only by the kindness and courage of a series of strangers she meets along the way, including one man who will change the course of her life.

***Long Way Home* is available for review, and bestselling author Lynn Austin is available for interviews to discuss:**

- The damaging, destructive power of prejudice and bullying.
- The road to healing and restoration for hurting people through God's love.
- The responsibility of God's people to intervene and act against hatred in any form.
- The idea that family isn't limited to blood relatives.
- The plight of refugees.
- The difficulty of soldiers returning from war and the toll that military service takes on their mental health; responding well to PTSD.
- Holding on to our faith and trusting God's will when He seems very far away, our prayers go unanswered, and evil appears to be winning.
- How we can obey Jesus' command to love one another—and walk in that love—when we're facing unthinkable circumstances.



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## About the Author



**Lynn Austin** has sold more than one and a half million copies of her books worldwide. A former teacher who now writes and speaks full-time, she has won eight Christy Awards for her historical fiction and was one of the first inductees into the Christy Award Hall of Fame. One of her novels, *Hidden Places*, was made into a Hallmark Channel Original Movie. Lynn and her husband have three grown children and make their home in western Michigan. Visit her online at [lynnaustin.org](http://lynnaustin.org).

## Interview Questions

- Have you always loved books and reading?
- What was it about your formative years that informed your love for books and reading?
- How did you become a writer?
- What made you want to write historical fiction? What is it about that genre that you enjoy?
- What motivated you to write a story about a soldier returning from WWII and the challenges he faces?
- Please tell us a bit about the setting of your novel.
- Please tell us about your main characters in *Long Way Home* and what specific challenges each one of them faces.
- Who was your favorite character to write and why?
- As your story developed, did any characters surprise you, or did the storyline unfold in surprising ways?
- What lessons can be learned from your main characters?
- How much research did you do on the WWII time period and the specific challenges faced by soldiers returning home?
- How do you hope this story resonates with your readers?

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