

*The Woman with the Blue Star*, Pam Jenoff

(This book is to be published May 2021. I received an advanced reader's copy to review.)

Based on true stories passed down through families who hid in the underground sewer tunnels during World War II to escape the Nazis, Jenoff writes about eighteen-year-old Sadie Gault, who in the middle of the night escapes a Nazi raid by accompanying her father and pregnant mother into the sewer via a hole in the bathroom wall. Through the kindness of a man who worked for the city, the Gaults and another family find themselves directed deep into the tunnels, but unable to leave as Nazi guards are stationed by the exit that dumps into the river.

One day, looking up through a grate (something Sadie had been forbidden to do) Sadie sees Ella who is shopping at the market. Ella is shocked to realize there are people hiding underground while her family is enjoying the benefits of having a stepmother with connections.

Ella begins to help Sadie and the others, by bringing food. The dangers of this relationship soon become apparent, and Ella knows her involvement will bring about disaster for herself, her family and her new friends.

Eureka PLD has *The Woman with the Blue Star* on pre-order, and it will be available in early May. Other novels by Pam Jenoff are available at the Library, including *The Lost Girls of Paris*, *The Winter Guest* and *The Orphan's Tale*.