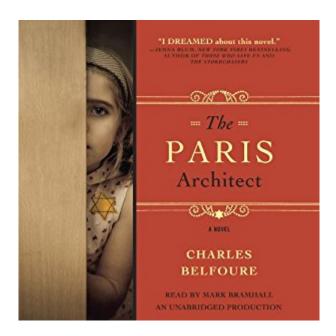
## The book was found

# **The Paris Architect**





### Synopsis

Like most gentiles in Nazi-occupied Paris, architect Lucien Bernard has little empathy for the Jews. So when a wealthy industrialist offers him a large sum of money to devise secret hiding places for Jews, Lucien struggles with the choice of risking his life for a cause he doesn't really believe in. Ultimately he can't resist the challenge and begins designing expertly concealed hiding spaces behind a painting, within a column, or inside a drainpipe - detecting possibilities invisible to the average eye. But when one of his clever hiding spaces fails horribly and the immense suffering of Jews becomes incredibly personal, he can no longer deny reality. Written by an expert whose knowledge imbues every word, this story becomes more gripping with every life the architect tries to save.

#### **Book Information**

Audible Audio Edition Listening Length: 11 hours and 10 minutes Program Type: Audiobook Version: Unabridged Publisher: Random House Audio Audible.com Release Date: October 8, 2013 Whispersync for Voice: Ready Language: English ASIN: B00EZ6I9VW Best Sellers Rank: #75 in Books > Literature & Fiction > Genre Fiction > Historical > Jewish #88 in Books > Literature & Fiction > Genre Fiction > Religious & Inspirational > Jewish #201 in Books > Literature & Fiction > Genre Fiction > Historical > Jewish #201

#### **Customer Reviews**

After five short chapters, I made notes of what I thought would happen in this book and, no surprise, I was correct. In the author's Q&A at the end of the book, Belfoure describes his novel-writing process as being similar to an architectural project. He first devised the plot, and then he populated it. I suspected as much. The plot certainly keeps the reader turning the pages but, at least in my case, I was turning them more and more quickly because I wanted to be done with the book. The problem was that although Belfoure's structure--the plot--was sound, albeit predictable, his characterization and dialog were seriously flawed. It was a good idea of Belfoure's to have the protagonist, Lucien Bernard, be a man with no sympathy for the plight of France's Jews, but who was drawn into saving Jews--first, through ambition, but then from conviction. Beyond that, though, the characters were flat, stock characters, and/or devices to help move along the plot. Sometimes they were inconsistent and changing in a moment, just to serve the plot.For example, Belfoure apparently felt that Bernard, being a Frenchman from Paris, must have a wife and a mistress, so he did, even though the wife, Celeste, was an almost entirely undeveloped character and could easily have been eliminated from the novel. The mistress, Adele, seemed to be there only to help illustrate the stock character of the "horizontal collaborator," help the reader to get to know the depths of Nazi evil, and put Bernard in dangerous situations with the Nazis.The dialog was wooden, and characters used slang and vernacular that wasn't appropriate to the time or place.

...and not stopping a third of the way through it, at which point the graceless, clumsy writing and two-dimensional characters were wearing on me. But the two stars are for Charles Belfoure's ability to plot. The book is a page-turner, no doubt about it. Once I had started reading, I had to find out how it ended. That doesn't mean that I found the ending-particularly the main character's revelation about his own motives--believable. I didn't.But beyond the plot, there is nothing here. The characters are cardboard cutouts--especially, but not solely, the women. You have your gorgeous, ambitious slut who will do anything to save her business; your gorgeous former slut with a heart of gold, whose entrance into a factory causes every single one of the 200+ men who work there to stop working simultaneously (Come on...); the brilliant microbiologist for whom "being a mother would always trump her career;" and assorted slatterns and ugly charwomen. You have your good Nazi and your typical Gestapo guy who laughs helplessly as a man is brutally tortured in front of him. The writing is sloppy and reflects the now common lack of editing and proofreading that infects virtually all books; in one paragraph, "Lucien, the atheist didn't want any religious horse s\*\*\*," and in the very next paragraph, he thinks, "His father was probably looking up at him from Hell." And wouldn't you think that an architect would know that the thing over a fireplace is a mantel, not a mantle?At one point, Lucien, the main character and the Paris architect, suddenly longs to become a father. Out of the blue. With no background to support what becomes a major factor in the plot and that rings as false as a cracked bell.Mr.

#### Download to continue reading...

Architect's Essentials of Contract Negotiation (The Architect's Essentials of Professional Practice) Maurice Fatio: Palm Beach Architect (The American Architect) An Architect's Guide to Construction: Tales from the Trenches Book 1 (An Architect's Guide - Tales from the Trenches) The Paris Architect The Paris Architect: A Novel How Paris Became Paris: The Invention of the Modern City Judgment of Paris: California vs. France and the Historic 1976 Paris Tasting That Revolutionized Wine Paris 1789: A Guide to Paris on the Eve of the Revolution (Sightseers) Judgment of Paris: California vs. France & the Historic 1976 Paris Tasting That Revolutionized Wine Paris, France: Travel Guide Book: A Comprehensive 5-Day Travel Guide to Paris, France & Unforgettable French Travel: Best Travel Guides to Europe, Book 1 The Glow of Paris: The Bridges of Paris at Night Paris Changing: Revisiting EugÃfÂ<sup>-</sup>ne Atget's Paris The LEGO Architect Archidoodle: The Architect's Activity Book The Language of Architecture: 26 Principles Every Architect Should Know House Rules: An Architect's Guide to Modern Life Designing Your Perfect House: Lessons from an Architect The Creative Architect: Inside the Great Midcentury Personality Study The Architect's Studio Companion: Rules of Thumb for Preliminary Design Antonio Gaudi: Master Architect