



The Red Scarf

By Kate Furnivall

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The Red Scarf By Kate Furnivall

***The Russian Concubine* dazzled readers. Now, its gifted author delivers another sweeping historical novel.**

Davinsky Labor Camp, Siberia, 1933: Only two things in this wretched place keep Sofia from giving up hope: the prospect of freedom, and the stories told by her friend and fellow prisoner Anna, of a charmed childhood in Petrograd, and her fervent girlhood love for a passionate revolutionary named Vasily.

After a perilous escape, Sofia endures months of desolation and hardship. But, clinging to a promise she made to Anna, she subsists on the belief that someday she will track down Vasily. In a remote village, she's nursed back to health by a Gypsy family, and there she finds more than refuge--she also finds Mikhail Pashin, who, her heart tells her, is Vasily in disguise. He's everything she has ever wanted--but he belongs to Anna.

After coming this far, Sofia is tantalizingly close to freedom, family--even a future. All that stands in her way is the secret past that could endanger everything she has come to hold dear!

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The Red Scarf By Kate Furnivall Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Sophia Morozova's relationship with fragile Anna Fedorina begins through a small act of kindness at a 1930s Siberian labor camp. As the two inmates struggle daily to survive, they increasingly rely on each other for hope and comfort; when Anna falls ill, Sophia escapes, intending to find Anna's lifelong love, Vasily, and rescue Anna. Beautiful and charismatic, Sophia quickly becomes a force to reckon with in the town of Tivil, where she hopes to find Vasily, and her connections with powerful gypsy Rafik, the handsome factory director Mikhail Pashin and the stern but unreadable Aleksei Fomenko become satisfying sources of danger and desire. Furnivall (*The Russian Concubine*) paints a stark picture of rampant scarcity, grim regimentation and blaring propaganda in pre-WWII Soviet Russia. In pushing the limits of Sophia and Anna's love and friendship, she nicely pits small lives against a monolithic state, paradoxically composed of watchful villages. (July)

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From [Booklist](#)

Starred Review As she did in *The Russian Concubine* (2007), Furnivall again pinpoints a little-known historical setting and brings it vividly to life through the emotions and insights of her characters. Moving somewhere between the romanticized Doctor Zhivago and the grisly Gulag Archipelago, this historical novel portrays the hardships of a Siberian labor camp in 1938 while at the same time dramatizing the philosophical convictions driving both Soviet leaders and the resistance. The story opens with Sofia and her tubercular friend, Anna, slinging sledgehammers in the frozen taiga. Anna's storytelling relieves the monotony of their existence while revealing her desperate yearning for her childhood friend, Vasily. Vowing to save Anna from certain death in the camp, Sofia lands on a plan to escape: to find Vasily and convince him to rescue Anna. A somewhat unrealistic but nevertheless riveting story follows: of Sofia's adventures crossing the tundra nearly undetected; her arrival in Tivil, where gypsy partisans shelter her; and her dogged efforts to find—but not to fall in love with—Vasily. Page by page the suspense builds until, with the certainty of doom, the reader races to the astonishing denouement. Beautifully detailed descriptions of the land and the compelling characters who move through a surprisingly upbeat plot make this one of the year's best reads. --Jen Baker

About the Author

Kate Furnivall was born in Wales and currently lives in Devon, England. Married and the mother of two sons, she has working in publishing and television advertising. She drew inspiration for *The Russian Concubine* from her mother's experiences as a White Russian refugee in China.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Mary Block:

Now a day those who Living in the era where everything reachable by interact with the internet and the resources within it can be true or not call for people to be aware of each info they get. How individuals to be smart in having any information nowadays? Of course the answer then is reading a book. Studying a book can help persons out of this uncertainty Information particularly this The Red Scarf book as this book offers you rich details and knowledge. Of course the info in this book hundred per-cent guarantees there is no doubt in it you may already know.

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Pamela Dodge:

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