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# The Poppy Lady: Moina Belle Michael And Her Tribute To Veterans



## Synopsis

When American soldiers entered World War I, Moina Belle Michael, a schoolteacher from Georgia, knew she had to act. Some of the soldiers were her students and friends. Almost single-handedly, Moina worked to establish the red poppy as the symbol to honor and remember soldiers. And she devoted the rest of her life to making sure the symbol would last forever. Thanks to her hard work, that symbol remains strong today. Author Barbara Elizabeth Walsh and artist Layne Johnson worked with experts, primary documents, and Moina's great-nieces to better understand Moina's determination to honor the war veterans. A portion of the book's proceeds will support the National Military Family Association's Operation Purple<sup>®</sup>, which benefits children of the U.S. military.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 850L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 40 pages

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Product Dimensions: 0.5 x 9 x 10.5 inches

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Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (34 customer reviews)

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Non-religious

Age Range: 7 - 10 years

Grade Level: 2 - 4

## Customer Reviews

Constantly raises the question, "what more can we do for our veterans?" Moving and inspiring, a great way to introduce children to the complex subject of war, and to the immense debt we owe to those who have fought and sacrificed for us. Also, challenges us to think what we, as individuals of limited means, can do to make a difference.

I have always been a supporter of the VFW auxiliary poppy program because my mother was in the

organization and help promote the project. I started looking into the program and found out the history and then read about the creator and started searching for books and lo and behold on I ran onto this book and checked with the local library and checked it out. It was so interesting to me and the book is so well done that I ordered a copy and is now is one of my most favorite books. As a result I have decided to work to get a display at the library of the poppy and feature the book. I recommend it highly because the poppy program needs to grow bigger and help our veterans.

While this book may not be one that your child requests--or even selects on his or her own--it is really a wonderful addition to the family or school library and one that you should introduce. Written for elementary aged children, *The Poppy Lady* is one that begs to be read aloud and learned from. I think it makes a great conversation starter into community service projects and, of course, Veteran's Day--and even women's history topics. *The Poppy Lady* is well written and beautifully illustrated. I would recommend this book especially to homeschooling parents--or for parents seeking to donate books to classroom or school libraries. I received a complimentary copy of this book--and was not asked to post an review. I just felt that my family's review of the the book should be shared with others.

Moina Belle Michael's story as told by very gifted author Barbara Elizabeth Walsh is an important part of our shared heritage. Against all odds and in a day when women had few rights and opportunities Moina almost singlehandedly launched a national campaign to establish the red poppy as the symbol of sacrifice and courage of America's soldiers. Sacrificing her own personal life, Moina, helped individual soldiers in many ways and often was their only friend. The courage and strength of character that Moina displayed will inspire both children and adults. Moina, refused to give up her cause and when she had small victories always asked herself "What can I do now?" Especially in these difficult times this important, inspirational and beautifully illustrated book should be in the children's section of every library and read as part of third and fourth grade curriculum in many schools. In character with Moina, author Barbara E. Walsh will generously be donating any "profits" the book generates to charities that benefit the children of veterans. Let's support the soldiers and buy the book for those we love.

A story not known by many, but instrumental during the war, this story is sure not only to educate, but show children that anything is possible if you try. Start them off on a story of sheer inspiration!

Teaches some University of Georgia (GO DAWGS!!!) and American Legion history that has been mostly forgotten. Illustrations are awesome! A bit too "wordy" as a narrative for 1st/2nd graders. Maybe best suited to 3rd graders.

This review is from: *The Poppy Lady: Moina Belle Michael and Her Tribute to Veterans* (Hardcover) The book and illustrations are so impactful. I loved the book. I have just completed reading Barbara Walsh's newest writing - *The Poppy Lady*. This inspiring story of a woman - Moina Belle Michael - embodies the expression "What would you do if you knew you could not fail". Moina refuses to give up doing all she can do for the soldiers in the Great War. Sensitive to the emotional needs of the men, at just 49 years old and living on a meager teacher's salary, Moina not only brightens the room but touches the souls of the young men who defended our country. But this was not enough for Moina. This inspiring story of Moina, the powerful images supporting the story and the woman who honors Moina, Ms. Barbara Walsh, have brought us a gift to lift our spirits. I got chills reading this book. *The Poppy Lady* is, perhaps best described, as an historical magical nugget beautifully wrapped by Barbara Walsh. Kudos and thank you for this gem. It's a must read for young and old.

Would highly recommend the book; says it is a children's book, but adults could learn a lot from it as well. Very interesting, educational and quite enjoyable to read. Highly recommend for all ages.

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