



Coal River

By Ellen Marie Wiseman

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Coal River By Ellen Marie Wiseman

*In this vibrant new historical novel, the acclaimed author of *The Plum Tree* and *What She Left Behind* explores one young woman's determination to put an end to child labor in a Pennsylvania mining town...*

As a child, Emma Malloy left isolated Coal River, Pennsylvania, vowing never to return. Now, orphaned and penniless at nineteen, she accepts a train ticket from her aunt and uncle and travels back to the rough-hewn community. Treated like a servant by her relatives, Emma works for free in the company store. There, miners and their impoverished families must pay inflated prices for food, clothing, and tools, while those who owe money are turned away to starve.

Most heartrending of all are the breaker boys Emma sees around the village—young children who toil all day sorting coal amid treacherous machinery. Their soot-stained faces remind Emma of the little brother she lost long ago, and she begins leaving stolen food on families' doorsteps, and marking the miners' bills as paid.

Though Emma's actions draw ire from the mine owner and police captain, they lead to an alliance with a charismatic miner who offers to help her expose the truth. And as the lines blur between what is legal and what is just, Emma must risk everything to follow her conscience.

An emotional, compelling novel that rings with authenticity—*Coal River* is a deft and honest portrait of resilience in the face of hardship, and of the simple acts of courage that can change everything.

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Coal River By Ellen Marie Wiseman Bibliography

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Editorial Review

Review

"Wiseman offers heartbreaking and historically accurate depictions... The richly developed coal town acts as a separate, complex character; readers will want to look away even as they're drawn into a powerful quest for purpose and redemption...[a] powerful story"- *Publishers Weekly*

"In clean, clear prose, Wiseman paints an insightful portrait of a coal town and the miners' struggle for their rights, along with the fight against child labor. This non-stop read is a compelling story of one woman's determination to see justice win over greed and corruption. The careful research shows in every page of this forthright picture of a world brought from darkness into the light." -*RT Book Reviews, 4 Stars*

"Ellen Marie Wiseman takes readers deep into the politics and hidden atrocities of a 20th-century Pennsylvania mining town." - **BookPage.com**

"Intense and heartbreaking at times, but full of hope. The author's impeccable research into this era makes for a spot-on portrayal of a dark time in American history. *Coal River* [is] one of the most "unputdownable" books of 2015." - *The Historical Novels Review*, Editor's Choice

About the Author

Ellen Marie Wiseman's debut novel, THE PLUM TREE, was released by Kensington Publishing on December 25th, 2012 and received much praise for its depiction of WWII through the eyes of an average working-class German family. It was named One of BookBub's Thirteen Books to Read if You Loved ALL THE LIGHT WE CANNOT SEE. Her second novel, WHAT SHE LEFT BEHIND, released in 2013 and was named a Huffington Post Best Books of Summer 2015. Her third novel, COAL RIVER was released in November 2015. A mother and grandmother, Ellen lives on the shores of Lake Ontario with her husband and dogs. Her novels have been published in eleven countries. Find Ellen on Facebook at: [Facebook.com/EllenMarieWisemanAuthor](https://www.facebook.com/EllenMarieWisemanAuthor)

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Ruth Beasley:

This book untitled Coal River to be one of several books in which best seller in this year, that is because when you read this guide you can get a lot of benefit on it. You will easily to buy that book in the book retail outlet or you can order it by way of online. The publisher of this book sells the e-book too. It makes you quicker to read this book, because you can read this book in your Cell phone. So there is no reason to your account to past this reserve from your list.

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