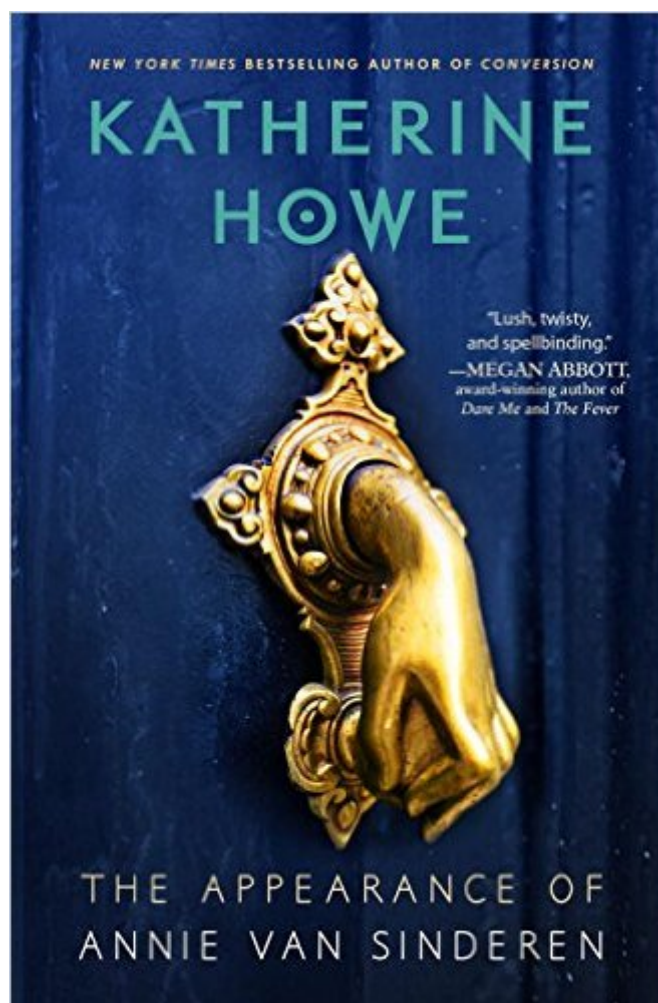


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# The Appearance Of Annie Van Sinderen



## Synopsis

A haunting, contemporary love story from the New York Times bestselling author of *Conversion*--now in paperback! It's July in New York City, and aspiring filmmaker Wes Auckerman has just arrived to start his summer term at NYU. While shooting a séance at a psychic in the East Village, he meets a mysterious, intoxicatingly beautiful girl named Annie. As they start spending time together, Wes finds himself falling for her, drawn to her rose-petal lips and her entrancing glow. There's just something about her that he can't put his finger on, something faraway and otherworldly that compels him to fall even deeper. Annie's from the city, and yet she seems just as out of place as Wes feels. Lost in the chaos of the busy city streets, she's been searching for something—a missing ring. And now Annie is running out of time and needs Wes's help. As they search together, Annie and Wes uncover secrets lurking around every corner, secrets that will reveal the truth of Annie's dark past.

## Book Information

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1800s

Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 7 and up

## Customer Reviews

I devoured this book. It is a suspenseful and intriguing read about an impossible romance set against the backdrop of NYC, both in the present and in 1825. The main characters Wes and Annie are incredibly well-developed and fascinating and the story is a wonderful mix of historical fiction, romance and the supernatural. A terrific book for readers of all ages.

This is a wonderful mix of historical fiction, the supernatural, and romance. While studying at NYU in hopes of becoming a documentary film maker, Wes meets a strange but lovely girl, Annie. He and his buddy are filming a seance and Annie is blocking the shots. The narrative shifts between NYC in 1825 and the present, and from the first person perspective of first Wes, then Annie. This is brilliantly done. Don't let the 400 pages scare you. I bought the book yesterday and finished it today. It's fast-paced, has a good mystery, some twists, and the characters are all fascinating. Highly recommended for readers 14 and up.

I received a review copy courtesy of the author/publisher. This does not affect my opinion or views regarding the book whatsoever. You know what pains me the most about doing non-spoiler reviews? The fact that I can't fully describe how I felt about a story. Here's my problem. The Appearance Of Annie Van Sinderen was such a spectacular read, that I want to yell to the skies above about every moment, every emotion, every DETAIL, of what I experienced. Butttttt since I want my readers to go in with an open mind, (open mouth sounded way too pervy lol) I'll try to refrain from spilling too many beans . . . **KEYWORD . TRY** The Appearance of Annie is one of those stories that completely flew over my head for the first 200 or so pages. I was so engrossed by the mysterious creepiness of the writing and characters, that I never bothered to stop and think, " why exactly is all of this even HAPPENING? " Every couple or so pages, I'm literally saying aloud, " WHAT IS GOING ON? " because I was so freaking lost, but in the best damn way. It reminded me of the time my step-sister and I were lost in New York. We didn't panic, or even care to be honest, because we were so in AWE of our surroundings, so swept up into the energy of the city, and if any experience could be compared to reading this book, this would definitely be it. My absolute favorite thing about The Appearance of Annie is the plot. The characters could've been as flat as my next door neighbor's booty, (they weren't of course) and I bet you a pre-order, I would've loved it all the same. The story follows our two main characters Wes and Annie in a very strange way. Wes, a college student attending NYU's summer program for film, and Annie a . . . girl from the . . . 1800's. Part one is told from Wes's perspective and all his typical boy glory. I loved his character, especially his passion for making documentaries, which happens to be a serious obsession of mine. Annie's perspective on the other hand, was a wholeee nother ball game. I was so intrigued by her story, and how the author cleverly weaved the classic tale of Rip Van Winkle into the mix. Speaking of Rip Van Winkle, remember how he fell asleep, then woke up in a time completely different from his own? Well, imagine my expression when I FINALLY discovered that the same had happened to Annie. Can you

even cope with being born in a time where they didn't have cars, cellphones, or even airplanes? Then BAM, you wake up and your town seems normal, but suddenly cobblestone streets turn into slick pavement, markets and other grubby buildings turn into sleek glass structures scraping the sky, and even walking down the street feels like your watching some type of weird porn. I would've totally s\*\*\* my pants. Howe infused historical fiction with our modern day world, allowing the story to be not only amusing, (Annie's reactions to the new-age was so cute) but trippy as hell. To say I was a kid in a candy store would be an understatement. Katherine's work is so pleasantly unreal, allowing readers the perfect fictional escape. I found myself completely taken away by the premise, the characters, the flow, even the charm of it all, and before I knew it, the story had ended, and far too quickly for my tastes. I adored this unusual take on a love story between two characters from two different centuries, not to forget the quirky secondary characters that made the story that much more enjoyable. The writing was beyond captivating, with the perfect mixture of a well done contemporary, fantasy, a sprinkle of historical fiction, and a dash of paranormal elements, making this a special treat for every reader. *The Appearance of Annie Van Sinderen* mashes the past and present, real with the unreal, so if you're ready to frazzle your wits with this out of body experience, I highly recommend you pick this up.

*The Appearance of Annie Van Sinderen* is a relaxing, sometimes thoroughly scary and slightly longwinded read. Wes and Tyler have film study projects to complete. Will the sudden appearance of Annie Van Sinderen benefit the project or threaten to derail, at least, Wes's effort? I had to read almost half of this novel before I was convinced that I wanted to actually finish it. A worthwhile read in the end, I found, especially the first part of this book overly descriptive and unnecessarily drawn out with lots of superfluous detail. The characters are fleshed out and extremely realistic. The young men, Wes and Tyler, are typical and rather irritating nineteen-year-olds. Wes, with his very obvious self image problem, complicates his own life with his insecurities about approaching women. Annie is very realistically portrayed in both her ghostly as well as her nineteenth century New York girl persona. Maddie is probably the most intriguing and likable character in this book. The final third of this story, however, makes reading *The Appearance of Annie Van Sinderen* a reasonably exciting and pleasurable experience. Those who love tales of hauntings with a hint of time travel may find this book a truly pleasant read. (Ellen Fritz)

From the moment I picked up this novel, I couldn't put it down. Annie and Wes are engaging characters, and the historic details are pitch-perfect. There are some great humorous moments, and

I loved the glimpses of New York City in days gone by. Plus the gorgeous writing was a real treat. This is a terrific read for both adults and YA.

This book was a bit confusing for about the first 100 pages. Howe is a wonderful writer and I was quite intrigued by the background history of the story. It's really an amazing part of American history that I was not familiar with. There is a bit of back and forth between the what the reader might consider the past and the actual present. Until both times more or less unite, it can be somewhat annoying to try to follow. The ending is also not only confusing but also feels incomplete.

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