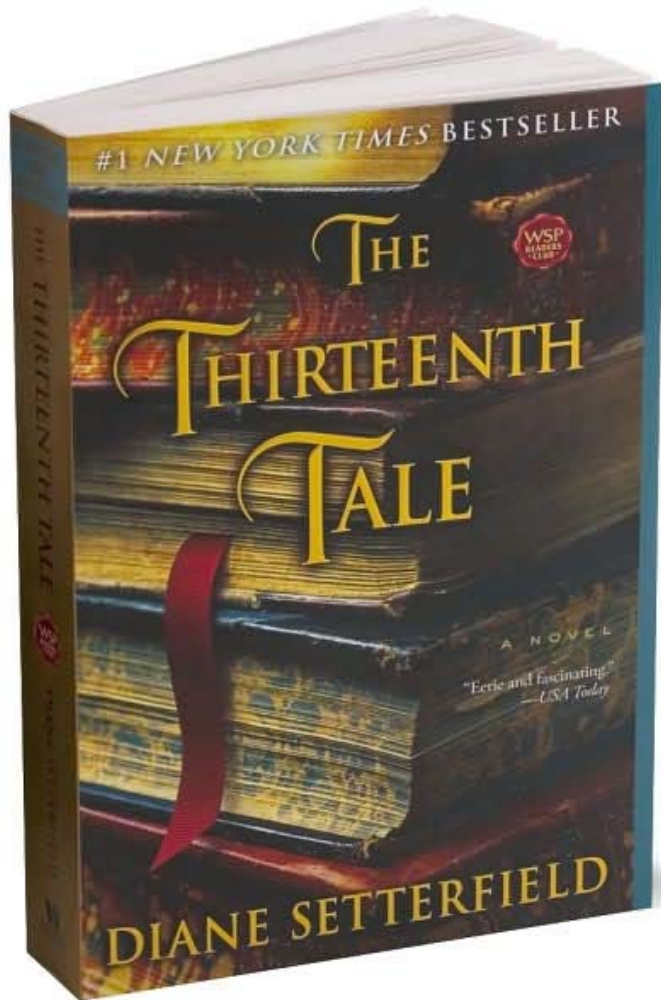


The Thirteenth Tale

by Diane Setterfield

Reviewed by Jan Scilipoti - 1/10/2010



I started my winter reading by re-visiting a few of my favorite Jane Austen books and movies, and with Charlotte Bronte's *Jane Eyre*. If this is your kind of fun, *The Thirteenth Tale* is for you. It's filled with delicious passages about books, about writing stories, and ultimately about living your own story.

You'll find yourself being engrossed in the progression of two personal stories, wondering what had happened in the past, and what was to happen in the future. You'll notice a remarkable resemblance to certain effects prominent in *Jane Eyre*, including mysterious family circumstances, fire, hints of ghosts, and admirable female characters.

I left the book marveling at how well the author 'disguised' the time in which the book occurred. For much of the book I felt drawn back in time, and then a scene would suddenly bring me to contemporary times. Since much of my reading is by authors of previous eras, I am pleased to find a story that combines elements of past fiction that is rooted in our time.

This is available on CD on Lopez as well, and the readers represent the main characters beautifully. Whether in audio or book form, this is sure to keep your interest, and keep you by the fire. life.

~ Jan Scilipoti

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