



# Remember Me

*Sanela Ramic Jurich*

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## **Remember Me** Sanela Ramic Jurich

At the innocent age of fifteen, Selma is just beginning to experience the power of her first love. Unfortunately, living in Bosnia in 1992, Selma and her parents soon find themselves targets of the Bosnian War, and her father is arrested by the Serb Army and held for questioning. In an attempt to protect her daughter, Selma's mother sends Selma to stay with her aunt, but that seems to be a mistake. Days after arriving, the city is attacked, her family members are murdered before her eyes, and Selma is thrown into a concentration camp where she lives out her worst nightmare. After losing nearly all those she loves, being abused by those whom she once trusted, and witnessing prejudice at its ugliest, Selma isn't sure she even wants to stay alive. Will Selma ever escape from room ten alive? And if she does, will her broken spirit ever recover? Will she have any family to return to? Will she ever find love again? Follow Selma Jovanovic's journey through love, despair, hope, and peace in author Sanela Jurich's Remember Me. Experience the brutality of the Bosnian Genocide, but see how God's hand restores Selma's life tenfold. Understand the courage it takes to face your attackers and relive the pain in the name of justice. Discover whether love can blossom from beneath the rubble of war.

## **Remember Me Details**

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## From Reader Review Remember Me for online ebook

### Jael says

Growing up in Bosnia, Selma was a typical teenager. She got good grades. For the most part, she was a dutiful daughter. She had a close-knit group of friends. Selma even had a boyfriend named Johnny, whom she tried to hide from her parents. But Selma's adolescence took a horrific turn in 1992 -- the start of the Bosnian War.

Remember Me by Sanela Ramic Jurich paints a horrific portrait of the war. People were raped, murdered, and tortured for no reason other than their religious beliefs or that they dared to talk back. I was 10 years old at the start of this war, old enough to remember this time period but honestly I don't. There were some passages in this book that I stared at in shock and with wide eyes. Why? I just couldn't believe how cruel some people could be. This is a fictional story, but I'm sure plenty of people who survived the war can see themselves in Selma.

Read the rest of my review at: <http://www.asiturnthepages.blogspot.c...>

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### Gregory Lamb says

Credible, Compassionate, and Courageous

Be ready to cry when reading this exquisitely written story. War is a tragic scourge on humanity, damaging all that is good. The conflicts that occurred in the former Yugoslav Republic beginning with Slovenia, then Croatia, and into Bosnia Herzegovina ruined the lives of so many innocent people.

Jurich's appropriately titled novel "Remember Me," written in the first person is told from the point of view of protagonist Selma Jovanovic, who details what happened in the Balkans in the early 1990s. In particular, Selma's story reads as a first hand account of an ordinary teenaged girl growing up in a Bosnian village. Her life and the lives of families around her were forever impacted by what happens when human beings intentionally mean harm.

In the story's beginning, Selma shares her hopes and dreams. Hers were no different than any teenaged girl's would be while coming of age, but in May of 1992 in Bosnia Herzegovina and the village of Prijedor, where Selma grew up, everything changed. People changed. The neighbors whom she trusted and went to school with took sides. People were abused and murdered for reasons that even they couldn't understand.

When the conflict was over, the damage left in its path remained. "Remember Me" is an important story that fortunately at the end, left me with a warm feeling of hope. In the story, Selma makes decisions in her life that caused me to think differently about innocence and justice. This story needed to be told so that people throughout the world would know why it is so important to remember who gets hurt when government fails and nations fight. Readers will discover that Jurich writes with the credibility and authenticity of a person who witnessed and experienced what took place in the Balkan countries during the 1990s.

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## **jessica bitic says**

this story had me hooked! could not put it down! so interesting! a must read!

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## **Lisa Tortorello says**

Remember Me by Sanela Jurich is a gripping story of love, pain, and endurance. Selma, once a typical teenager, tells her story of tragedy and triumph. Her world, as she knew it, changed when the Bosnian war broke out in the 1990s. Instead of going to school, Selma was taken to a concentration camp. The evil done to her there was unthinkable. She saw family members murdered, and was even betrayed by people she knew all her life.

How Selma survived this period in her life was amazing. Best of all, she came out a winner showing everyone that her spirit might have been marred (temporarily), but in the end it would not be broken!

I was hooked on Jurich's story from the beginning, especially when I realized, that though her story is fiction, much of what took place really happened to her or to people she knew. I highly recommend this book!

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## **Shelley says**

Author's guest post at my blog:  
<http://bookfare.blogspot.com/2016/03/...>

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## **Kevin Carrigan says**

This story has hooked me from page 1!

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## **Jane says**

Fifteen year old Selma is a normal teenager until her world is torn upside down when the Bosnian war begins. After her father is arrested her Mum sends Selma away to stay with her aunt in the hope she will be safe but the city is attacked and Selma watches helplessly as her family are murdered before her eyes. Dragged away to a concentration camp Selma suffers physical and sexual abuse at the hands of her captors and starts to believe death would be the easier option.

Sanela Ramic Jurich paints us a vivid picture of the horrors that took place during the Bosnian war allowing the reader to put themselves in the place of the characters, feeling their pain and terror. The book felt more like a biography than a novel so the depiction of the soldiers raping Selma and the other young girls was just

one of many very disturbing scenes to read. A lot of the book has a darkness to it that I found very depressing, this is not the type of escapism I enjoy but it does help to occasionally read this type of book to remind ourselves how lucky we are to live in a peaceful time and place.

Selma realised that even in her darkest hour there was room for hope and eventually after she moved to America with her mother and son her dreams were realised. This turns out to be a sweet love story with a happy ending which helps to put to the back of our minds the horrible stuff that came at the start. I found this to be a very touching and heartfelt story. Kudos to the author for having the strength to draw on her own experiences to write this fictional book and remind us that every war has its share of innocent victims. Many of us choose to ignore or forget this fact in our need for 'power' or what we believe is 'right'.

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