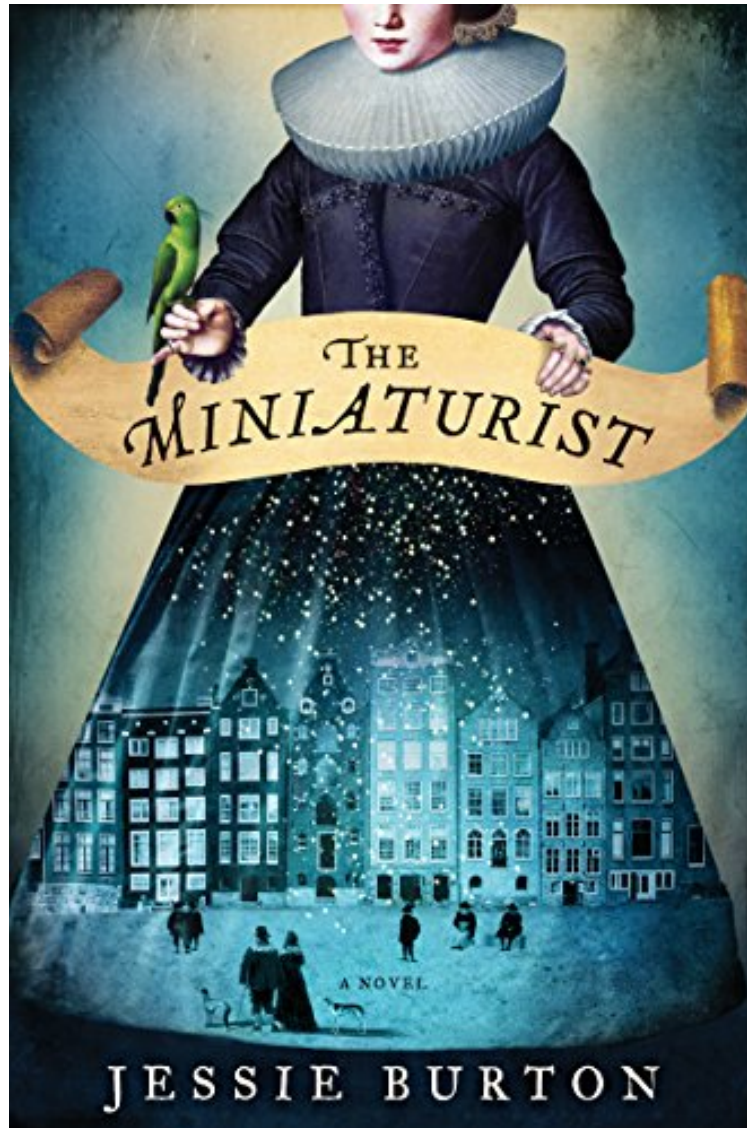


[Free] The Miniaturist: A Novel

The Miniaturist: A Novel

Von Jessie Burton

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Von Jessie Burton : The Miniaturist: A Novel before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Miniaturist: A Novel:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen6 von 7 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A big disappointment: flat, not credible, uninteresting.Von MargaUnfortunately, I cannot agree with the positive reactions to this book. I found it naive and empty, It did not captivate me one second. The characters are flat, without personality. For instance, there are conversations where the 18-year-old main character, Nella, seems to be a naive and shy village

girl one second and a brave and self-confident woman the next. The dialogues are just not credible, which made it impossible for me to get to like the characters. I could not believe other details of the novel, such as the fact about Johannes (CAREFUL: BIG SPOILER!!!!!!!) having sex with another man in his office with the door unlocked in a city and a time when homosexuality was punished with death. I absolutely agree with the two-star comment. It is just not credible. Other details that have annoyed me: were there mops already used in the XVII century to wash the floor? Would a married woman just wander around alone in a city she does not even know? Even the mysterious plot with the miniaturist disappointed me. I kept on reading in order to at least find out whether there was some interesting explanation to the fact that the miniaturist seemed to know everything about Nella's new family. Well, apparently (CAREFUL: BIG SPOILER!!!!) the only explanation is that this woman spied on lots of women in Amsterdam in order to send them little miniatures representing their secrets. Wow. She must have been the greatest spy ever, and future-seer at that. I mean, what about the miniature-dog having suddenly blood on its head after being murdered? And afterwards no blood again? It is science fiction. And what about the fact that her name was also Petronella? Just a coincidence, but what for? I could not understand either why Nella felt such love for Johannes (CAREFUL: SPOILER!!!) after he is arrested. How much time have they spent together since she arrived? They must have had dinner like a couple of times together, that was all. They barely knew each other! Furthermore, he did not even choose her as a wife, he did not want to marry her. And suddenly she is a real treasure? And she loves him, even after discovering the trap they got her into? I just cannot buy this story. It has been a big disappointment for me.

4 von 4 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Leise Spannung, interessante Figuren Von _Buchliebhaber_ Laut der Aufschrift auf dem Cover meiner Taschenbuchausgabe war "The Miniaturist" auf der Bestsellerliste der Sunday Times auf Platz 1. Trotzdem hatte ich im Vorfeld von dem Roman nie etwas gehört, sondern habe ihn nur zufällig entdeckt. Neben dem schönen Einband hat mich das ungewöhnliche Setting - Amsterdam im späten 17. Jahrhundert - angesprochen. In der Artikelbeschreibung ist eine kurze Inhaltsangabe enthalten. Mehr will ich zur Handlung auch nicht verraten, da es viel spannender ist, wenn man sich überraschen lässt. Nur so viel: Die Figuren entwickeln sich etwas anders, als ich das anhand der ersten Kapitel erwartet hätte, und auch die Story nimmt einen (für mich) grotenteils unerwarteten Verlauf. Alles beginnt mit einem Begräbnis, aber man erfährt zunächst nicht, wer gestorben ist und warum. Auch über die Trauernden kann man an diesem Punkt nur spekulieren. Nach diesem düsteren Auftakt dreht die Autorin die Zeit um ein paar Monate zurück, und nach und nach erfährt man die Vorgeschichte. Anfangs war ich nicht so wirklich begeistert. Die Geschichte ist durchgehend im Präsens geschrieben, was ich immer gewöhnungsbedürftig finde. Die Story selbst kommt auch nur recht langsam in Gang, so dass ich etwa das erste Viertel des Buches als etwas zu empfinden habe. Nach einer Weile fällt einem der Schreibstil aber nicht mehr auf, und nach und nach wird auch die Handlung interessanter. Man erfährt allerhand über das Leben in Amsterdam anno 1686, wobei ich mir nicht immer sicher war, wie nah die Beschreibungen an der (historischen) Realität sind. (Manche Details haben auf mich ein bisschen zu modern für das 17. Jahrhundert gewirkt.) Wichtiger als das Umfeld waren für mich aber ohnehin die Figuren, die man allmählich besser kennenlernt. Geheimnisse kommen ans Licht, und wider Erwarten wird die Geschichte mit der Zeit richtig spannend. Dabei bleibt die Erzählweise durchgehend eher ruhig und oft distanziert. Trotzdem will man unbedingt wissen, wie es weitergeht. Zeitweise hat mich das Ganze so gefesselt, dass ich das Buch gar nicht aus der Hand legen wollte. Es hat mich überrascht, wie nahe mir das Schicksal der Hauptfiguren gegangen ist. Das Ende ist dann wieder ein klein wenig enttäuschend, da doch einige Fragen (insbesondere auch in Bezug auf die Titelfigur) offen bleiben. Fazit: Von dem etwas langatmigen Anfang sollte man sich nicht täuschen oder gar dazu verleiten lassen, das Buch wieder beiseite zu legen. Es entwickelt sich zu einer unterschwellig spannenden Geschichte voller Geheimnisse und komplexer Figuren. Trotz des etwas unbefriedigenden Endes insgesamt ein richtig gutes, sehr lesenswertes Buch.

0 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. No serious deep thoughts in that novel. And an improbable story. But the author is able to keep you hooked to the end. Von rrr_hhhI got that book because the action was located in Amsterdam in the 17th century and I had an interest to learn more about this city and its glorious past. On the positive side, the author was able to keep it thrilling until the end. Also, the author spared us a happy end, with two of the main characters dying at the end. And I often liked the description of the city environment. But anything positive ends there. Some say it is well written, but I don't think so. I got tired of these short sentences. There is not much very credible in that story. I didn't like the tone of the dialogue, nor the way the young bride/spouse thinks about what is happening. That's the problem with most historical novels: most of the time, the history is just there as a background and you are never sure how much is trustful history and how much is just invention. Here I have the feeling that the feelings of the main characters are not in line with the period they are living in. It would have been interesting to learn more about the merchants and the guilds, about how they were managing their businesses, but what we get is just caricatural statements, without examples or illustrations. Still I read till the end, because I wanted to know how it would end, that's about it. That book won't remain in my memory.

Kurzbeschreibung Set in seventeenth century Amsterdam a city ruled by glittering wealth and oppressive religious

masterful debut steeped in atmosphere and shimmering with mystery, in the tradition of Emma Donoghue, Sarah Waters, and Sarah Dunant. There is nothing hidden that will not be revealed . . . On a brisk autumn day in 1686, eighteen-year-old Nella Oortman arrives in Amsterdam to begin a new life as the wife of illustrious merchant trader Johannes Brandt. But her new home, while splendid, is not welcoming. Johannes is kind yet distant, always locked in his study or at his warehouse office leaving Nella alone with his sister, the sharp-tongued and forbidding Marin. But Nella's world changes when Johannes presents her with an extraordinary wedding gift: a cabinet-sized replica of their home. To furnish her gift, Nella engages the services of a miniaturist, an elusive and enigmatic artist whose tiny creations mirror their real-life counterparts in eerie and unexpected ways . . . Johannes' gift helps Nella to pierce the closed world of the Brandt household. But as she uncovers its unusual secrets, she begins to understand and fear the escalating dangers that await them all. In this repressively pious society where gold is worshipped second only to God, to be different is a threat to the moral fabric of society, and not even a man as rich as Johannes is safe. Only one person seems to see the fate that awaits them. Is the miniaturist the key to their salvation . . . or the architect of their destruction? Enchanting, beautiful, and exquisitely suspenseful, *The Miniaturist* is a magnificent story of love and obsession, betrayal and retribution, appearance and truth.

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The *Miniaturist* is one of the year's most hyped novels, and it's easy to see why. Burton conjures every scent and crackle of Nella's world. A- (Entertainment Weekly)

The *Miniaturist* is that rarest of things - beautifully written, yet also a compelling page-turner. Its haunting, magical, and full of surprises, the kind of book that reminds you why you fell in love with reading. (S.J. Watson, author of *Before I Go To Sleep*) Utterly transporting...one of those rare debut novels that excels in every regard. The past is brought to life in potent, sensory detail: one feels steeped in it. Burton's prose beguiles the reader...My first instinct on finishing this book was to immediately read it again. (Hannah Kent, author of *Burial Rites*)

Burton's writing is expressive and descriptive. While her prose is rich, it does not overwhelm the story...This historical novel with its strong female characters will appeal to those who enjoy the haunting undercurrents of Carlos Ruiz Zafón's *The Shadow of the Wind*. (Library Journal)

[A] haunting debut. (Good Housekeeping)

Jessie Burton nimbly transports contemporary social issues to the 17th century where a costume drama rich in historical detail is embellished with supernatural intrigue

The *Miniaturist* is a late-harvest summer delight. (New York Daily News)

As in Donna Tartt's *The Goldfinch*, the pleasure lies in giving in to well-wrought illusions, and the result is a beach read with meat on its bones - perfect for the Labor Day transition from play to work. (New York magazine/Vulture.com)

Rich in 17th century atmosphere

Debut novelist Jessie Burton has a terrific subject... All those severe portraits of people in dark clothes and starched white ruffs, along with those glossy, death-scented still lifes, spring to life. (Cleveland Plain Dealer)

A standout portrayal of the wide range of women's ingenuity. (Booklist)

A fabulously gripping read that will appeal to fans of *Girl With a Pearl Earring* and *The Goldfinch*, but Burton is a genuinely new voice with her visceral take on sex, race and class... (The Guardian)

This debut novel, set in 17th-century Amsterdam, hits all the marks of crossover success: taut suspense, a plucky heroine- and a possibly clairvoyant miniature-furniture designer. (New York magazine)

The *Miniaturist* is a masterpiece of atmosphere and tension . The themes Burton explores are as relevant today as they were long ago . a thoroughly engaging, beautifully written work of historical fiction. (Washington Independent of Books)

In *The Miniaturist*, Burton uses a historical object - the real Petronella Oortman's cabinet house in Amsterdam's Rijksmuseum - as the springboard for a fantastically spun tale of love and mystery. Its a story that astutely reflects our own age's obsessions and prejudices, and it's one not to be missed. (Dallas Morning News)

The *Miniaturist* excels in depicting Amsterdam and its wealthy upper class, and lovers of art and of Amsterdam will be drawn to Burton's imaginative story, which flows as effortlessly as water down a canal. (BookPage)

The *Miniaturist* is an impressive debut

Burton has created a world that, like the cabinet house, draws us in until we feel the dread and mystery and wonder that surround Nella. (Tampa Bay Times)

In Jessie Burton's atmospheric debut, *The Miniaturist*, the powers of love and obsession, sins and secrets, loyalty and forgiveness bind together a cast of sympathetic characters who all have a part to play in a collectively chilling conclusion. (Shelf Awareness)

A magical, intricate marvel of perfection with luxurious prose that immerses the reader in the cold, damp of Amsterdam

A book that enchants from beginning to end. (The Gilmore Guide To Books)

A suspenseful and moving read. (My Friends are Fiction)

Seventeenth-century Amsterdam comes alive in this meticulously researched, enchantingly told tale. (Entertainment Weekly (Must List))

Burton gives her narrative the propulsive drive of a thriller, but her distinctive prose conveys deeper, harder answers than a whodunit. This fine historical novel mirrors the fullness of life, in which growth and sorrow inevitably are mingled. (Washington Post)

Jessie Burton's debut novel has all of the trappings of a historical page-turner: a rich setting in 17th-century Amsterdam, a plot inspired by an antique cabinet house located at the renowned Rijksmuseum, and a diverse cast of characters

a perfect amount of authentic detail and a plot that speeds along. (Minneapolis Star Tribune)

Teen bride Nelly strives to connect with her aloof husband and his spinster sister, but uncovers secrets that, in intolerant 1686 Amsterdam, could mean death. It's a tense tale. (Us Weekly)

A seductive meditation on greed, power and the tortuous journey even the well-heeled must endure for self-possession. Burton adroitly depicts a culture of contradiction: a love of affluence and indulgence chafing against the impulse for God-fearing abstinence. (New York Times Book , The Shortlist)

Werbetext

A sensational feat of storytelling for fans of

