



## Between Shades of Gray

*Ruta Sepetys*

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# Between Shades of Gray

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**Between Shades of Gray** Ruta Sepetys

**“Few books are beautifully written, fewer still are important; this novel is both.” --*The Washington Post***

Lina is just like any other fifteen-year-old Lithuanian girl in 1941. She paints, she draws, she gets crushed on boys. Until one night when Soviet officers barge into her home, tearing her family from the comfortable life they've known. Separated from her father, forced onto a crowded and dirty train car, Lina, her mother, and her young brother slowly make their way north, crossing the Arctic Circle, to a work camp in the coldest reaches of Siberia. Here they are forced, under Stalin's orders, to dig for beets and fight for their lives under the cruelest of conditions.

Lina finds solace in her art, meticulously-and at great risk-documenting events by drawing, hoping these messages will make their way to her father's prison camp to let him know they are still alive. It is a long and harrowing journey, spanning years and covering 6,500 miles, but it is through incredible strength, love, and hope that Lina ultimately survives. *Between Shades of Gray* is a novel that will steal your breath and capture your heart.

## **Praise for BETWEEN SHADES OF GRAY:**

“A superlative first novel. A hefty emotional punch.”--*The New York Times Book Review*

“A brilliant story of love and survival.”--Laurie Halse Anderson, bestselling author of *Speak* and *Wintergirls*

\* “Beautifully written and deeply felt...an important book that deserves the widest possible readership.”--*Booklist*, Starred Review

A *New York Times* Bestseller

An International Bestseller

A *New York Times* Notable Book of 2011

A *Wall Street Journal* Best Children's Book of 2011

A *Publishers Weekly* Best Book of 2011

The iTunes 2011 Rewind Best Teen Novel

The #1 Book on the Spring 2011 IndieNext List

A *School Library Journal* Best Book of 2011

A *Booklist* Best Book of 2011

A *Kirkus* Best Book of 2011

2012 IRA Children's and Young Adults Book Award for Young Adult Fiction

2012 Indies Choice Young Adult Book of the Year

A Carnegie Medal Finalist

A William C. Morris Finalist

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### **From reader reviews:**

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