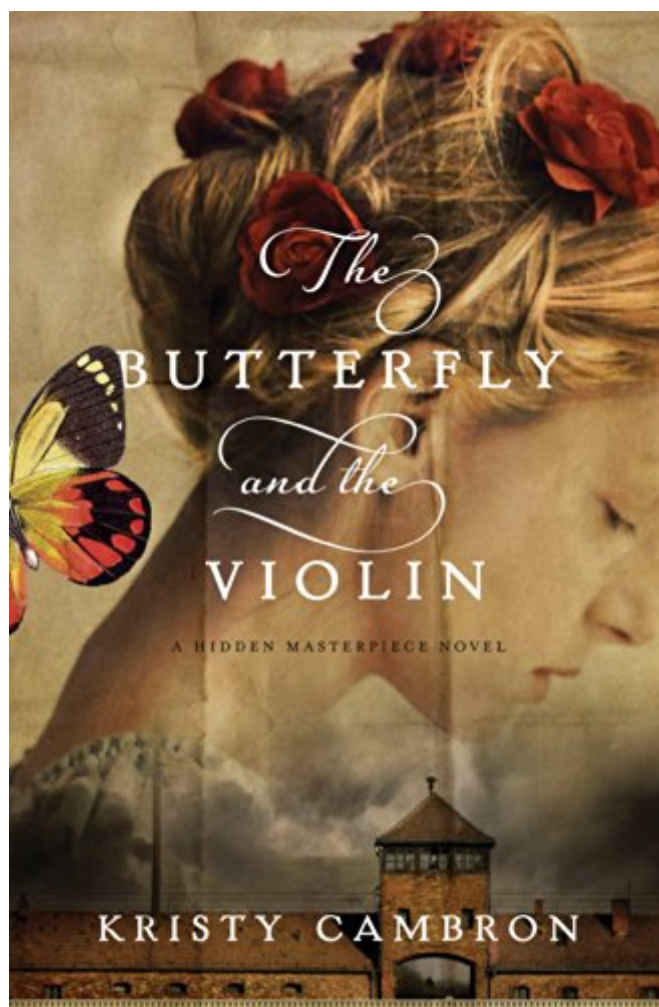


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The Butterfly And The Violin (A Hidden Masterpiece Novel Book 1)



Synopsis

"Fresh. Fascinating. Unforgettable. The Butterfly and the Violin is a masterpiece of a debut." --Laura Frantz, author of Love's Reckoning". . .impossible to put down." --RT Book Reviews, 4 1/2 Stars, TOP PICK! A Mysterious painting breathes hope and beauty into the darkest corners of Auschwitz--and the loneliest hearts of Manhattan. Manhattan art dealer Sera James watched her world crumble at the altar two years ago, and her heart is still fragile. Her desire for distraction reignites a passion for a mysterious portrait she first saw as a young girl--a painting of a young violinist with piercing blue eyes. In her search for the painting, Sera crosses paths with William Hanover--the grandson of a wealthy California real estate mogul--who may be the key to uncovering the hidden masterpiece. Together Sera and William slowly unravel the story behind the painting's subject: Austrian violinist Adele Von Bron. A darling of the Austrian aristocracy of 1942, talented violinist, and daughter to a high-ranking member of the Third Reich, Adele risks everything when she begins smuggling Jews out of Vienna. In a heartbeat, her life of prosperity and privilege dissolves into a world of starvation and barbed wire. As Sera untangles the secrets behind the painting, she finds beauty in the most unlikely of places: the grim camps of Auschwitz and the inner recesses of her own troubled heart. "In her historical series debut, Cambron expertly weaves together multiple plotlines, time lines, and perspectives to produce a poignant tale of the power of love and faith in difficult circumstances. Those interested in stories of survival and the Holocaust, such as Eli Wiesel's *Night*, will want to read." --Library Journal, starred review". . . debut novelist Cambron vividly recounts interwoven sagas of heartache and recovery through courage, love, art, and faith." --Publishers Weekly* Includes Reading Group Guide

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

“These prisoners”the ones who painted or wrote poetry or played in the orchestra”they refused to let the spirit die.” ~Kristy Cambron, *The Butterfly and the Violin*~Kristy Cambron’s debut novel, *The Butterfly and the Violin*, tells the story of two women: Sera James in present day and Adele Von Bron in 1942. Sera is an art dealer who becomes fascinated by a painting she saw once as a girl”of a young female violinist with piercing blue eyes. It’s a painting of haunting beauty, and Sera is compelled to chase it down. As she does, we discover the subject is Adele Von Bron, once a celebrated Austrian violinist, who ends up imprisoned in a concentration camp for smuggling Jews out of Vienna. Surprisingly, the painting was not commissioned when Adele was rich and famous. Instead, the canvas captures Adele the prisoner, who found a way to honor God with her music even in Auschwitz, an Adele matured & refined by suffering. We learn that this particular masterpiece so captivates Sera because it speaks of hope in the worst of circumstances”and that’s what I love about this story. For Adele’s story is one of hope and joy amidst heartbreak and loss. Adele’s legacy is powerful enough to help Sera break free of her own selfish bubble of personal pain and reach out for life and love. *The Butterfly and the Violin* reminds us that even when men try to remake the world in their own image, they can never erase God’s image in us. And all that is true, noble, right, pure, lovely, admirable, excellent & worthy of praise cannot be silenced for long. What I liked best . . .

4.5 stars *The Butterfly and the Violin* by Kristy Cambron (Thomas Nelson, 2014) beautifully and powerfully covers deep emotions felt among possible prisoners of WWII and blends it with identifiable relationship and faith struggles in common day. The author writes this book from Adele’s point of view in the early 1940s and from Sera’s point of view in current day Manhattan. The author offers a strong, distinguished voice in each period allowing the reader to easily tell which time period is being read, as well as glimpses into that particular culture. Sera’s

story is almost as much as about Adele's story, but I enjoyed the way the author shows Sera learning from history to grow in her current life. I felt the first two chapters are a bit obvious in telling backstory, but future chapters revealed smaller bits of backstory slower and in intriguing ways. I was also somewhat surprised at Adele's boldness in a conversation with her mother in an early chapter. It seemed uncharacteristic considering the dangers Adele and Vladimir had just discussed and the stifling society presented to that point. Even with these small issues in the early chapters, the actions and emotions portrayed are so powerful and interesting, the reader won't want to put this book down. This book also asks reasonable questions about faith within unreasonable circumstances. The supporting characters, particularly Penny, Omara, and William, are strong and defined. They greatly add to the story in events, intrigue, and relatability. This book tackles heart-penetrating themes, including living beyond our past mistakes, believing in God even when we only see evil surrounding us, and opening our eyes to God's presence and beauty everywhere.

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