



The Bridge of Deaths

M.C.V. Egan

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On August 15th 1939, at the brink of World War II, an English plane crashed and sunk in Danish waters. Five deaths were reported: two Standard Oil of New Jersey employees, a German Corporate Lawyer, an English member of Parliament, and a crew member for the airline. Here is a conceivable version of the events.

The Bridge of Deaths Details

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From Reader Review The Bridge of Deaths for online ebook

Cats of Ulthar says

The author, M. C. V. Egan, is very forthright in explaining that she is not any expert on world history of the period she relates; in fact, she says that when she began her quest to discover events she knew very little of that era. So as readers we are reassured that the author is not spouting regurgitated history texts, but fictionalizing her own experiences and discoveries. She has no hidden agenda here, no goals except discovery. Instead she is forthright, sharing her explorations and their results with us, her readers. I enjoyed the manner in which she made of herself a character, sharing her actual quests and discoveries and setbacks, just as the fictional characters express their lives throughout the story.

I fell in love with the characters each from their first introduction. Although Ms. Egan uses quite a bit of narrative in introducing them, it's neither boring nor unsubstantiated, for within the narrative she includes dialogue (running in the background, as it were) and a substantial amount of action. She draws her characters in such a way that they are immediately understandable, and the reader easily relates and empathises. The author also has a very clever mode of relating her characters and their events to a background of actual world history in their particular era, which makes the book seem down-to-earth even in the midst of a metaphysical discussion.

She mentions in one spot "the most extraordinary feeling of comfort in simply being with her," and this is the experience I have of "The Bridge of Deaths." I am reminded of all those wonderful books I've read in which I feel as if I have just settled into a comfy armchair beside a roaring fireplace-I can relax, enjoy, and relate to the adventures in the novel as an "Armchair Traveler." This novel made me feel safe and warm, even while exploring the question of past lives, hypnotic regression, and the effects past life events and encounters have on our present and future.

This novel is fascinating: it has intrigue, romance, love that bridges lifetimes, soul mates, history, mystery, the thrills of the unexpected, philosophy, Spirituality, and metaphysics. It is a warm, cozy, comforting story, with the conviction running throughout that there is an Answer-and answers-if we can just persevere to find out. I eagerly await further novels from this special author. I know in the meantime I will be rereading "The Bridge of Deaths" just for the sheer pleasure it brings me.

Tara Hall says

In the first few chapters, I thought this book was odd, and wasn't sure if I liked it. The narrative style was hard to get used to. But by the fourth chapter, I was eager to see where the book was going. Bridge of Deaths isn't the kind of book I would be predisposed to read. This is not the novel I thought it was. This book is more of a research treatise combined with snippets of novel interspersed throughout which describes the research as it is uncovered. While I hesitate to use the words magical to describe a book, there was something about this book that made me want to believe in its' premise. I don't believe in past lives, psychics, or astrological charts, but I do believe in fate. I am also a huge WWII history buff. The romance between Bill and Maggie, the two protagonists in the aforementioned novel, is fun to watch as their love evolves little by little, as they try to uncover the truth about what happened on 8-15-39. I like their give and

take, the bits of humor, and the real emotion that comes through, such as when Maggie finds it hard to sleep without Bill beside her in bed.

The biggest problems with this book are its sheer length and the narrative style that occurs in spots. Make an effort to get through them, as the book taken as a whole is worth your time. Be prepared that there are a lot of facts and documents included in this work. At several spots, the author lists various books used in Bridge of Deaths research. These lists go on for pages like a sort of bibliography in the middle of the action, mentioning if they were useful or not to discover what happened in the plane crash. There are also several correspondences between the characters that are also very long, detailing out descriptions of bodies or what one of the slain persons from the plane was doing for the many years, months by month, leading up to the crash. I found it hard to follow the story because of this. There was a good deal that could have been pruned out of this book to make it easier to follow, especially when the author had some very good passages that illustrated her plot points excellently, like the following:

She sipped her wine and thought that she was looking at the face of a man who would have surely made the world a better place, had he lived longer than thirty-six years and two days.

I would recommend for future historical novels to organise them as one would a historical piece: having the main body of the story uncluttered with facts, documents, detailed descriptions and bibliographies, but appending the documents with a chronological list of events, and a bibliography with an index at the end. That way the reader who wishes to explore further can be directed to these appendices, but will not be distracted from the story itself unfolding.

I do give enormous credit to the author, who spent 18 years of her life researching this book.

I very much liked the final regressions scenes, and the conclusion by Maggie and Bill of what really happened aboard the plane. Good ending. It made all the heavy lifting worthwhile.

Overall Opinion: A worthwhile read, if you are willing to work a little. :)

Kitty Austin says

Book Title: "The Bridge of Deaths"

Author: M.C.V. Egan

Published By: Author House

Age Recommended: 17 +

Reviewed By: Kitty Bullard

Raven Rating: 5

Review: Another phenomenal historically charged novel that I enjoyed from cover to cover. One of the main things about this book that really caught me was the truth of the story. Catalina has been searching for so long to find out the mystery behind her grandfather's death when over on the other side of the pond you have a young man named Bill and a young woman, Maggie that are having quite an exciting journey with past life regression therapy. For years Bill has been haunted by these dreams of being in a plane crash in the middle of an ocean close to a bridge and they won't go away. Sometimes they wake him up at night and he swears he can still feel the salt water seeping into his lungs. When he meets Maggie there's an instant draw that neither of them fully understand until they form a relationship and begin to attend past life regression therapy

together.

Suddenly these two young people are thrown into a world so far in the past they have no idea how to cope. Thus the story begins, when they decide to do some research and are led on a path that leads them straight to Catalina that has been trying to find information about the same instance in which both Bill and Maggie lived through an entire lifetime ago.

This is a story that will stay with you, once you read it you won't soon forget it. A true masterpiece filled with a part of the history of a World War most of us in this generation could never begin to understand or know. Are answers found in the end? Does Maggie and Bill begin to accept their part in history and put their lives together for the second time? Does Catalina find out strange circumstances behind her grandfather's death after all these years? Well... you'll just have to read to find out. The best part of all is, the majority of this book is a true story but for a few name changes and I bet it will have even a few skeptics believing in reincarnation before they're done.

I definitely recommend it! Also be sure to look for our giveaway later next month starting on the 1st of February (5) Print copies and (5) PDF copies of this wonderful book will be up for grabs as well as an author spotlight from M.C.V. Egan herself!

Read more: <http://www.greatmindsthinkaloud.probo...>

Jonathan says

The Bridge of Deaths is an interesting bird. It's part fiction, part non-fiction, part years-long research odyssey, part "what if" conjecture. It revolves around a airplane that went down in Danish waters in 1939. That plane, a Lockheed Electra, was carrying the author's maternal grandfather, a Mexican national and employee of Standard Oil of New Jersey, as well as a German lawyer, a British parliamentarian, another employee of Standard Oil, and the pilot and copilot. Only the pilot made it out alive. Mrs. Egan has spent decades of painstaking research trying to piece together what happened, how the plane went down, and why her grandfather died. She decided to put it down on paper as a novel but found that the story needed something in addition to the facts—something that could only be conjectured and guessed at. And so she decided upon a mix of the two.

At the opening of the novel, a pair of mostly-fictional characters named Bill and Maggie meet in a London book store and quickly fall in love. Bill tells Maggie about his recurring nightmares regarding the crash of a plane with the registration number G-AESY. She convinces him to see a hypnotist, who guides him in his first past life regression. The experience convinces both him and Maggie that in a past life he was the pilot of that doomed aircraft. They begin to research the event, trying to learn more about the crash and hopefully bring some closure to Bill's dream. In the process, they run across an online listing from an American woman named Catalina (the author's semi-fictional avatar in the story) requesting more information about the G-AESY crash. After contacting her, the two women become fast friends. Catalina shares her research with the couple, and they share with Catalina the results of Bill's past-life regressions.

But rather than answering their questions, the information they find only spawns more. None of the documentation seems complete. It's filled with inconsistencies, and those details that are present contradict the events of Bill's past life regressions. The cast of characters aboard the doomed aircraft also serves to sow

seeds of doubt. There was the German lawyer with his war medals and his glass eye. There was the English parliamentarian, a man of fiery temper and wit who was making waves in the political world. And then there was Catalina's grandfather, a Mexican oil man who spoke five languages, studied in America and Europe, and was practically tailor-made for the spy trade. It all happened in the shadow of WW II, a fast approaching conflict that everyone knew was coming but no one knew how to stop. The possibilities for what could have happened are endless. In reality, though, finding out what *actually* happened is impossible. Mrs. Egan tries to stick to the truth in her tale—she leaves it open ended, a fact that strengthens her work more than anything.

It's a great lesson in history. What we know of history is really a story—there are good guys and there are bad guys, and there's a linear plot from A to B to C. But that's not history. That's how we've codified history into easily digestible chunks. It's what we tell each other and teach our kids and build our family identities upon. Real history, however, isn't a story. It's messy, and it's unknowable—at least, in any true sense. And while we might like to turn it all into an easily understood story, the truth is often far more complicated and far more nebulous than we can wrap our heads around. It may not have been Ms. Egan's primary purpose in her story, but it came across beautifully.

Another aspect of her book that I really liked was the painstaking research she included. The story was rich with details about pre-war Europe and the personalities that inhabited it. When it came to sheer detail there may have been a little too much in parts, but it was easily ignored and—for her purpose as the “what-if-historian”—likely added more to the work than it detracted. After sinking so much time into the research (two decades, she tells me), I can understand how hard it has been to cull all that information into a more accessible format.

As for what I didn't like, I felt that the language in the story was a bit simplistic—not that it was bad, mind you, just that it lacked the stylistic panache that I admire in good writing. Ms. Egan tells it like it is in no-nonsense prose, which becomes the historical researcher in her but doesn't necessarily make it the most artful of deliveries. Likewise, I felt that the relationship between Bill and Maggie and some of their interactions were a bit hurried, presented in too-plain terms that “showed” too little and “told” too much. All of this is forgivable, however, as the main purpose behind her work is to examine the crash of the G-AESY and the many possible causes, and that she does amazingly well.

If you like a good historical quandary, meticulous research, or quests for the unknowable, you'll like this book. As for me, I give *The Bridge of Deaths* three stars—really more like three and a half, but Goodreads doesn't give me that option.

Lori says

I was gifted this book from the author in late 2011/early 2012 and, to be honest, at the time I knew nothing about it. And, unfortunately, was not able to read it until recently because of personal loss. If you are reading my review to find out what the book is about I suggest you read other reviewers including the synopsis'. The author writes "I hope there are many people all over the world who identify with Maggie, a pacifist who is willing to search and eager to learn about war and history, and the effect those two things have on society as a whole." As a reader, I fit that bill. Please keep reading if you want to know whether I liked this novel or not and why.

I received this book not too long before my husband's unexpected demise. Ironically, at the time, my

husband and I had begun watching world history College courses on DVD (for my benefit as he was very knowledgeable about world history) and my passion for history came about a couple years before this. I include this information because I so wish I had begun reading this novel when my husband was alive for numerous reasons. I would have loved to know his opinion on so many things that were included in this novel. This novel is about a Lockheed Electra 10A plane that crashed in Danish waters in 1939. My husband was, among many things, an aeronautical expert and had worked for Lockheed Martin and the government at different times in his life. Anyway, the author wrote her book with a passion for what really happened to her grandfather as a passenger on a Lockheed Electra 10A that crashed into a bridge and ended up in an oceanic grave of planes in Danish waters. Both my husband and I were also chin deep in genealogy so I thoroughly understand the incentive for this author to get her thoughts across to a public audience about the mystery and blatant misconceptions surrounding her grandfather being a passenger [and perhaps victim] on this plane and as to how and why this plane crashed into a bridge just before World War II and how the author researched it ALL so well. The author deserves an award for her immense research alone!

Having said that, I believe any interested party wishing to read this book needs to have an interest in history (specifically secrecy in the 1930s just prior to World War II), an open mind to passed regression hypnosis resulting in how many secrets and lies were going on back then between governments and even including what is going on today. I knew somewhat about IBM and the Holocaust (which is briefly mentioned in this story) but after researching this more I was pulling my head out of the sand. I know there are many types of slavery (besides the overkill stories of blacks in the antebellum United States) and readers are briefly exposed to the current and horrid amount of slavery that is going on worldwide right now. I am not saying these things to scare you away from this novel but by telling you how it opened my eyes to so much and even moreso why I fell in love with this novel that was passionately researched to expose the truth.

So many times fiction is the best route to take when trying to relay truth (past, present or future). In fact, one of the Goodreads quotes includes a quote by Albert Camus which is "Fiction is the lie through which we tell the truth." The author chooses this method to relay her story to any interested reader. Further, the author herself alludes to (in the novel) how she will relate her story. The fictional character in this book asks the main character (who could be/is the author) toward the last part of the book - "How are you going to tell the story?" The response was "I think it was Jean-Jacques Rousseau who said something like, 'The world of reality has its limits, but the world of imagination is boundless.' So I'll tell the story the only way I know how. I'll call it fiction, and then I'll bless myself, go to confession, and say I lied."

I haven't read a novel this good and along the same lines since reading V FOR VENDETTA and enjoying the movie based on the V FOR VENDETTA even more. V FOR VENDETTA resorts to using a superhero and comic type novel that displays the powerful story about love of freedom and individuality. The author of THE BRIDGE OF DEATHS also chooses fiction -- not only to take readers through her personal relation for truth (through losing her grandfather) but to expose at least one mystery (a plane crashing under mysterious circumstances) as best as she could. And, like V, The Bridge of Deaths is "a gripping tale of the blurred lines between ideological good and evil." Through years of intense research involving travel, interviews and some unorthodox methods ... M.C.V Egan succeeds in exposing a mystery and takes us through a very chaotic and a world full of conspiracy in the 1930s! I would give THE BRIDGE OF DEATHS 10 stars if I were able to!

Wanda Hartzenberg says

The Bridge of Deaths by M.C.V Egan is a poignant journey into history.

The story is unique in several ways; firstly it is based on a true story. The author took time and effort to research the death of her grandfather and in this book his story is told. It is where conventional enquiries ended that this book takes a twist. Psychics, past life regression and shamans play a major role. I loved the fact that the author kept second guessing said routes of enquiry. The love story on the one hand and the obsession of one woman on the other makes this a balanced read.

I had some trepidation when the book arrived and I saw all the footnotes. Having an academic background I know how to use them but have never come across them in a story. It ended up delighting me and fascinating me, oh and costing me a fortune since I kept going to the internet to look up more information.

What defiantly got my attention though more than anything else is the respect shown by the author to the dead. Especially if you consider the fact that this woman's grandfather died before she was even born. This said, the book is respectfully written and a grand daughter's love is obvious.

I adored this book and thought it was brilliant and unique. I highly recommend it to anybody as long as you don't mind detail. I give this book an easy 7 ***** rating. Enjoy that Mont Blanc. Well earned.

Erin says

Find this and other reviews at: <http://flashlightcommentary.blogspot...>

NOTE: It has come to my attention that The Bridge of Deaths has been re-published since the release of this review. I will not be returning to the piece, but encourage readers to understand the issues I noted may not apply to more recent editions of the novel.

The Bridge of Deaths by M.C.V. Egan presents a lot of challenges to me as a reviewer. I enjoyed the plot and greatly admire Egan's passion, but her style didn't strike the right kind of chord in me.

Please don't make assumptions from that comment, Egan is by no means a poor writer. I just don't feel she knew what kind of book she wanted to write when she penned this piece. Were she to have cut the fabricated characters/content and presented the story as a strict nonfiction of either her journey or her grandfather's, I would have issued a much higher rating. Similarly if she had cut down the amount of factual information, lost footnotes, concentrated on one particular plot line, and shown more than she told, I would have enjoyed it more as fiction.

I feel Egan has talent and vision, but I am convinced her work would be easier to digest if she'd pick an angle and streamline her work along traditional genre lines.

Passion For Pages says

(Review from my blog <http://passionforpages.blogspot.com/2...>

**I was given this book by the author in exchange for a review

3 1/2 stars

The Bridge of Deaths is almost like a mystery. A mystery that mixes both real facts of the author's life and experiences and fictional aspects that she created.

There is a lot of information in this book. A lot. It almost felt like I was back in school in History class, and it's no secret (at least to those I was in class with) that I slept through most of History. However, I found The Bridge of Deaths, for the most part, interesting. Maybe it's because it's actually the author's history and by reading it I could tell how much of her heart and soul has gone into this book and all her research.

But at times that's exactly what it felt like I was reading: pure research and not an actual story. As much as I understand that the facts that Catalina had collected over the years were important to her and the story because that's what the plot was about, I found reading about all the files and books somewhat boring. Some of the lists were necessary to the story line (like the names and background information on the passengers) but then there were others that I felt just didn't need to be part of the book, like listing all the books that remained in the box or the ones she was sorting to either keep, store or shelve.

I did like how the author intertwined fiction and non-fiction. Putting herself and her journey in the story was a very personal thing to do and it gives you more than a glimpse into her life. The fictional part is one of the main characters. Egan states in the introduction that Maggie, her friends and parents are purely fictional. I didn't really think much about that when I started reading, but the more I read the more it almost saddened me that there is no Maggie. As much as the book is tied to Catalina and Bill, I felt that Maggie was really the heart of the whole thing. She encouraged Bill to find answers, she helped Catalina discover the truth and yet, she's not at all real. I really loved the personality that Egan created for this character. She was fun and open-minded and really just a pure joy to read. She brought life to the book.

As someone who is intrigued by past lives and psychics, tarot readings, etc. I really enjoyed Bill being hypnotized and telling what happened in his past life as Clifford. That revelation was my favourite part of the book.

There was also this line that I loved: "...so as few lovers do, they became absolutely honest with each other." I loved this because of the truth behind it. Even though I deeply love my husband (a term I use loosely since we are in fact not married but always call each husband/wife), there are things that I have not told him, and will never tell him... They aren't things that would harm our relationship, so I see no need to spill my guts entirely to another person - even him.

All in all, I thought it was a good read. A little too fact informative for my taste in parts, but I did enjoy it. There were, as you can tell, parts that I even loved. I think Egan did a very good job in penning her grandfather's death.

Bookish Indulgences with book reviews says

I got this book for free from the author in exchange of 'Honest & Fair' review.

First and foremost, I have to say that I am amazed at the amount of research that has gone into this book. From researching plane crash, visiting museums/archives, reincarnation, to the past life regression, to psychics, to simple internet research... she has done it all. When I received the book, I obviously checked the

official website “The Bridge of Deaths” and browsed through to get an idea about the plot. The name itself is quite appealing, but the fact that the author had been researching the book for over 18 years really grabbed my attention. So, I took my time in reading the book, going back to the website for the references and images. All that hard work deserves special acknowledgement.

The book in itself is a magical world that brings fact and fiction together. The author narrates the whole story sometimes in her own words and sometimes through the lead characters – Bill & Maggie. It is about a journey full of discoveries. As we follow the characters in the book, we find them discovering truths/facts about the plane crash, discovering about the people involved in it and discovering about more about themselves! The twists in the plot, the truths uncovered were startling and often left me dazed. I loved the way the characters of Bill & Maggie were built through the story – they are so different from each other, yet they were brought together by ‘fate’?! Both struggling to find out more about their past lives find solace in each other. Their relationship evolves along with their different characters right in front of us. And though these characters are a work of fiction, they are very much alive in all of us. Ms.Egan’s has done a great job in portraying them.

The Highlight of this book is the way the author has maintained a balance between fact and fiction. Writing just facts or pure fiction would have been way easier. But the way the author has mashed up both with perfect balance to create this novel is simply awesome. And Hey, Facts are Stranger than Fiction!

Overall, the author’s smooth flow of story-telling, the main plot, the twists in the tale and the romance between the two main characters will keep you involved with the story. Looking for romance, you got it! Looking for suspense & intrigue, you got it! Looking for Paranormal, you got it! Looking for historic influences, you got it. In short – this book has something for everyone.

I am glad to have had a chance to read this book even though I am not a big fan of World War Era stories. It is an incredible read and I would like to recommend it to everyone. Give it a chance even if you feel that this is not your ‘cup of tea’.

A quote from the end of the book that I liked the best & would like to share:

“I think people in general are good people, and I am sure that in the world there are many more substantially good people than there are bad people. I also think that the younger people with global communication and so much more travel are less intolerant. I believe that my generation and the ones that follow are capable—world wide—of being more peaceful. Look how the entire world wants to help and is helping Haiti! We are capable of being a peaceful planet. I have to believe that.”

Nikki McCarver says

There comes a time, in every avid readers life, when he or she hits a book that makes you stop, think, and question or reanalyze your belief system. I have avoided quite a few books such as these for personal reasons for quite some time, but there was once a time when this particular would have hit my radar the moment it came out. I came upon an ad of this book that was up for review and after reading a brief description knew I had to read it. I use books at an attempt to escape life through fantasy, it is a welcome repose for the goings on in my everyday grind. I wasn’t sure what to expect when I received this book in the mail, but I must say it has hit my must read list. I grew up in an environment similar to Maggie’s with Bill reminding me a lot of my father. This book hit home for me in quite a few aspects, except of course the actual experiences that our

three characters went through in dealing with past life regression. But I am jumping to far ahead so I must retrace back and allow a brief description to flow. It is an interesting novel and it has three main characters that encompass the story. Catalina was the shining star of the three, and it is her journey that ties everything together. This book began as a quest to answer questions dealing with the strange and unsolved mysteries surrounding the death of her grandfather. After years and years of research through conventional and unconventional means, Catalina is forced to stop once again in order to return to work. She has pushed aside her dream so many times because life has a way of interfering. Sound familiar? I think all of us can relate in some way to this ambitious and dedicated young woman. She went to extremes most of us wouldn't have thought possible. Then, a mere week before she starts packing up her research to rejoin the working world, she receives an email from Maggie on the other side of the Atlantic Ocean. Being hardened by many disappointments over the years, she does not over react to the email. She just sends a response. Her response opens up the opportunity to find the missing link she has been searching for. So our story begins and ends with a loveable European couple that had the courage to search out the truth.

I, like Catalina, am skeptical concerning matters of reincarnation and past lives. There are many people out there who try to make money off of just about everything. But this book isn't about those people. It's about a girl and her unusual journey to find the truth and the many paths she took along the way searching for answers. I was sucked into this novel after the very first chapter and found it quite difficult to put down. I have read (surprisingly) most of the books noted or referenced in this novel. I love Brain Weiss ' , as he puts a logical spin on his studies. It creates a comfort zone for logical people or skeptics. I enjoyed this book immensely and my inner geek jumped up and down with joy at having been allowed out. I hope to read many more novels from the author. She has a gift that should not be wasting away in some dreary form of employment.

Alyssa Pivrotto says

Actual Rating: 3.5 Stars

I received this free through Basically Book's ARR for a honest review.

So I was up in the air about whether to give this book three or four stars for a few reasons. The beginning of the book was slow paced until about a third of the way in... it continued to be rather slow (but tolerable) until the middle where it really picked up and became much more interesting. Plus I found it very hard to follow along with all the different people involved with the investigation. At some parts I became confused and had to look back to see who each person was. About half way through the book the author starts emailing Maggie biographies of the men involved in the investigation of the plane and the men killed in the crash itself. After she did this all my confusion was cleared up, but I think if she included shorten versions of this in the beginning I would have had an easier time understanding who was who.

On the plus side I found her "unconventional methods" very interesting and Maggie's character was great for the story. I also commend the author for writing something so near and dear to her heart. I myself have been wanting to write about my own grandfather's adventures as a child in WWI/WWII era Italy so I understand how special this is. The fact that the author spent so much time and effort (it show especially with the very long bibliography in the back and all the footnotes) really raised the book in my eyes. Also the epilogue contained a part about the horrors of war and how similar the world today is to the world of 1939. I found this very thought-provoking. Kudos to the author for really making me stop and think.

Overall I thought the book was very interesting but would probably only appeal to people who enjoy learning about new time periods.

Kathy Brady says

The Bridge of Deaths is a mixture of fact and fiction. The tale of real research done into a real plane crash and of fictional characters and a plausible explanation for the events surrounding the crash. This book had me hooked the whole way through. I would not have imagined that a book about research done in archives mixed with psychics and past life regressions could be so interesting. The blend works so well in this story that it leaves me wanting to know more every time I put the book down and even now that I am finished the book, I am intrigued by the mystery surrounding it.

The characters and story come to life in such a way as to make you feel as if you are a part of this small group trying to figure out the details and the inaccuracies of the official reports and trying to piece together the truth. It leaves me wondering what the truth is behind these unusual events that the author has been trying for years to piece together. In a world of spies and government secrets, it is a mystery that may never be completely solved. The conclusion makes sense and you can be sure I will be keeping up with the author's website to see if she uncovers any more pieces of this mysterious puzzle.

This book is a must-read for anyone that enjoys a good mystery, a good historical fiction, or simply a great novel.

Leona says

Review of The Bridge of Deaths by M. C. V. (Catalina) Egan

A quote from Carl Sagan at the beginning is:

Somewhere,
something incredible
is waiting to be known.

Carl Sagan

1934–1996

American astronomer, writer, and
scientist. (page ix)

This book took me about three or four chapters to really get into it. I did not care for it at the beginning but as I got into it, I was very impressed. The book is in the third person. Catalina Egan has taken historical facts and turned them into a novel. I liked the characters, even with some faults they had.

There is Maggie and Bill, who live in London and the lady from Florida, Catalina, who connect on the Internet and use Skype and emails to communicate.

Bill has been transferred to London where he has recurring dreams about a past life. He meets Maggie at a bookstore and they click right away. They begin to search what is happening to Bill and why.

Catalina is searching for clues to the death of her grandfather, Cesar Agustin Castillo, a Mexican, who worked for Standard Oil of New Jersey and died in an British Airline airplane crash off the coast of Denmark on August 15, 1939.

There were four other passengers that died in the crash; a member of British Parliament, Anthony Crommelin Crossley, a conservative; another employee of Standard Oil of New Jersey, Samuel James Simonton, an American; a German Corporate Lawyer, Erich Bruno Wilhelm Beuss and a crew member for the airline, Alfred Stanley Mardsin Leigh. The pilot, Clifford Frederick Cecil Wright survived.

Catalina has been researching for almost twenty years and the facts she has acquired are very detailed. There were so many facts, I had to stop reading and give my mind a rest. It is like when I do the genealogy for my family, I need to clear the mind of facts and names. I found myself checking the Internet for more information.

Bill felt he had a past life; Maggie and Bill began to search for answers. They consulted with a hypnotist as well as other means such as the Internet. "Hypnotist's job was to help Bill separate who he was today from who he had been in a past life." (page 302).

The book leads you into the past of many well known names in history. Winston Churchill, Neville Chamberlain, Ronald Reagan as well as many books and movies.

Anyone into genealogy, an interest in World War II, history and mystery will like this book. Most of the characters are real.

I wish to thank the author, M.C.V. (Catalina) Egan for the complimentary e-book to read and review.

I give this a five star for all the research and facts that are in The Bridge of Deaths. The opinions are my own.

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Newspaper and Magazine Sources on page 347

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Archives on page 354

Author Biography on page 355

Epilogue on page 313

There are pictures of planes, people and scanned documents.

Find Catalina Egan at: thebridgeofdeaths.com and facebook.com/mcv.egan

Go to:

<http://suzannevanrooyen.com/2012/01/2...> to read an interview with the author.

Leona Olson

mnleona.blogspot.com ()

Meghan says

This was a book of positives and negatives. In my opinion, the latter makes up the most part.

I'm a little sad because I feel like this book has to potential to be better than it was. It is a good story idea, and I really enjoyed the two characters Bill and Maggie, I might have enjoyed Catalina if reading her narratives wasn't so incredibly boring.

Bill keeps having a recurring nightmare about a plane crash, he goes to a hypnotherapist to seek help, and it turns out this dream he is having is actually him re-living a moment from his past life. In another place far away is a part time writer named Catalina, whose grandfather died in that plane crash. She has been trying for years to write a story about said event. These two end up crossing paths as they are both digging for information about the same thing. Throughout the course of the story they exchange information, the writer supplies Bill and Maggie, his girlfriend, with the information that is missing from his dreams, and they in turn supply Catalina with the information from his dreams, since they are like a first hand experience.

As I said before, the idea is good, and I enjoyed Bill and Maggie's chapters. But When the Chapters were under Catalina's narrative, it was soooo hard to read. It's nothing but constant information, full of un-ending

names and dates that she pulls from all these files she's collected over the years. I think the only way to keep track in this story is if you started keeping your own files of all the information that is constantly being thrown at you. Most of the information I found to be pretty much pointless.

With a lot of cuts, I'm pretty sure I would have enjoyed this story, but as is, I can't say that I liked it. The boring, and the sections of overwhelming information, far outweighed the parts I enjoyed reading. However, if you like tons of facts I guess this is the book for you.

Nancy (The Avid Reader) says

The Bridge Of Deaths is about a woman who has wanted to know the true circumstances behind her grandfather's death from a very early age. She brings fiction and non-fiction all together in one book. Her research takes her on a long journey of over two decades to Denmark, England and The United States. I love that she said that she got some of her info from the internet. I can relate to this because I learned a long time ago that if I wanted to know something all I had to do was go on the internet and search it.

Her grandfather's plane went down in Danish waters on August 15, 1939 just two weeks before Hitler invaded Poland, right before World War II. She created fictional characters Bill and Maggie. Bill has been having nightmares about the plane crash for a very long time. When he awakes from one of these nightmares he feels as if he can taste the salty water and feel the coldness of the water. Bill meets Maggie in a bookstore, Maggie follows Bill into the store. Maggie is a smoker Bill is not. They decide to go to a hypnotist and do past life regression. After the first regression Bill becomes a smoker too. Maggie contacts Catalina through email to find out what she knows about the crash. Catalina and Maggie decide to communicate through Skype to discuss what they each know about her grandfather's death.

I was asked to review this book by the author. When I read the summary of the book I honestly thought I would not like this book. But I thought "you can't judge a book by its cover" and decided to give it a chance. I am glad that I did because I kept wanting to go back and read more to find out what was going to happen next. M.C.V. Egan makes the characters come alive and you feel as if you are right there with them. She opens up your mind to things that you never thought might be possible. Before reading The Bridge Of Deaths, I never believed that anyone could actually be hypnotized or not me that is. But after reading it I keep thinking that maybe I could be hypnotized, that it would help me to stop smoking.
