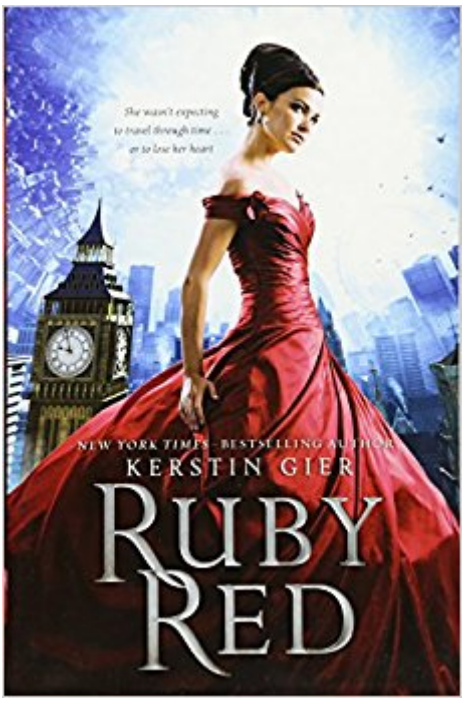
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Ruby Red (The Ruby Red Trilogy)



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Synopsis

Gwyneth Shepherd’s sophisticated, beautiful cousin Charlotte has been prepared her entire life for traveling through time. But unexpectedly, it is Gwyneth who in the middle of class takes a sudden spin to a different era!Gwyneth must now unearth the mystery of why her mother would lie about her birth date to ward off suspicion about her ability, brush up on her history, and work with GideonÃ¢â ¬â ¢the time traveler from a similarly gifted family that passes the gene through its male line, and whose presence becomes, in time, less insufferable and more essential. Together, Gwyneth and Gideon journey through time to discover who, in the 18th century and in contemporary London, they can trust.Kerstin Gier’s Ruby Red is young adult novel full of fantasy and romance.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: HL680L (What’s this?)

Series: The Ruby Red Trilogy (Book 1)

Paperback: 352 pages

Publisher: Square Fish; Reprint edition (May 22, 2012)

Language: English

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Shipping Weight: 10.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 583 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #256,117 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #192 inÃ Â Books > Children’s Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > Europe #214 inÃ Â Books > Teens > Historical Fiction > Europe #357 inÃ Â Books > Teens > Romance > Historical

Age Range: 12 - 18 years

Grade Level: 7 - 12

Customer Reviews

Ã¢â ¬Å“Humorous, romantic and suspenseful, the plot is fast-paced and impossible to put down . . . . The final romantic cliffhanger will leave you thirsty for the next book in this Ã¢â ¬Ëœjewel’ of a series.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â ¢Justine magazineÃ¢â ¬Å“Sixteen-year-old Londoner Gwyneth Shepherd comes from a family of time travelers. The gene was supposed to have skipped Gwen, but sneaks up on her unexpectedly in the middle of class one day and hurls her way back to the 18th century, where she meets an insufferable-turns-lovable time-traveling boy named Gideon. Ã¢â ¬Â•

Ã¢â ¬â ¢TeenVogue.comÃ¢â ¬Å“Gier succeeds on her own terms, keeping the reader moving along, forward and backward in time, and ending with a revelation and a cliffhanger. Both will leave readers anticipating the publication of the next installment, Ã¢â ¬ËœSapphire Blue.'Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â ¢The New York Times Book ReviewÃ¢â ¬Å“What makes this such a standout is the intriguingly drawn cast, stars and supporting players both, beginning with Gwen, whose key feature is her utter normalityÃ¢â ¬Â¦ Adventure, humor, and mystery all have satisfying roles here.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â ¢Starred, BooklistÃ¢â ¬Å“The characters in Kerstin Gier's stellar story come fully to life, and veteran translator Anthea Bell (who translated Cornelia Funke's Inkheart books) preserves the book's abundant humor . . . . There's something here for everyone.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â ¢Shelf AwarenessÃ¢â ¬Å“Teen readers will be eager to find out what happens to Gwen and Gideon in their next adventures, to be revealed in the second book of the trilogy, Sapphire Blue, followed by Emerald Green.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â ¢BookPageÃ¢â ¬Å“Gier's romantic story is an excellent opportunity to explore fashions of the past, if nothing else, but it's also a page-turner that will have you wanting to learn German so you don't have to wait for the next translation to be published.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â ¢Channel One.comÃ¢â ¬Å“As she narrates this fast-paced puzzler, Gwen convincingly conveys the bewilderment, fear and excitement of a teen rooted in the present but catapulted from her school-girl routine into the past. Bell's deft translation captures an engaging heroine with a cell phone and a sense of humor, an emerging romance and a complex, unresolved time-travel mystery spanning four centuries.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â ¢Kirkus ReviewsÃ¢â ¬Å“This first installment of a trilogy will soon find a new crop of fans in the United States. It's a fun, engaging read that will be an easy sell for teens wanting to time travel with a delightful narrator.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â ¢School Library JournalÃ¢â ¬Å“The first in a trilogy, Ruby Red offers romance, adventure, small details of various eras, and the complications that families can bring. It will mostly appeal to teenage girls who have a preference for reading romance.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â ¢VOYAÃ¢â ¬Å“Ã¢â ¬Â¦Gier's characters and plotting are first-rate, creating an adventure that should leave readers eager for the rest of the trilogy.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â ¢Publishers WeeklyÃ¢â ¬Å“A smart, entertaining read . . . Gwen, an outsider in her own family, is the perfect spunky, skeptical heroine.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â ¢Bulletin of the Center for Children's BooksÃ¢â ¬Å“An extremely appetizing mix of mystery thriller, science fiction and romantic adventure that readers will most likely devour in one sitting.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â ¢Augsburger Allgemeine ZeitungÃ¢â ¬Å“Thrilling and witty.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â ¢Radio BremenÃ¢â ¬Å“Guaranteed to be addictive.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â ¢Badische Neueste NachrichtenÃ¢â ¬Å“As soon as you have managed to open this wonderful book, you won't want to close it anymore! Superbly romantic, witty and--thank God--only

the first part of this emotional time travel trilogy.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â ¢DaisukiÃ¢â ¬Å“A sophisticated and adventurous fantasy story with a sense of humor.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â ¢Nordbayerischer KurierÃ¢â ¬Å“Bestselling author Kerstin Gier has written a romantic and funny story that will captivate readers until the very end. Truly mesmerizing.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â ¢KÃƒÂ¶lnische RundschauÃ¢â ¬Å“Exciting fantasy with lots of wordplay and a pinch of romance. Now the impatient waiting for Volume Two will start.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â ¢WestfÃƒÂ¤lische NachrichtenÃ¢â ¬Å“The very finest reading stuff.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â ¢Buchmarkt

Kerstin Gier is the bestselling author of the Ruby Red trilogy, as well as several popular novels for adults. She lives in Germany.Anthea Bell is the foremost translator of German literature in the world. And she thinks Ruby Red is just "charming"!

When I saw the trailer for this book I was hooked. The main character, Gwen, had such a strong voice and brought up things I'd never thought about when it came to time travel. She was funny and charismatic. Now I know this was the voice in the trailer, but it still begged for my attention. As soon as I got it, I dove in!A summary-Gwen lives in her maternal grandmother's home with her mother, brother and little sister. They live in the shadow of Gwen's cousin, Charlotte who was born with "the gene"-the one for time travel. Right away you know this is a different kind of time travel novel. The character knows she can time travel. In fact, the whole family knows about it. Everyone is waiting on tenterhooks for Charlotte to experience her first travel back in time. She has some dizziness and nausea, so she's rushed to a secret headquarters for the time travelers called The Temple. Charlotte has been trained, groomed for time travel since she could talk. Schooled in fencing, history, fashion, politics, manners etc Charlotte is fully prepared for time travel with her handsome partner, Gideon de Villiers.Lesley, Gwen's best friend, is the only one that knows about the time travel, outside of the family. They snicker and roll their eyes at the haughty, perfect self-important Charlotte behind her back. So when it's Gwen that makes an unexpected trip back in time, Lesley is the person she confides in first. Eventually, when Gwen disappears in front of Lesley's eyes, she makes Gwen tell her mother and they go to the Temple. Her mother is reluctant, her mother's sister, Charlotte's mother, is furious, claiming she is just trying to get attention and steal Charlotte's thunder. But, when it's proved that Gwen is the time traveller, she meets Gideon de Villiers, her time traveling partner and gets a crash course in time travel.That's a lot of the story-more than I should reveal-to get you hooked. Charlotte is a self important over indulged child. She's only a very slight character, but those are the impressions you get. Her mother, Aunt Glenda, is very much the same,

treated with importance and a lot of attention by her mother, Lady Arista all because she had the child with the traveling gene. Then there is Great Aunt Maddy, Lady Arista's spinster sister-in-law. She treats Gwen's family the same as Charlotte's, thinks all the secrecy is ridiculous and is a little bit doddering. Lesley, the best friend is a great character. She is loyal, caring, researches every word Gwen says to try to figure things out. She compiles a file of information of people and places that seem to be important for Gwen to know about. I want a best friend like her.But the two main characters are Gwen and Gideon. Gwen is smart enough, but better than that, she's clever. She can figure herself out of situations and she doesn't let Gideon, the so called teacher, tell her what to do. She can also see and talk to ghosts, something no one seems to believe. She listens to her instincts instead of others. She looks nothing like the rest of the family who have red curly hair. Hers is dark and straight and she has blue eyes and a crescent shaped birthmark on her forehead. She doesn't suffer from thinking she's ugly,but doesn't think she's quite as pretty as Charlotte. She's not quite as much as anything as Charlotte when she's spent her whole life believing the opposite. She's not really jealous though. Except for her dad dying when she was young, she's had a normal, carefree childhood as opposed to a lifetime of lessons like Charlotte. She knows her immediate family loves her and she has a confident best friend. She's also one of the strongest female protagonists I've seen yet in YA fiction.Then there's Gideon. The first time he meets Gwen he calls her "Winnie". Then Gwen overhears Charlotte disparaging her saying her strong points are giggling with Lesley and sending text messages. Gideon's response is "I thought as much when I first saw her today." Not winning any points with Gwen or me at this point. Gwen thinks he and Charlotte are in love. When Gwen fails Gideon's 'history test' he tells her to do what he says and say what he tells her to say and nothing else when they travel. Other things he says, "She's definitely not my type," doesn't win him any points. He constantly assures her and himself and Charlotte that he's not interested in her. Still, Gwen can't help but notice how handsome he is in his period clothes and thinks he's handsome. But she keeps her head about her.The bigger issue is the mystery. Who to believe? Who to trust? Is St. Germain, who left Gwen very wary to be trusted? What about Lucy and Paul? Can she trust herself? Has she traveled back in the past to warn herself or others of something? Can she trust Gideon? Does he have an agenda? And the Temple?There is a little snippet of the next book, Sapphire Blue already published in German in the back of Ruby Red. It looks very promising. I want to get a certain Bookworm to translate it for me. I don't think she does that though.So, what do you think? Are you as excited as me? Have you read it yet? Are dropping your mouse and running out to buy it? I know I'm gushing again. I'm not saying genius or anything, but it might take one to put the puzzle together. It's a great story and you just don't want to miss it!

I almost didn't get this believing it'd be too cheesy for me, however the writing is good and even somewhat complicated for the younger crowd it might aim for. Thus making it more YA and less teen than it would seem. I however went ahead and bought both books that follow because I can already can tell that I'm going to need to finish it off and won't be able to quit after this first one.

I kind of expected this to seem more like a MG book, just from its packaging. But its definitely YA, through and through! I really enjoyed the story overall. I seem to have been on a time travel reading kick lately, so I was comparing this to Hourglass by Myra McEntire and Tempest by Julie Cross. While it didn't live up to either one of those, Ruby Red was unique with its own flavor.I did love the characters. They were all about "off"--stuffy, idiosyncratic rich people who seemed a little disconnected from reality! Gwyneth and her best friend are the only two characters who seem to be normal. Although Gwyneth can see dead people, and has conversations with them regularly!I really did not like Gideon at first. He is really into Charlotte, and he's really snobby to Gwyneth. But by the end of the story, the rules seem to have changed. Gwyneth and Gideon really need each other, and when Gideon realizes this, his attitude changes pretty quick!My biggest complaint is definitely how it ends. This is one of those trilogies where it will be better to read them all at once. This book felt a little bit short, and cut off. I loved the historical aspects, the setting (London!), and the cult like society that reminded me a lot of the Freemasons. If you are looking for a fun, historical time travel story, this one is it!

I always dread picking up the second book in the series because usually it is no where near as good as the first one but Kerstin Gier is such an amazing author because Sapphire Blue was just as wonderful of a read as Ruby Red if not better. I found myself falling even more in love with the characters especially Gwen she is just awesome. She is taking measures into her own hands in this book since everyone is still trying to keep secrets from her and then there is Xemerius who is just so funny and lovable and starting to be pretty helpful to Gwen. As for Gideon he is so hot and cold with Gwen it's driving me crazy, I mean okay he has his reasons when he decided to be a jerk to Gwen thinking she was betraying him but still stop with the head games and okay there were some other revelations that make you question him but I really do think his affections for her are true.

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