

Hot Pies On The Tram by Sheila Newberry

The story is set in London in 1925. Following WWI, families have to learn to cope with less money and jobs are hard to come by.

Florence owns a pie shop on Paradise Corner, just past the tram stop. The daily baking of the pies by Florence has helped to keep her family and neighbouring families fed during the war and since, and is now her main source of income.

Florence is the matriarch of her family and has an open house for anybody that needs a shoulder to cry on. She lives with her sister Rose Marie and six year old niece Josefina, whose mother Stella (Florence's other sister), lives abroad with her husband. With the household to manage, along with the running of the pie shop, it leaves little time for Florence to concentrate on herself.

Our readers felt that the relationships all tied in nicely together, perhaps a little too conveniently in the case of Russ's mother and Elmo, but it made for an overall good love story.

The sudden ending was slightly irritating but generally our members thought it was an easy and relaxing read. It also gave an insight into the fashions and the daily routine of life after WW1.