



The Memorist

M.J. Rose

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As a child, Meer Logan was haunted by memories of another time and place, always accompanied by the faint strains of elusive music. Now the past has reached out again in the form of a strange letter that sets her on a journey to Vienna to unlock the mystery of who she once was. With each step, she comes closer to remembering connections between a clandestine reincarnationist society, a lost flute linked to Ludwig van Beethoven, and David Yalom, a journalist who understands all too well how the past affects the future. David knows loss first hand--terrorism is a reality that cost him his family. He's seen every solution promised by security experts around the world--and he's seen every solution fail. Now, in a concert hall in Vienna, he plans to force the world to understand the cost of those failures in a single, violent act.

The Memorist Details

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From Reader Review The Memorist for online ebook

Angela says

Found by chance at the library. About reincarnationists. At the end I'm not at all convinced of the viability of reincarnation. But an interesting story. BEGGING for a good editor. Oh my, the awful sentences I could have fixed!

Meredith says

Oh dear, and here's another one I had to quit on. I bought the Kindle version, which I tend to read late at night in bed, and way too much back-and-forthing was required for me to grock all the players, places, and times. I couldn't just settle in and take up the storyline.

Michele says

The Memorist is author M.J. Rose's follow-up novel to The Reincarnationist and she has again taken themes of reincarnation, this time weaving 19th century Vienna and the musical world of Ludwig van Beethoven with modern-day terrorist plots. A fast paced historical thriller, The Memorist takes the best elements of The Reincarnationist and improves upon them.

Although there is one carry-over character present, The Memorist is most assuredly a stand-alone novel.

One of the pleasures of reading an M.J. Rose novel is her approach to historical fiction. While much of The Memorist takes place in present day Vienna, her forays into the 19th century are impeccably researched. She incorporates fascinating details into her story, many of which the reader might dismiss as part of the creative license a historical fiction writer so often invokes. It isn't until reaching the author's note at the end of the novel that the full extent of Rose's research becomes apparent.

If the plot synopsis above sounds vaguely familiar, it's because the plot of The Memorist is almost identical to that of her earlier novel, The Reincarnationist. New characters, new memories of past lives, and new artifacts for the protagonist to chase, but the plot movement is the same.

However, the improvements over The Reincarnationist are quickly apparent. Characters are more fleshed-out and their motivations better explored, giving the reader closer relationship with the characters.

Rose's penchant for over-populating her novels with characters is still present, but the improved characterizations make it much easier to keep track of just who is who.

But the very best quality of The Memorist is Rose's ability to meld time and place, even over the span of centuries, while still maintaining a tight, fast-paced thriller that keeps you guessing to the end.

Recommended, of course, for anyone with interest in reincarnation, but also for those who have a love of classical music (Beethoven plays a pretty big role in this novel!) or for those who just want to see a good

example of blending modern day with the past.

Amanda says

I can't even finish this book its gotten so ridiculous! And I give up on maybe one book a year.

Michelle says

Great book. Reminiscent of Dan Brown but with MUCH better writing and more interesting characters. I didn't realize this was a sequel to Reincarnationist but I don't think not having read that took away from this in any way (and it only made me want to read the first!) The book is suspenseful and smart and just overall an enjoyable, fast read despite being on the longer side. This isn't my normal fare, but I'll definitely pick up the first and many more from MJ Rose.

Jill says

For me this was a forgettable national treasure type book. It was ok while reading..I had some issues with errors in the book (huge pet peeve of mine when characters names are wrong), but I could read this at the beach or on a trip and be fine. Just not one I will remember. Predictable..not really any twists if the author was trying to make some, so just became boring and a little long for what it is.

Deanna says

Rating of 3.5

Jessica says

I received this book for free from the publisher. All content and opinions are my own.

The Memorist is the second in a thriller series by M.J. Rose.

Meer Logan has always been haunted by the memories of someone else and the elusive music that accompanies the memories. She has devoted her life to the study of false memories and to the study of music, hoping to rid herself of the dreads caused by these episodes.

Her father, Jeremy Logan, on the other hand, has devoted his life to the study of Jewish mystical beliefs and to recovering Jewish treasures. He believes Meer is remembering her past lives. Ever striving to help Meer, he finds a gaming box Beethoven gave to his closest friend - the same box Meer has drawn obsessively since childhood. The box possibly holds the secret to the location of one of the memory tools.

David Yalom is a journalist who earned three Pulitzers from his reporting on terrorism. His career, though, cost him everything he loved and now he's at a crossroads with his memories.

Malachai Samuels is a child psychologist who has helped hundreds of children suffering from past-life memories, but he hasn't been able to help Meer. When he hears of the gaming box and its possible connection to a flute that can aid recollection of past lives, he knows he must do everything he can to decipher the clues and find that flute.

The box is in Vienna, and all of the characters find their way there too, hoping to find the flute and make peace with their memories - past lives and present.

This was a fast-paced, intriguing, well-researched thriller. Though the general genre was firmly established by *The Da Vinci Code*, *The Memorist* is very original - due in large part to the reincarnationist background. Fun details about Beethoven's life and the romps through the historic sites of Vienna had me hooked. Though there are dozens of characters in several eras, I had no trouble following along with the clipping pace.

There were a few things that bothered me, like the stale description of what it feels like to sink into a past life memory. Also, I felt like some of the characters were a little too flat. That being said, this book accomplishes what it sets out to do - to entertain.

Lisa says

It took me about 100 pages to really get into it, but I think overall it was a better story than the first book.

Sheri says

The Memorist (M.J. Rose)

A lot of characters and it jumped around a bit. Somewhat hard to follow, but an interesting plot. I feel I should read the first book in the series (*The Reincarnation*), possibly helping me to enjoy this more. Meer is the main character and she has flashbacks/visions/hallucinations. It is believed that she is experiencing past lives. The story gets complex when a mystical flute from long ago is found, then stolen. There is also a possible connection to Beethoven and his music, tied into this flute. Her father believes her past memories hold the key to this flute and the findings of it. The main story is set in Vienna, which I found interesting. I just had a hard time with connecting Beethoven, his music and reincarnation.

Tapley says

I enjoyed this. In retrospect, the way the story turns out is a tad predictable, but it kept me on the edge of its seat, and I liked the unusual elements of the plot (i.e. the reincarnation aspects)

Barbara ★ says

An enjoyable thriller which could have been more enjoyable without the whole terrorist angle. A rather predictable ending - at least from the terrorist angle. I enjoyed it but didn't love it.

Georgiann Hennelly says

It was somewhat hard to follow a lot of characters.maybe if i had read Reincarnation the first book in the series i would have enjoyed this book more. Meer Logan is the main character she has always been haunted by someone else,s memories and the elusive music that comes with the memories. She has devoted her life to studying music and false memories in the hope she can rid herself of the dread caused by these episodes. If you believe in reincarnation than this is a good book to read.

Melodie says

This is the the Reincarnationist series. While it picks up the main character of Malachi Samuels in his quest for proof of reincarnation, there is a new group of characters who struggle with their own beliefs. This time the proof sought is an ancient flute and music,supposedly hidden away by Ludwig van Beethoven.Just like the first story, the reader is treated to multiple plot lines,locations and time periods. All does come together eventually but this one was harder for me to follow and maintain interest in.

Vickie says

This is more 3.5***. I enjoyed it but there are lots of characters and plot jumping. It was hard for me do follow since I was listening to an audio version. I love the historical fiction of M.J. Rose, but this one didn't do as much for me as a few of her other books.
