About This Book

Working as a stewardess aboard the Empress of Ireland allows Ellie Ryan to forget about why she has been banished from the family home. On her second voyage, Ellie finds herself drawn to the solitary fire stoker who stands by the ship’s rail late at night, often writing in a journal.

Jim. Ellie finds it hard to think of him now, after that awful night. She tries to tell herself that he survived, but it’s hard to believe when so many didn’t.

So when Wyatt Steele, journalist for The New York Times shows up at her door in Liverpool, England and asks for her story, Ellie refuses. But when he shows her Jim’s journal, she jumps at the chance to be able to read it herself; to find some clue of the man she had fallen in love with, and what happened to him. There’s only one catch: she will have to tell her story to Steele and he’ll “pay” her by giving her the journal. One page at a time.

Ellie slowly opens up. But more lies at the heart of her story than even Ellie knows and, as she spends more time with Steele and Jim’s journal, she discovers what was unspeakable – for both her and Jim.

The sinking of the RMS Empress of Ireland, in 1914, was a maritime tragedy rivaling that of the Titanic. This beautifully written, heart-warming account brings an important part of Canadian history to life.

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