



The Plum Tree

By Ellen Marie Wiseman

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A deeply moving and masterfully written story of human resilience and enduring love, *The Plum Tree* follows a young German woman through the chaos of World War II and its aftermath. "Bloom where you're planted," is the advice Christine Bölz receives from her beloved Oma. But seventeen-year-old domestic Christine knows there is a whole world waiting beyond her small German village. It's a world she's begun to glimpse through music, books--and through Isaac Bauerman, the cultured son of the wealthy Jewish family she works for. Yet the future she and Isaac dream of sharing faces greater challenges than their difference in stations. In the fall of 1938, Germany is changing rapidly under Hitler's regime. Anti-Jewish posters are everywhere, dissenting talk is silenced, and a new law forbids Christine from returning to her job--and from having any relationship with Isaac. In the months and years that follow, Christine will confront the Gestapo's wrath and the horrors of Dachau, desperate to be with the man she loves, to survive--and finally, to speak out.

Set against the backdrop of the German homefront, this is an unforgettable novel of courage and resolve, of the inhumanity of war, and the heartbreak and hope left in its wake.

Advance Praise For Ellen Marie Wiseman's

The Plum Tree

"*The Plum Tree* is a touching story of heroism and loss, a testament to the strength of the human spirit and the power of love to transcend the most unthinkable circumstances. Deft storytelling and rich characters make this a highly memorable read and a worthy addition to the narratives of the Holocaust and Second World War." --**Pam Jenoff, author of *The Ambassador's Daughter***

"A haunting and beautiful debut novel." --**Anna Jean Mayhew, author of *The Dry Grass of August***

"In *The Plum Tree*, Ellen Marie Wiseman boldly explores the complexities of the Holocaust. This novel is at times painful, but it is also a satisfying love story set against the backdrop of one of the most difficult times in human history." --**T.**

Greenwood, author of *Two Rivers*

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The Plum Tree By Ellen Marie Wiseman Bibliography

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Editorial Review

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In the calm before the storm, Christine Bölz soaks in an idyllic morning in her small German town, basking in her new relationship with Isaac Bauerman, son of the wealthy Jewish family in whose house she works as a domestic servant. The glow of their new love is quickly tested as Hitler's armies begin to move, and restrictions are placed on interactions between Jews and non-Jews. Spanning the pre- to postwar years, the novel follows Christine and her family as they endure the hardships of war. Persevering through threats from the Gestapo and the horrors of Dachau, Christine keeps her hopes for a future with Isaac alive. Although the major story line is supposed to be the love story between Christine and Isaac, their relationship develops too quickly, and the level of commitment they have for one another seems out of sync. Considerable time and attention are devoted to quotidian activities of country life and to describing setting and scenery. Readers who like slower-paced sentimental novels set during WWII will enjoy this novel. --Eve Gaus

Review

"The Holocaust was a horrendous time in world history, and Wiseman has added a personal touch on this era." ---VOYA

About the Author

Ellen Marie Wiseman's debut novel, THE PLUM TREE, was released by Kensington Publishing on December 25th, 2012 and received much praise for its depiction of WWII through the eyes of an average working-class German family. It was named One of BookBub's Thirteen Books to Read if You Loved ALL THE LIGHT WE CANNOT SEE. Her second novel, WHAT SHE LEFT BEHIND, released in 2013 and was named a Huffington Post Best Books of Summer 2015. Her third novel, COAL RIVER was released in November 2015. A mother and grandmother, Ellen lives on the shores of Lake Ontario with her husband and dogs. Her novels have been published in eleven countries. Find Ellen on Facebook at: [Facebook.com/EllenMarieWisemanAuthor](https://www.facebook.com/EllenMarieWisemanAuthor)

Users Review

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