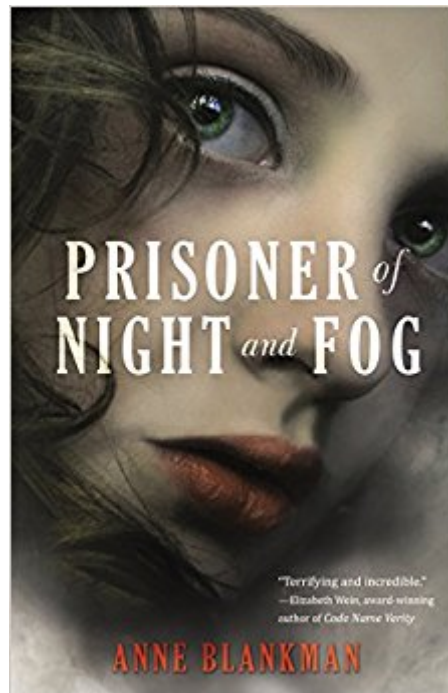




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# Prisoner Of Night And Fog



## Synopsis

A gripping historical thriller set in 1930s Munich, *Prisoner of Night and Fog* is the evocative story of an ordinary girl faced with an extraordinary choice in Hitler's Germany. Fans of *Code Name Verity* will love this novel full of romance, danger, and intrigue! Gretchen Müller grew up in the National Socialist Party under the wing of her uncle Dolf—who has kept her family cherished and protected from that side of society ever since her father sacrificed his life for Dolf's years ago. Dolf is none other than Adolf Hitler. And Gretchen follows his every command. When she meets a fearless and handsome young Jewish reporter named Daniel Cohen, who claims that her father was actually murdered by an unknown comrade, Gretchen doesn't know what to believe. She soon discovers that beyond her sheltered view lies a world full of shadowy secrets and disturbing violence. As Gretchen's investigations lead her to question the motives and loyalties of her dearest friends and her closest family, she must determine her own allegiances—even if her choices could get her and Daniel killed.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Official *Prisoner of Night and Fog* Playlist by Anne Blankman Whenever I write, I have to listen to music. The right song puts me in the mood to write a certain scene, or gets me into a character's head. This playlist is so diverse because this book isn't just a thriller or a romance or historical fiction or a coming-of-age story—it's all of them, so I picked lots of different kinds of songs to accompany certain scenes in my book. I hope these songs affect you as deeply as they affected me. 1. Paramore, "Brick by Boring Brick" I

love the raw emotion in the singer's voice. The song's message about letting go of the fairy-tale castles of childhood mirrors the main character's struggles so perfectly. 2. My Chemical Romance, "Welcome to the Black Parade" If you want to get into the twisted head of my main character's brother, this is the song to listen to! I listened to this song over and over while writing chapter sixteen, and once you've read that part, you'll understand why. 3. Grimes, "Genesis" I admit, I can barely make out what Grimes is saying, but the song's romantic and mysterious feel make me shiver every time I hear it. 4. David Guetta featuring Sia, "Titanium" This is such a great fight song. It's about standing up to your enemies, even while they're trying their hardest to destroy you. 5. Nelly Furtado, "Childhood Dreams" I'm not afraid to confess, I cry when I listen to this song about the surprise and wonder of falling in love . . . and the beautiful realization that leaning on someone doesn't make you weak. 6. Radiohead, "Creep" How could I write a book about Nazis without including "Creep" in my playlist? The verses about wanting to be special and have control remind me of Hitler. . 7. Emeli Sandé, "Next to Me" I adore this song about loving and trusting someone else completely. Listen to this while reading chapter thirty-seven, and you'll understand why I picked it. . 8. Nicki Minaj, "Right Thru Me" To me, this song is about the shock and gratitude we feel when we realize someone loves us, even when we're acting our worst. . 9. The Killers, "Read My Mind" This song captures the aching isolation and loneliness several characters in Prisoner of Night and Fog feel. . 10. Thirty Seconds to Mars, "Kings and Queens" When I listen to this epic song, I think about the bittersweet moments we all experience when we move from childhood to adulthood. . 11. U2, "With or Without You" Best. Love. Song. Ever. Enough said. 12. Florence + the Machine, "Shake It Out" I love the verses about blindness and trying to let go of the past. Listen to this song while reading chapters twenty-one and twenty-two, and you'll get a deeper sense of what the main character is going through. 13. Paramore, "Monster" This bitter, angry song makes me think of how disillusioned and disappointed we feel when our idols fall before our eyes. 14. Nicki Minaj featuring Rihanna, "Fly" There was no way I couldn't include this haunting song about women triumphing over the enemies surrounding them. 15. Coldplay, "Viva la Vida" To me, this song is about a complete reversal of fortune, a constant theme in the Nazis' torturous rise to power. 16. No Doubt, "Running" I can't say why I picked this song or I'll spoil the

ending. Listen to it while reading the last chapter, and you'll understand why I had to include "Running." --This text refers to the Audio CD edition.

Gr 9 Up •Gretchen Muller has been raised with the ideals of the National Socialist Party. Blonde, blue-eyed, and beautiful, she has become a favorite of her Uncle Dolf, who is none other than Adolf Hitler. Her father, who served with Hitler during World War I, gave his life to protect him during the Beer Hall Putsch. Although she is grateful to her Uncle and the Party, she is not blind to their policies and punishments. Living in a dysfunctional family, Gretchen has endured the torments and twisted pranks of her malicious brother while her mother turns a blind eye. As the Nazis are on the verge of gaining power in Germany, the teen is contacted by a Jewish reporter, Daniel Cohen. His investigation into the Party has led him to information about her father's death that will change her life forever. Blankman's debut is beautifully written, full of suspense and intrigue. The well-developed characters drive the novel, while the murder-mystery plot is full of vivid historical details. Gretchen's journey of self-discovery unearths certain truths about her family, Hitler, and the Party and demonstrates that it is sometimes easier to accept a lie than the truth. Her relationship with Daniel, though not the main focus, is genuine and memorable. Readers will certainly enjoy this haunting and captivating work. An author's note provides historical information while setting the stage for a sequel. •Donna Rosenblum, Floral Park Memorial High School, NY --This text refers to the Audio CD edition.

If you liked Code Name Verity--If you liked The Book Thief--If you like well-written historical fiction, particularly of the tumultuous WWII era, I think you should give this a shot. There. That's my endorsement. This is a fantastic book and it does an amazing thing-- just when I think I've had my fill of the WWII period, something like this comes along to prove me wrong and I fall head over heels in love with it. Of all the atrocities committed during the war, this book takes its readers back a few years to before Hitler was Chancellor of Germany, and before the Nazis even held power. Back to when they were a radical group of nearly-rabid followers adoring an unbalanced if charismatic leader. Historical figures like Eva Braun, Geli Raubal (Hitler's niece), Heinrich Hoffmann, Heinrich Himmler and Hitler himself spring to life around our fictitious heroine and her family and lend a sense of credibility to a beautifully-written story. As for the fictional part of the story, Gretchen and Daniel's love story felt very natural -- both of them very cautious and the furthest thing from the insta-love trope. Her mother made me want to scream, and her brother Reinhard actually terrified me more than Hitler did. Ms Blankman's pen is imbued with the feel of poetry, and I couldn't help but fall

in love with her words and the world she created, even when that world was quickly becoming darker and more dangerous by the page. I can't wait to pick up a copy of this for my shelves (and reread it again!) and I'm REALLY looking forward to the sequel :)

If Goodreads allowed more than 5 stars for a review I'd give Anne Blankman's debut novel, *Prisoner of Night and Fog*, a 6. Or maybe a 7. It's that good. Blankman's historical novel has it all: the underpinnings of extensive research, romance, mystery, beautiful language, rich characters, fast-pace and heart-pounding suspense, a terrific title and above all else a great story. Can you tell I loved this book? Set in Munich, Germany in the early 1930's, this fictionalized account of the unlikely romance between Gretchen Muller, Adolf Hitler's pet niece and Daniel Cohen, a handsome Jewish reporter, is a page-turner that will keep you awake at night. Out of nowhere, Daniel interrupts Gretchen's "normal" death was not as a martyr as the Nazis have portrayed it. It was murder. When Gretchen sets out on a dangerous journey to discover the truth, her innocent reverence for Hitler (Uncle Dolf) is ripped away and she begins to see the evil underbelly of his schemes. I don't want to spoil this book for you so I'll just share two favorite passages, from among many. One of Gretchen's antagonists is her brother, Reinhard, who has mistreated her since childhood. When Gretchen discovers that her mother refuses to support her dream to attend a university and study to become a doctor in lieu of supporting Reinhard, she thinks: "...The decision had been made. Reinhard had gotten his way, as he always did; they were forced to circle around him like dying planets, and he the sun whose magnetic pull directed their rotation was the glowing orb that might blaze into uncontrollable brightness at any moment." (p. 79) When Daniel confronts her naivety about not seeing how Hitler planned to exterminate the Jews she remembers, "Uncle Dolf had promised their enemies would vanish into the night and fog. Just as in Goethe's famous poem *Der Erlkonig*, 'The Alder King.'" She had recited the poem to Uncle Dolf as they sat in the parlor together last year, sipping apple-peel tea while the old ladies knitted, and he had smiled, for he loved the tale about the super-natural being who attacked a boy held in his father's arms as they rode on horseback through the night-darkened countryside. 'My son, why do you hide your face so anxiously?' 'Father, do you not see the Alder king? The Alder King with crown and train' 'My son, it's a wisp of fog.'" (pp. 179-80)

I really loved this book and the cover really caught my eye... it looked dark and haunting and when I read the description of the book, I was immediately hooked. And the story definitely didn't disappoint me...I fell in love with the main characters and could feel their pain as they struggled with their forbidden romance. The only reason why I didn't rate it 5 stars is because I did feel that some moments needed a little more of a punch line... the author did an amazing job building up the story... but there were some moments when I felt the story after being built up, fell flat. Saying that though I truly loved this book and I think having the main character be close to Hitler was a great touch! I would definitely recommend this book to my friends... which I actually already have!

Wow! I'm impressed that this is the authors debut novel. The amount of work and research she put into this paid off. The writing is really good as well. If you read the Authors Note at the end you'll see how great of a job she did of weaving fictional characters in with real events and characters. This is definitely an amazing historical fiction read! At the beginning I was very unsure of how I would end up liking it, but by the end I was glad I had decided to read this. The beginning is slightly slower, but interesting enough to want to keep reading. By the end I was racing to find out what happened. Occasionally it would seem like the author was info-dumping, but it didn't happen very often so it's not enough to make me dislike the book. A great aspect was the romance. It wasn't insta love which is a plus! I thought it was very well developed and happened over a believable amount of time. Overall: This is a strong debut with very good writing. I can't wait for the sequel! I strongly recommend if you're a fan of historical fiction.

I LOVED THIS BOOK!!! I couldn't put it down and am so scared to read the next one because I don't want to ruin the ending I have pictured in my head. If you like WWII romance novels, this is a good one; it had a little bit of tension, a little bit of suspense (the OMG I need to find out what happens next even though it's 3 AM kind), and a lot of elements that are exciting as they are nerve-racking. Definitely recommend this book!

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