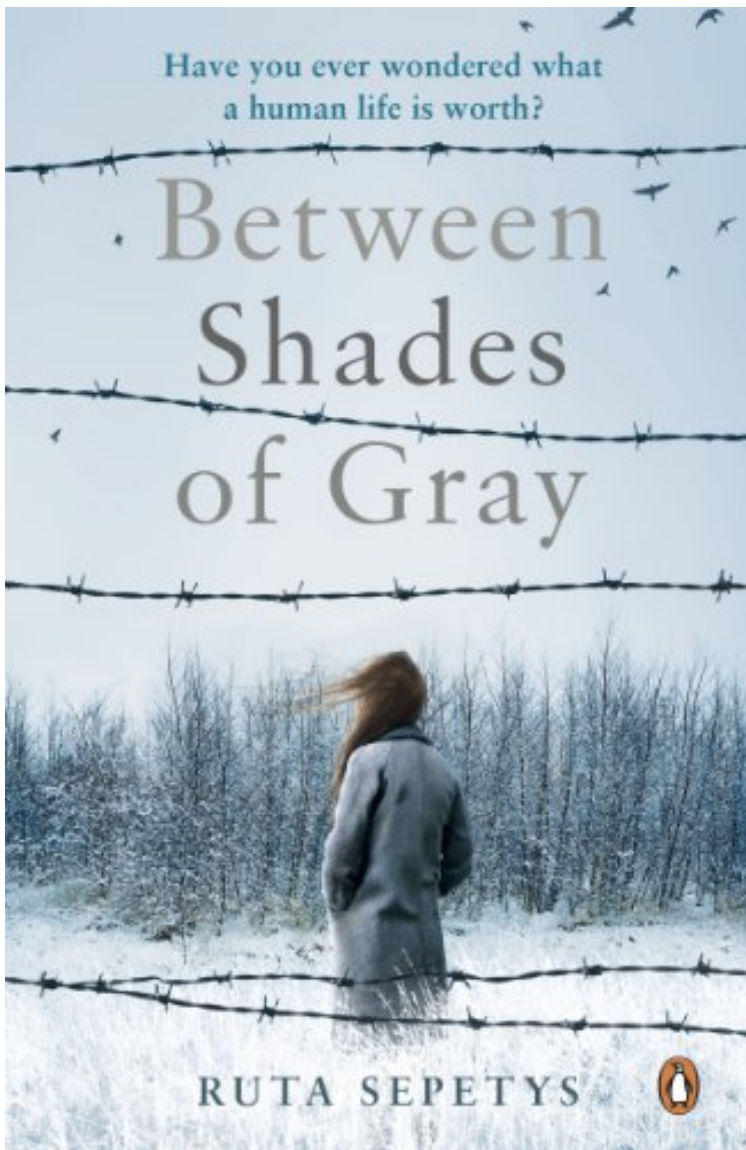


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Between Shades Of Gray



Par Ruta Sepetys
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Description :

Prsentation de l'diteurOne night fifteen-year-old Lina, her mother and young brother are hauled from their home by Soviet guards, thrown into cattle cars and sent away. They are being deported to Siberia. An unimaginable and harrowing journey has begun. Lina doesn't know if she'll ever see her father or her friends again. But she refuses to give up hope.Lina hopes for her family.For her country.For her future.For love - first love, with the boy she barely knows but knows she does not want to lose . . .Will hope keep Lina alive?Set in 1941, *Between Shades of Gray* is an extraordinary and haunting story based on first-hand family accounts and memories from survivors.ExtraitChapter 1:They took me in my nightgown.Thinking back, the signs were therefamily photos burned in the fireplace, Mother sewing her best silver and jewelry into the

lining of her coat late at night, and Papa not returning from work. My younger brother, Jonas, was asking questions. I asked questions, too, but perhaps I refused to acknowledge the signs. Only later did I realize that Mother and Father intended we escape. We did not escape. We were taken. June 14, 1941. I had changed into my nightgown and settled in at my desk to write my cousin Joana a letter. I opened a new ivory writing tablet and a case of pens and pencils, a gift from my aunt for my fifteenth birthday. The evening breeze floated through the open window over my desk, waltzing the curtain from side to side. I could smell the lily of the valley that Mother and I had planted two years ago. Dear Joana. It wasn't a knocking. It was an urgent booming that made me jump in my chair. Fists pounded on our front door. No one stirred inside the house. I left my desk and peered out into the hallway. My mother stood flat against the wall facing our framed map of Lithuania, her eyes closed and her face pulled with an anxiety I had never seen. She was praying. Mother, said Jonas, only one of his eyes visible through the crack in his door, are you going to open it? It sounds as if they might break it down. Mother's head turned to see both Jonas and me peering out of our rooms. She attempted a forced smile. Yes, darling. I will open the door. I won't let anyone break down our door. The heels of her shoes echoed down the wooden floor of the hallway and her long, thin skirt swayed about her ankles. Mother was elegant and beautiful, stunning in fact, with an unusually wide smile that lit up everything around her. I was fortunate to have Mother's honey-colored hair and her bright blue eyes. Jonas had her smile. Loud voices thundered from the foyer. NKVD! whispered Jonas, growing pale. Tadas said they took his neighbors away in a truck. They're arresting people. No. Not here, I replied. The Soviet secret police had no business at our house. I walked down the hallway to listen and peeked around the corner. Jonas was right. Three NKVD officers had Mother encircled. They wore blue hats with a red border and a gold star above the brim. A tall officer had our passports in his hand. We need more time. We'll be ready in the morning, Mother said. Twenty minutes or you won't live to see morning, said the officer. Please, lower your voice. I have children, whispered Mother. Twenty minutes, the officer barked. He threw his burning cigarette onto our clean living room floor and ground it into the wood with his boot. We were about to become cigarettes. *Revue de presse* Praise for *Between Shades of Gray*: A superlative first novel. A hefty emotional punch.--The New York Times Book Review Few books are beautifully written, fewer still are important; this novel is both.--The Washington Post "Beautiful a superb though grueling novel.--The Wall Street Journal An eye-opening reimagining of a very real tragedy written with grace and heart.--Los Angeles Times An engrossing and poignant story of the fortitude of the human spirit in a dark time in Lithuanian history.--Associated Press Brave Lina is a heroine young and old readers can believe in.--Entertainment Weekly Please read this small window into a tragedy.--NPR Beautifully written and researched, it captures the devastation of war while celebrating the will to survive.--Family Circle* A harrowing page-turner.--Publishers Weekly, starred review* A gripping story.--School Library Journal, starred review* Bitterly sad, fluidly written Sepetys' flowing prose gently carries readers.--Kirkus, starred review* "Beautifully written and deeply felt an important book that deserves the widest possible readership.--Booklist, starred review A haunting chronicle, demonstrating that even in the heart of darkness love is the most powerful army.--The Horn Book Magazine Stalin deported and murdered millions, but he could not destroy the seeds of memory, compassion, and art that they left behind. From those seeds, Ruta Sepetys has crafted a brilliant story of love and survival that will keep their memory alive for generations to come.--Laurie Halse Anderson, bestselling author of *Speak* and *Wintergirls* In terrifying detail, Ruta Sepetys re-creates World War II coming of age all too timely today. *Between Shades of Gray* is a document long overdue.--Richard Peck, Newbery Award-winning author of *A Year Down Yonder* *Between Shades of Gray* is a story of astonishing force. I feel grateful for a writer like Ruta Sepetys who bravely tells the hard story of what happens to the innocent when world leaders and their minions choose hate and oppression. Beautiful and unforgettable.--Susan Campbell Bartoletti, Newbery Honor-winning author of *Hitler Youth* Sepetys has penned a harrowing and heartbreaking novel. Beautifully written and important.--Harlan Coben, international bestselling author of *Shelter* Ruta Sepetys