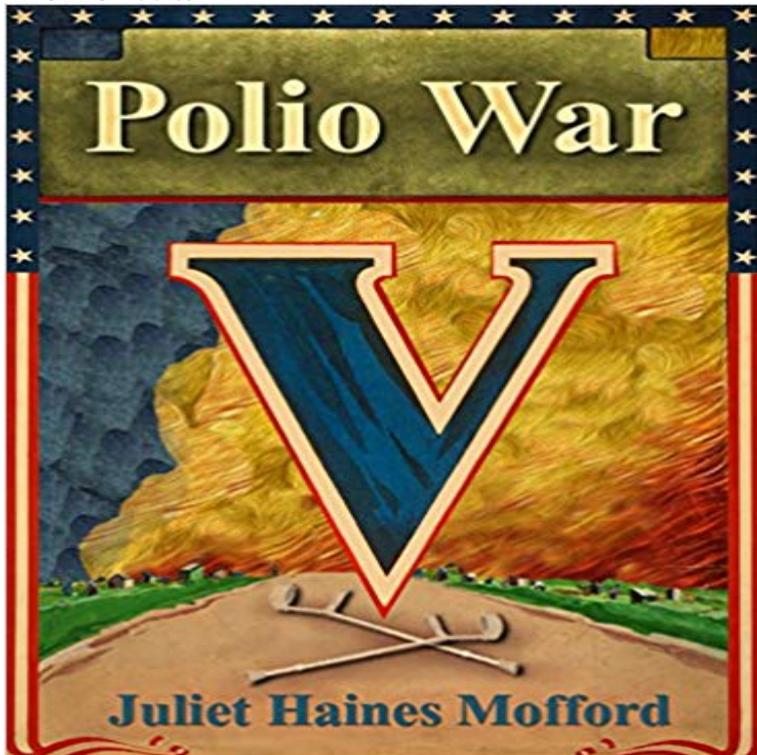


## Polio War



The Second World War is raging overseas when Carey Lindsay, a spunky nine year old, is faced with a war of her own. The story takes place in 1943 on the Home Front, a time when children enthusiastically participated in the War Effort while their parents followed unsettling world events by radio and the fear of polio gripped every American community. How do children living through a period of war arrive at an understanding of it? How does one particular family deal with the loss of a son in battle and a daughter diagnosed with infantile paralysis? How does the woman on the hospital cleaning staff and a no-nonsense physical therapist inspire this girl to walk again? Careys new friends include an African-American boy, a girl trapped in an iron lung, and a refugee from Nazi Germany, as well as other Polios who facing daily challenges. Circumstances require these children to draw upon their weapons of inner strength. President Franklin Delano Roosevelt and his March of Dimes served as constant reminders of Americas polio epidemics and provided courage and inspiration for victims. Songs, action heroes and other nostalgic references to the popular culture of the 1940s vividly bring back this bygone era. Careys story will resonate with young readers and adults who might be experiencing medical challenges, as well as any one whose family has been separated by war. This realistic and poignant story does not shy away from sadness and death. However, it is also filled with the strength and support of family love and the meaningful joys of friendship. Characters reveal admirable courage and resilience that will remain with readers long after the book has ended.

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