

Belle Epoque

Elizabeth Ross

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When Maude Pichon runs away from provincial Brittany to Paris, her romantic dreams vanish as quickly as her savings. Desperate for work, she answers an unusual ad. The Durandeau Agency provides its clients with a unique service—the beauty foil. Hire a plain friend and become instantly more attractive.

Monsieur Durandeau has made a fortune from wealthy socialites, and when the Countess Dubern needs a companion for her headstrong daughter, Isabelle, Maude is deemed the perfect adornment of plainness.

Isabelle has no idea her new "friend" is the hired help, and Maude's very existence among the aristocracy hinges on her keeping the truth a secret. Yet the more she learns about Isabelle, the more her loyalty is tested. And the longer her deception continues, the more she has to lose.

The paperback of *Belle Epoque* has brand new content that includes a translation and extended author's note about the short story by Emile Zola that inspired the book.

A William C. Morris YA Debut Award Finalist

A Junior Library Guild Selection

"Both touching and fun, this is a story about many things—true friendship, real beauty, being caught between two worlds—and it will delight fans of historical fiction."—*Publisher's Weekly*

"A refreshingly relevant and inspiring historical venture."—Kirkus Reviews

"A compelling story about friendship, the complexity of beauty, and self-discovery...full of strong female characters."—*School Library Journal*

"With resonant period detail, elegant narration, and a layered exploration of class and friendship, this provocative novel is rife with satisfaction."—*Booklist*

"Much to offer a contemporary YA audience...flirtation and match-making to tantalize romance fans...prime book-club fare."—*The Bulletin*

"This delectable Parisian tale left me sighting with sweet satisfaction. J'adore *Belle Epoque*!"-Sonya Sones, author of *What My Mother Doesn't Know* and *To Be Perfectly Honest*



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From reader reviews:

Michael Hamlin:

Spent a free time for you to be fun activity to accomplish! A lot of people spent their down time with their family, or their own friends. Usually they accomplishing activity like watching television, going to beach, or picnic inside the park. They actually doing same every week. Do you feel it? Do you want to something different to fill your own free time/ holiday? Could possibly be reading a book is usually option to fill your no cost time/ holiday. The first thing that you will ask may be what kinds of e-book that you should read. If you want to attempt look for book, may be the guide untitled Belle Epoque can be very good book to read. May be it could be best activity to you.

Amy Medina:

A lot of people always spent their free time to vacation or maybe go to the outside with them family or their friend. Do you know? Many a lot of people spent they will free time just watching TV, or even playing video games all day long. In order to try to find a new activity that is look different you can read the book. It is really fun for you personally. If you enjoy the book you read you can spent the entire day to reading a e-book. The book Belle Epoque it is extremely good to read. There are a lot of people who recommended this book. They were enjoying reading this book. Should you did not have enough space to bring this book you can buy the e-book. You can m0ore simply to read this book from your smart phone. The price is not very costly but this book provides high quality.

Judi Orta:

Playing with family within a park, coming to see the marine world or hanging out with close friends is thing that usually you will have done when you have spare time, subsequently why you don't try point that really opposite from that. A single activity that make you not experiencing tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you have been ride on and with addition of information. Even you love Belle Epoque, you may enjoy both. It is very good combination right, you still wish to miss it? What kind of hang-out type is it? Oh seriously its mind hangout fellas. What? Still don't have it, oh come on its referred to as reading friends.

Jeff Brown:

Is it you who having spare time after that spend it whole day simply by watching television programs or just laying on the bed? Do you need something totally new? This Belle Epoque can be the answer, oh how comes? It's a book you know. You are so out of date, spending your free time by reading in this brand new era is common not a nerd activity. So what these books have than the others?

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