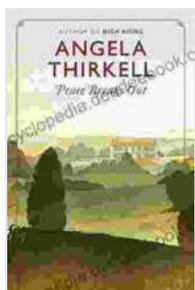


# Peace Breaks Out: Virago Modern Classics 374 - A Journey of Resilience and the Power of Memory

In the annals of literature, memoirs hold a unique place, offering intimate glimpses into the lives of individuals and the profound impact of their experiences. Angela Bourke's "Peace Breaks Out," published as part of the esteemed Virago Modern Classics series, is one such memoir that captivates readers with its poignant and deeply moving narrative.



## Peace Breaks Out (Virago Modern Classics Book 374)

by Angela Thirkell

★★★★☆ 4.3 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 1314 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 368 pages



## A Family's Odyssey through War and its Aftermath

At the heart of "Peace Breaks Out" lies the author's own family history, a tapestry interwoven with the tumultuous events of World War II. Bourke's grandfather, a British officer, found himself stationed in Ireland during the conflict and fell in love with a local woman. Their forbidden romance blossomed into a marriage, but the end of the war brought with it its own

set of challenges. The couple faced prejudice and ostracism, their love tested by the weight of societal expectations.

Bourke's parents inherited the scars of war, carrying with them the unspoken traumas and unspoken sorrows that haunted their lives. The author, born long after the conflict had subsided, embarked on a quest to piece together her family's fragmented past. Through meticulous research and poignant interviews, she unravels the hidden threads that bound her family's destiny to the broader sweep of history.

### **The Enduring Legacy of Trauma**

"Peace Breaks Out" is not merely a chronicle of family history; it is also a profound exploration of the enduring legacy of trauma. Bourke delves into the psychological and emotional toll that war takes on individuals and their families. She examines the ways in which trauma can reverberate across generations, shaping lives and relationships in subtle yet profound ways.

Bourke's writing is deeply personal and evocative, yet it also speaks to the universal human experience. Her insights into the nature of memory and the power of storytelling resonate with readers who have grappled with their own losses and the complexities of family relationships.

### **Memory and the Search for Truth**

One of the most compelling aspects of "Peace Breaks Out" is Bourke's exploration of memory and the search for truth. As she pieces together her family's past, she encounters conflicting accounts, fragmented memories, and the inevitable gaps in the historical record. Through her own journey, she grapples with the challenges of reconciling different perspectives and uncovering the hidden truths that lie beneath the surface.

Bourke's memoir is a powerful testament to the resilience of the human spirit. It celebrates the power of memory and the importance of preserving our stories, no matter how painful they may be. In the face of adversity, Bourke's family found ways to heal and move forward, carrying with them the lessons learned from a turbulent and transformative era.

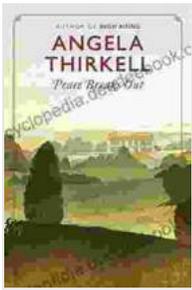
### **A Literary Masterpiece of Irish History**

Beyond its personal narrative, "Peace Breaks Out" also holds significant literary and historical value. It is a poignant and insightful contribution to Irish literature, shedding light on a period of Irish history that is often overlooked. Bourke's evocative prose and meticulous research bring the past to life, giving readers a tangible sense of the complexities of wartime and its aftermath.

As part of the prestigious Virago Modern Classics series, "Peace Breaks Out" joins a canon of groundbreaking works by women writers. Its inclusion in this esteemed collection is a testament to its literary excellence and the enduring importance of Bourke's voice.

### **A Timeless and Profoundly Moving Memoir**

, "Peace Breaks Out" is a timeless and profoundly moving memoir that explores the complexities of family history, the enduring legacy of war, and the power of memory. Angela Bourke's poignant and deeply personal narrative resonates with readers on a universal level, offering insights into the challenges and resilience of the human spirit. Whether you are a history buff, a lover of literature, or simply someone seeking a deeply human story, "Peace Breaks Out" is a must-read that will stay with you long after you finish its final page.

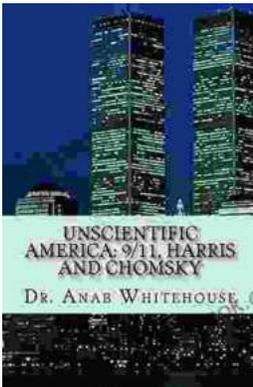


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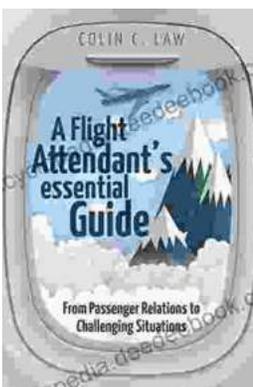
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