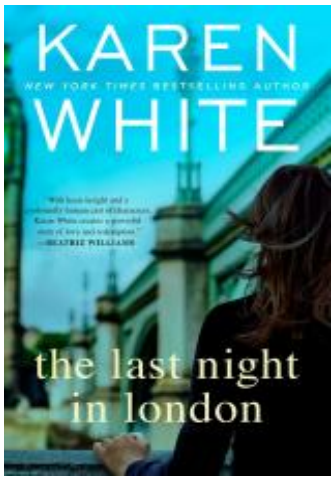
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The Last Night in London

by Karen White



About the Book

***New York Times* bestselling author Karen White weaves a captivating story of friendship, love and betrayal that moves between war-torn London during the Blitz and the present day.**

London, 1939. Beautiful and ambitious Eva Harlow and her American best friend, Precious Dubose, are trying to make their way as fashion models. When Eva falls in love with Graham St. John, an aristocrat and Royal Air Force pilot, she can?t believe her luck --- she?s getting everything she ever wanted. Then the Blitz devastates her world, and Eva finds herself slipping into a web of intrigue, spies and secrets. As Eva struggles to protect her friendship with Precious and everything she holds dear, all it takes is one unwary moment to change their lives forever.

London, 2019. American journalist Maddie Warner, whose life has been marked by the tragic loss of her mother, travels to London to interview Precious about her life in pre-WWII London. Maddie has been careful to close herself off to others, but in Precious she recognizes someone whose grief rivals her own --- but unlike Maddie, Precious hasn?t allowed it to crush her. Maddie finds herself drawn to both Precious and to Colin, her enigmatic surrogate nephew. As Maddie gets closer to her, she begins to unravel Precious? haunting past --- a story of friendship, betrayal, and the unremembered acts of kindness and of love.

Discussion Guide

1. What do you think of the ultimate sacrifices both Eva and Precious make? In their position, would you have lived life the way they did?

2. Both Eva and Precious try to change their lives by moving to London --- Eva also changes her name and her whole identity. Why do you think they chose to reinvent themselves? Was it in part owing to the time period? Their stations in life? Or their hopes for their future?

3. Eva and Precious have to make very difficult decisions --- decisions that betray the dearest person to each of their hearts. Do you sympathize with them about the decisions they made? Or do you think they could have made different choices?

4. Maddie has a hard time facing the truth. Do you think she addressed her dilemma in a way that others would have? What words of encouragement would you have given her?

5. What is it about war --- especially World War II --- that causes us to reflect on the human condition?

6. Why do you think Precious wanted the truth to finally be told? After all those years, why did she want the secrets to be revealed?

7. For most of her life, Eva lived a lie. Who do you think Eva hurt most by living this way? Or do you think she didn?t hurt anyone at all? Did she even hurt herself?

8. Maddie has to deal with the possibility of dying young from cancer, as her mother did, and doesn?t want to have any serious relationships because of her fear. Do you agree with the choices she makes based upon this fear?

9. The things that separated Eva from Graham were very hard to bridge, especially in England before World War II: money, social class, education, family background. Do you think their relationship would have survived if Eva had told Graham the truth about her identity?

10. Do you think Colin?s response to Maddie?s fears is adequate? Do you believe that he is sincere in his promises to her?

Author Bio

With almost two million books in print in 15 different languages, Karen White is the *New York Times* and *USA Today* bestselling author of 38 novels. Her latest releases include THAT LAST CAROLINA SUMMER; and THE LADY ON ESPLANADE, the third book in her New Orleans-set mystery series. She grew up in London but now lives near Atlanta, Georgia.

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