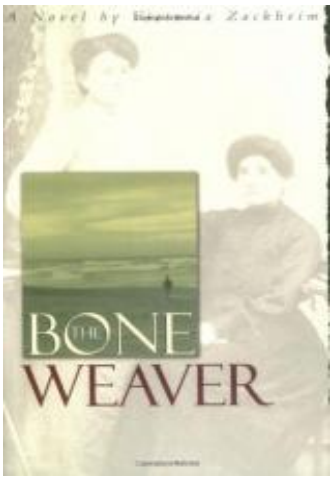
The Bone Weaver: A Novel

by Victoria Zackheim



About the Book

Set in contemporary Los Angeles and 19th Century eastern Europe, The Bone Weaver explores the life of Mimi Zilber, a highly regarded professor struggling to survive the death of her life-long friend, Sarah. By looking back into three generations of women -- great-grandmother, grandmother, mother -- and studying those threads that make up her family tapestry (threads fashioned from their lives and, thus, their bones), she begins to understand the source of her isolation. Even more, Mimi is forced to confront how, by submerging herself in academia and living her dreams of marriage and motherhood through Sarah, she has managed to avoid intimacy.

Read about **The Bone Weaver** and Victoria Zackheim at www.theboneweaver.com. The author meets with reading groups face-to-face, on the web, or by telephone.

Discussion Guide

1. We respond so differently to death, particularly when we lose someone we dearly love. How would you describe Mimi's reaction to Sarah's death?

2. Rivka is such a complex and difficult woman. If you were in Mimi's position, how would you handle Rivka differently?

3. We see Mimi through one year of her life. Is there a point in the novel when your feelings about Mimi change?

4. Unlike our experience with Mimi, we follow Rivka through her entire life. How do you feel about Rivka at the beginning of the novel? And is there a point in the novel when your feelings about Rivka change?

5. Why do you think Mimi is so uncomfortable in her relationships?

6. What are your feelings about the relationship between Mimi and Daniel throughout the novel? Do those feelings change as Mimi approaches the end of journey of introspection?

7. If you were Daniel, how would you react to Mimi?

8. In your opinion, who was the central character in this novel?

9. Discuss one scene in the novel that you found memorable.

10. If you could rewrite the last chapter, what would happen between Daniel and Mimi? And what do you think the author intended to happen?

Author Bio

Victoria Zackheim is the author of THE CURTAIN FALLS IN PARIS, the first in a three-book mystery series featuring American journalist Aria Nevins and French homicide inspector Noah Roche. As friend and editor of the late mystery writer Anne Perry, Victoria was given the honor of completing her unfinished novel, DEATH TIMES SEVEN, from Anne's Daniel Pitt series. Victoria is the author of the novel THE BONE WEAVER, and editor of seven anthologies.

Her play, *The Other Woman*, based on her first anthology (international bestseller), had a nationwide, simultaneous reading at more than 20 theaters across the country in November 2015, and is available as a fundraiser for women's/family shelters. Her first play, *A Deadly Competition* (directed by Lee Chamberlain), dealt with the AIDS epidemic in the United States and France. She wrote *Where Birds Never Sang: The Story of Ravensbrück and Sachsenhausen Concentration Camps* (On the Road Productions), which ran nationwide on PBS.

Victoria teaches Personal Essay and Memoir in the UCLA Extension Writers? Program. She has appeared twice on the "Today" show, the first time to discuss *The Other Woman* anthology, and the second as part of a panel focused on emotional infidelity. Victoria is a San Francisco Library Laureate.

Critical Praise

"By taking apart her family's tapestry thread by thread, Mimi?learns important lessons about courage and the will to survive. The sense of place in this first novel, both in the past and present, is captivating and profound."

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