

## Nobody's Children

### Author's Note

This is the story of lives saved and hearts broken. It is the story of survival and sacrifice. It is also a tale of love and betrayal. It is a family saga/memoir that starts in 1930. It is an old story, ever new. It is my story. The files of social workers are replete with the bare bones of events such as these. My book includes some of those old records. As Bari I have filled in the blanks as I lived them. They were not easy to write. Many times I cried as I dealt with old memories.

Birth control has changed the face of the problem and times have changed. On the surface things that were once considered immoral are accepted, but the problem itself continues. Voices are still raised about what to do with children when parents have problems, and what to do about children who are lost to foster care. Today the talk is of what to do about children who age out of the system as I did needing as much help as when they were small.

The orphan trains stopped running in 1929. Hollywood relieved Depression era problems on the subject with films starring Shirley Temple. "Room for One More" with Cary Grant depicted the need for foster families. "Blossoms in the Dust" starring Greer Garson dealt with the social stigma faced by both the parents and the children. Having immigrant parents in the mix added more problems. Someone near and dear to me, and maybe a bit prejudiced, says if you liked *Anne of Green Gables* you will like Bari. While I like the comparison and see the similarities in a tale of tragedy and triumph, mine is a much grittier tale even though I saw the rainbow and stopped to smell the flowers along the way.

Keep the tissues handy.