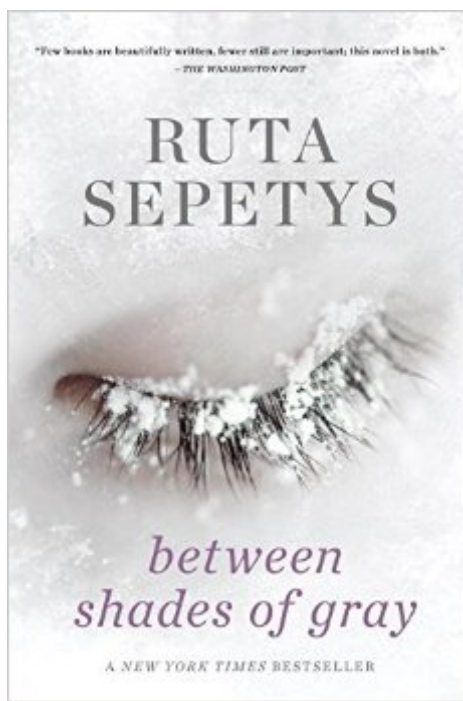


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# Between Shades Of Gray



## Synopsis

"Few books are beautifully written, fewer still are important; this novel is both."--The Washington Post  
From New York Times bestseller Ruta Sepetys, author of *Salt to the Sea* A New York Times notable book  
An International Bestseller  
A Carnegie Medal Nominee  
Fifteen-year-old Lina is a Lithuanian girl living an ordinary life--until Soviet officers invade her home and tear her family apart. Separated from her father and forced onto a crowded train, Lina, her mother, and her young brother make their way to a Siberian work camp, where they are forced to fight for their lives. Lina finds solace in her art, documenting these events by drawing. Risking everything, she imbeds clues in her drawings of their location and secretly passes them along, hoping her drawings will make their way to her father's prison camp. But will strength, love, and hope be enough for Lina and her family to survive? A moving and haunting novel for readers of *The Book Thief*

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: HL490L (What's this?)

Paperback: 384 pages

Publisher: Speak (April 3, 2012)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 014242059X

ISBN-13: 978-0142420591

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 1 x 8.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (1,154 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #4,572 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #3 in [Books > Teens > Historical Fiction > Europe](#) #4 in [Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Prejudice & Racism](#) #4 in [Books > Teens > Historical Fiction > Military](#)

Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 7 and up

## Customer Reviews

Here's the thing. . . even before reading this book, I knew that Stalin was responsible for the murder of some twenty-million people. 20,000,000! How does one even comprehend such a number? I clearly remember thinking in high school, "How? What deaths? Does this have something to do with the Holocaust?" Somehow, after the Victorian period and Russian Revolution, but before WWII, the USSR just appeared. It just happened. I can't make sense of how I did this (and I loved history

class), but I think I somehow just attributed all those deaths to the Holocaust because they seemed to happen at the same time, but I couldn't figure out exactly where they fit in and why. And, of course, there were no stories, no actual, personal memoirs to tell me differently. No versions of Schindler's List or Elie Wiesel's Night existed about the plight of these European nations, ones which we in the United States don't know nearly as much about as we do France, Spain, Germany and Italy. Twenty million was just a statistic to me - a wholly regrettable, but forgettable, number, because there was no narrative. Until now. *Between Shades of Gray* is a beautiful book about human endurance and the will to survive. Lina, her younger brother, Jonas, and her beautiful, courageous, hopeful, and selfless mother, Elena, are one of the most wonderful families that I've read about in so, so long, and it's due to this that they were able to cope as they did. Lina's coming-of-age into young adulthood is wretchedly overshadowed by the need to survive. Her thriving talent becomes her lifeline, her tool that keeps her going because people must know what happened. The descriptions are well-detailed and harrowing.

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