



## A THREAD SO FINE

Faodail Publishing

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**Key words:** Historical Fiction Novel, Women's Upmarket, Book Club, Polite Women's Fiction, Sisters Fiction, Adoption

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**A THREAD SO FINE**, a novel by Susan Welch:

*"Addictive.... An engaging and poignant historical fiction."* **Kirkus Reviews**

*"A Thread So Fine lassos the heart.... (An) engrossing saga of change and survival."* **Midwest Book Review**

Set decades before women's 'awakening', the #MeToo Movement and even modern medicine, the bond between two sisters is broken by devastating events as they begin their journey to womanhood.

A THREAD SO FINE will be of special interest to readers seeking complex female characters in historically accurate settings. It explores themes around multi-generational family dynamics, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), sisterhood, pre-antibiotic tuberculosis, and the turbulent nature of cultural and religious evolution, in particular as it related to women of the time. More than anything, it is a celebration of each woman's unique journey through personal challenges and growth, and of the wondrous nature of family bonds.

Susan Welch's independently published debut novel follows the lives of two sisters, Shannon and Eliza Malone from the summer days after their high school graduation and their brother's return from WWII. Spanning the years 1946-1966, the story is primarily set in St. Paul, Minnesota and Ithaca, New York. Mrs. Frances Perkins, Franklin Roosevelt's Secretary of Labor, is a pivotal secondary character.

*"...In skillful, straightforward prose, Welch sets her character-driven narrative against the backdrop of postwar societal changes."* **Kirkus Reviews**

### Can love for a secret child heal old wounds?

Introspective and artistic Shannon Malone and her more popular sister Eliza are Irish twins and best friends. In the summer of 1946 as womanhood approaches, both look forward to promising--though different--futures. But when tragedy strikes and rocks the Irish-Catholic Malone family to its core, one sister leaves, possibly forever. Physically and emotionally scarred, the other vows to find and follow the invisible thread that runs between them, intent upon bringing her sister home. In the course of her journey, she discovers a secret child and the true meaning of family, but is it enough to bring her sister home?

The story contains a good dose of romance, and a whole lot of twists and turns, taking readers from the mid-century campuses of the College of St. Thomas and the College of St. Catherine's in Minnesota to Cornell University in New York, and to Boston and New York City as well. A great 2019 Book Club - Summer Read.

Welch is a Minnesota native, living and writing in Washington since 1997. Nearly a decade ago, in the early days after discovering her own adoption story, she relied on her imagination to trick her reeling mind so she could get a good night's sleep. The story of the Malone sisters was born of those creative threads weaving into nocturnal dreams. While A THREAD SO FINE is fictional, Welch created Shannon and Eliza, Nell and Miriam to better understand how her Midwestern birth mother and adoptive mother might have overcome challenges as young Catholic women in an optimistic but socially restrictive post-World War II culture. Welch is also a founding editor of Hot Flash Fiction, an on-line literary magazine dedicated to creative writing of, by for women 'of a certain age.'



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