



Girl in the Blue Coat

By Monica Hesse

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An unforgettable story of bravery, grief, and love in impossible times

"*Girl in the Blue Coat* is a powerful, compelling coming-of-age story set against the dark and dangerous backdrop of World War II. It's an important and page-turning look at the choices all of us--including young adults--have to make in wartime. A beautiful combination of heartbreak, loss, young love, and hope."

-Kristin Hannah, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Nightingale*

"A tapestry of guilt and acceptance, growing responsibility, and reluctant heroism, Hanneke's coming-of-age under heartbreakng circumstances is a jarring reminder of how war consumes and transforms the passions of ordinary life. Every devastating moment of this beautiful novel is both poignant and powerful, and every word feels true." **-Elizabeth Wein**, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Code Name Verity*

Amsterdam, 1943. Hanneke spends her days procuring and delivering sought-after black market goods to paying customers, her nights hiding the true nature of her work from her concerned parents, and every waking moment mourning her boyfriend, who was killed on the Dutch front lines when the Germans invaded. She likes to think of her illegal work as a small act of rebellion.

On a routine delivery, a client asks Hanneke for help. Expecting to hear that Mrs. Janssen wants meat or kerosene, Hanneke is shocked by the older woman's frantic plea to find a *person*--a Jewish teenager Mrs. Janssen had been hiding, who has vanished without a trace from a secret room. Hanneke initially wants nothing to do with such dangerous work, but is ultimately drawn into a web of mysteries and stunning revelations that lead her into the heart of the resistance, open her eyes to the horrors of the Nazi war machine, and compel her to take desperate action.

Beautifully written, intricately plotted, and meticulously researched, *Girl in the Blue Coat* is an extraordinary, gripping novel from a bright new voice.

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 9 Up—In Nazi-occupied Holland, Hanneke seems like an ordinary girl working at a funeral parlor to help support her family during wartime. But her Aryan features and charming smile allow her to work as a courier on the black market smuggling cigarettes, meat, and other unavailable items to paying customers. While Hanneke is not a member of the Dutch resistance, her actions are a direct result of the loss of Bas, her boyfriend. Lying about his age, he enlisted and died on the frontlines during the German invasion. When one of her best customers asks for her assistance in finding a Jewish girl she was hiding, Hanneke is stunned. But soon after, she is drawn into the mysterious disappearance of the girl in the blue coat. What she uncovers as she searches for answers leads her on a journey of self-discovery, self-realization, and redemption. Hesse crafts a thought-provoking and gripping historical novel. The themes of love, betrayal, heroism, social responsibility, and atonement are beautifully intertwined with well-developed characters and a compelling story line. Thoroughly researched, this work brings history alive in a clear and concise way that rings true. VERDICT A must-read for fans of historical fiction, especially stories set during World War II.—Donna Rosenblum, Floral Park Memorial High School, NY

Review

A New York Public Library Best Book for Teens of 2016

An Entertainment Weekly Best YA Book of 2016

A Booklist Best Young Adult Book of 2016

An Edgar Award Nominee for Best Young Adult Novel 2017

A Notable Social Studies Trade Books for Young People Selection 2017

A 2017 Indies Choice Awards Finalist for Young Adult Books

A 2017 Bank Street College of Education Best Children's Book of the Year

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?Elizabeth Wein, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Black Dove, White Raven*; *Rose Under Fire*; and the Printz Honor-winning *Code Name Verity*

"In an occupied city, a young woman's daring transforms into true courage when she confronts a mystifying disappearance. From page one, I couldn't turn the pages fast enough. Enthralling."?Judy Blundell, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Strings Attached* and the National Book Award-winning *What I Saw and How I Lied*

"It's no small feat to bring the past to life, especially a history as dark and desperate as World War II. Monica Hesse does just this with Hanneke's story. Brace yourself, dear reader, to have your heart bruised--and possibly even broken--in the most meaningful of ways."?Ryan Graudin, author of *The Walled City* and

Wolf by Wolf

* "[An] affecting novel...that skillfully combines reality with fiction. Her characters come alive, and...Hesse's pacing infuses her story with thriller suspense, enriching the narrative with dramatic surprises both small and large." **Booklist**,

* "Riveting... a gripping historical mystery."

Publishers Weekly

* "This fast-paced story is alternately touching, heart-pounding and wrenching-but always gripping. ...a heartrending, moving story."

VOYA

* "A poignant, wonderfully crafted story of love and loss, courage and redemption."

Shelf Awareness

"[An] intelligent and humane historical mystery." --*The Wall Street Journal*

"The themes of love, betrayal, heroism, social responsibility, and atonement are beautifully intertwined with well-developed characters and a compelling story line. Thoroughly researched, this work brings history alive in a clear and concise way that rings true. A must-read for fans of historical fiction, especially stories set during World War II."

School Library Journal

"Rich in content and emotion, this is a first-rate companion to the historical tales of the onderduikers, the hidden Jews of Holland, and a compelling read"

Kirkus Reviews

"This heartbreakng story of terror and loss sweeps you into a time-is-running-out mystery that delivers plot twists and a shocking final punch that'll haunt you for days."

Justine Magazine

"A moving immersion into life in WWII."

The St. Louis Post-Dispatch

"A remarkable book overflowing with emotion, suspense, and history."

The South Bergenite

About the Author

Monica Hesse is an author and journalist with *The Washington Post*. She lives in Washington, D.C. with her husband and their dog.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Cora Gallien:

The book Girl in the Blue Coat can give more knowledge and information about everything you want. Why then must we leave a good thing like a book Girl in the Blue Coat? Several of you have a different opinion about reserve. But one aim that book can give many facts for us. It is absolutely correct. Right now, try to closer along with your book. Knowledge or data that you take for that, you are able to give for each other; you may share all of these. Book Girl in the Blue Coat has simple shape however, you know: it has great and big function for you. You can search the enormous world by open and read a guide. So it is very wonderful.

Christina Vallejo:

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Brandon Gentry:

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