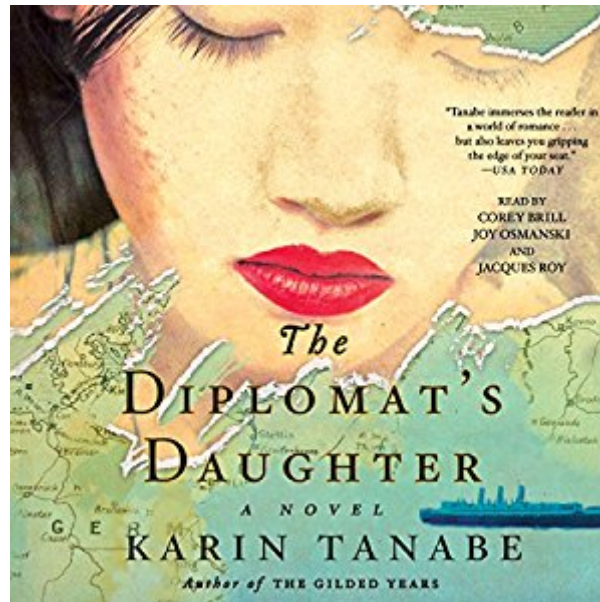




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The Diplomat's Daughter: A Novel



Synopsis

For fans of *All the Light We Cannot See* and *Orphan Train*, the author of the "thought-provoking" (Library Journal) and "must-read" (PopSugar) novel *The Gilded Years* crafts a captivating tale of three young people divided by the horrors of World War II and their journey back to one another. During the turbulent months following the 1941 bombing of Pearl Harbor, 21-year-old Emi Kato, the daughter of a Japanese diplomat, is locked behind barbed wire in a Texas internment camp. She feels hopeless until she meets handsome young Christian Lange, whose German-born parents were wrongfully arrested for un-American activities. Together they live as prisoners with thousands of other German and Japanese families but discover that love can bloom in even the bleakest circumstances. When Emi and her mother are abruptly sent back to Japan, Christian enlists in the United States Army, with his sights set on the Pacific front - and, he hopes, a reunion with Emi, unaware that her first love, Leo Hartmann, the son of wealthy of Austrian parents and now a Jewish refugee in Shanghai, may still have her heart. Fearful of bombings in Tokyo, Emi's parents send her to a remote resort town in the mountains, where many in the foreign community have fled. Cut off from her family, struggling with growing depression and hunger, Emi repeatedly risks her life to help keep her community safe - all while wondering if the two men she loves are still alive. As Christian Lange struggles to adapt to life as a soldier, his unit pushes its way from the South Pacific to Okinawa, where one of the bloodiest battles of World War II awaits them. Meanwhile, in Japanese-occupied Shanghai, as Leo fights to survive the squalor of the Jewish ghetto, a surprise confrontation with a Nazi officer threatens his life. For both men, Emi Kato is never far from their minds. Flung together by war, passion, and extraordinary acts of selflessness, the paths of these three remarkable young people will collide as the fighting on the Pacific front crescendos. With her "elegant and extremely gratifying" (USA Today) storytelling, Karin Tanabe paints a stunning portrait of a turning point in history.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I gave this book a 5 star rating because it was an interesting way of presenting a WWII romance story. Not the usual boy meets girl, boy falls in love with girl, then boy goes to war. Instead it is girl meets boy, boy must flee for his life. Girl meet new boy, girl must leave new boy. New boy goes to war in hopes of finding girl. This story not only tells about the German treatment of Jews, but of how the Japanese treated the Chinese. Also how Americans treated other Americans, by way of internment camps, and reparation to Japan, Italy and Germany. Also, Ms. Tanabe, did show that the Japanese and Chinese governments try to save as many Jews as the Nazi's would let them by giving them passports and visas to their respective countries.

I bought this book because the subject matter interested me and heard the author interviewed on NPR. While the author did a good job with the historical information the writing was not that good and the characters somewhat flat. The author did not develop the characters to the point where I could understand why they were so attracted to each other. This was an ok read but would not go out of my way to read it.

Each character came alive. The story moved smoothly from one to the next. Beautifully conceived and written. Highly recommend even as it depicts a painful time in our history.

Couldn't put it down! With the plethora of WWII books out there, it's hard to find something truly original. Tanabe manages to tell the story of Emi in a smooth, elegant way, illuminating interesting and untold parts of history. A great read for all seasons!

This book was an interesting perspective of the way lives were affected during WWII

Loved the book

Excellent book!

Great start, then got boring and predictable

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