

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT:

Vida Engstrand, Senior Publicist

Ph: (212) 407-1573

Email: vengstrand@kensingtonbooks.com

**ELLEN MARIE WISEMAN'S *THE PLUM TREE*,
A FORBIDDEN LOVE STORY IN WARTIME GERMANY**

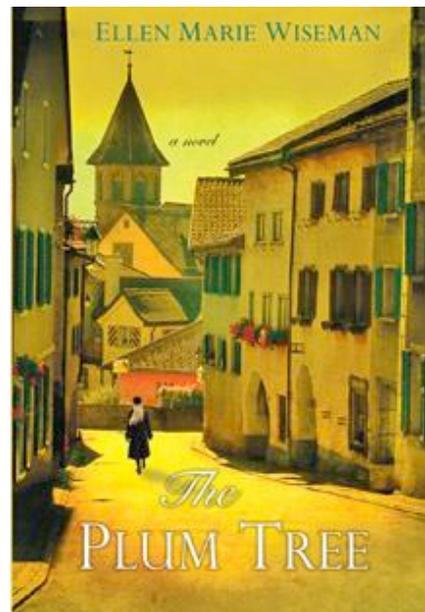
- A young German woman during WWII must struggle to survive poverty, Allied bombs, and agents of the Third Reich as she fights to keep her loved ones alive -

Advance Praise for *THE PLUM TREE*:

“A haunting and beautiful debut novel.” – Anna Jean Mayhew, author of *The Dry Grass of August*

“Ellen Marie Wiseman boldly explores the complexities of the Holocaust. This novel is at times painful, but it is also a satisfying love story set against the backdrop of one of the most difficult times in human history.” – T. Greenwood, author of *Two Rivers*

“Deft storytelling and rich characters make this a highly memorable read and a worthy addition to the narratives of the Holocaust and Second World War.” – Pam Jenoff, author of *The Ambassador's Daughter*



Kensington Publishing Corp. proudly debuts Ellen Marie Wiseman with the January 2013 release of *THE PLUM TREE*, her deeply moving novel about a young German woman during the chaos of World War II and its aftermath. Told from one of the best vantage points for witnessing the first cruelties and final ruin of the Third Reich—the German home front—*THE PLUM TREE* is an epic story of human resilience and enduring hope in the vein of *Cold Mountain* and *Schindler's List*.

Seventeen-year-old Christine Bolz knows that there is a whole world waiting beyond her small German village. It's a world she's begun to glimpse through music, books—and through Isaac Bauerman, the cultured son of the wealthy Jewish family she works for.

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Yet in the fall of 1938, Germany is changing rapidly under Hitler's regime. Anti-Jewish posters appear on street corners, dissenting talk is silenced, and a new law forbids Christine from returning to her job—and from having any relationship with Isaac. In the months and years that follow, Christine will confront the Gestapo's wrath and the horrors of Dachau, desperate to protect those she loves, to survive, and finally, to speak out.

THE PLUM TREE is an epic love story, but at its heart is Wiseman's attempt to put a face on the countless destitute German women and children who lived and died under Hitler's regime, most often as victims of their government's actions. Wiseman grew up listening to her mother's remembrances of life in Germany during WWII; horrifying tales of poverty, hunger, bombings, and constant fear. Her German relatives who lived through the war as young adults and children told her of a country made up of women, children, and the elderly struggling to stay alive while the men were drafted and sent off to fight.

Wiseman weaves this personal heritage into the fictional story of *THE PLUM TREE* – an unforgettable novel of courage and resolve, of the inhumanity of war, and the heartbreak and hope left in its wake.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:



Ellen Marie Wiseman was born and raised in Three Mile Bay, a tiny hamlet in Northern New York. A first generation American, Ellen has traveled frequently to visit her family in Germany, where she fell in love with the country's history and culture. A mother of two, Ellen lives peacefully on the shores of Lake Ontario with her husband and three dogs.

Readers can visit Ellen Marie Wiseman online at:
www.EllenMarieWiseman.com
Twitter: @EllenMarieWise
Facebook: facebook.com/ThePlumTreeNovel

THE PLUM TREE

By Ellen Marie Wiseman

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ON SALE: December 24, 2012 / Historical Fiction / Trade
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Author Residence: Three Mile Bay, NY

**For review copies or to schedule an interview with the author, please contact:
Vida Engstrand / Senior Publicist / 212.407.1573 / vengstrand@kensingtonbooks.com**