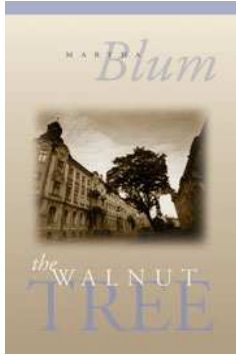


## 7. Fiction – Novel

### **THE WALNUT TREE by Martha Blum**



The fascinating, compelling, and beautiful novel of a Jewish girl who grows up in Ukraine, endures the horrors of World War II, and ultimately escapes to begin a new life in Canada.

Sussel is a well-to-do young woman in Chernowitz, known as "little Vienna." She studies languages and pharmacy in several universities in Europe and is looking forward to a full and privileged life. But World War II completely overturns everyone's lives, as first the Russians and then the Germans overtake Chernowitz, rounding up all Jews for work camps and even execution. Sussel must resort to using her pharmaceutical skills, and her charms, to save her own life and those of her father and her childhood suitor, Max.

*The Walnut Tree* sets the devastating power of historical events against the personal forces of reconciliation and enduring love. This powerful, disturbing and transcendent story is written with captivating detail and sensuous, often poetic, writing. The novel deals with vital social, political, and ethical issues, and finally – and most importantly – with love.

**PRIZES** – WINNER: First Book/City of Saskatoon Book Awards; Saskatchewan Book Awards FINALIST: Fiction Award; Libris Awards; Canadian Booksellers Association

- Coteau Books, 1999
- 336 pages, 14 X 21,5 cm
- CAN 18,95\$ Paperback