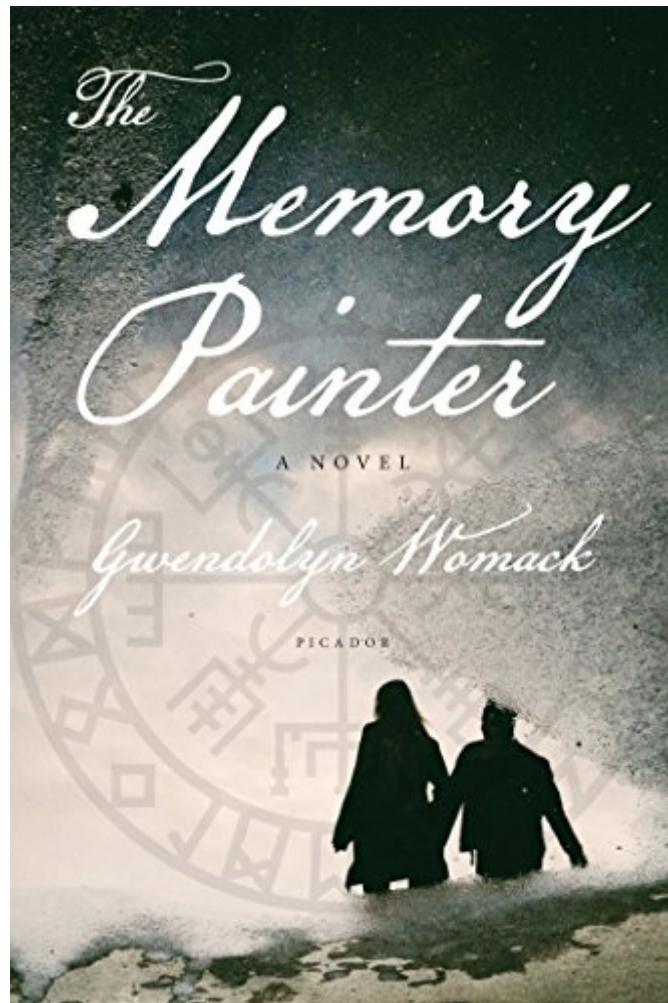




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# The Memory Painter: A Novel Of Love And Reincarnation



## Synopsis

WINNER OF THE RWA PRISM AWARD FOR BEST TIME TRAVEL/STEAMPUNK AND A FINALIST FOR BEST FIRST BOOK A thriller, a romance, a 10,000-year adventureâ [The Memory Painter is â œthe guy-meets-girl story as you've never heard it before" (Refinery29). Bryan Pierce is an internationally famous artist, whose paintings have dazzled the world. But there's a secret to Bryan's success: Every canvas is inspired by an unusually vivid dream. Bryan believes these dreams are really recollectionsâ "possibly even flashback from another lifeâ "and he has always hoped that his art will lead him to an answer. And when he meets Linz Jacobs, a neurogeneticist who recognizes a recurring childhood nightmare in one Bryan's paintings, he is convinced she holds the key. Their meeting triggers Bryan's most powerful dream yetâ "visions of a team of scientists who, on the verge of discovering a cure for Alzheimer's, died in a lab explosion decades ago. As his visions intensify, Bryan and Linz start to discern a pattern. But a deadly enemy watches their every move, and he will stop at nothing to ensure that the past stays buried.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

The Memory Painter by Gwendolyn Womack has a great premise. An artist, Bryan, has been haunted his whole life with 'remembering' previous lives. He has no control over it, and goes into a fugue-like state where he paints a scene from that life. Interestingly he gains the skills of the individual - chess master level chess skills, fluency in the language, samurai fighting skills and so on. One day he meets Lyns, a specialist in brain chemistry and memory. He recognizes her as a soul he's been connected to repeatedly. She has had recurring nightmares about being put to death in 3rd century Rome. She is shocked when she sees Bryan's painting of that nightmare. Over the course of the novel, Bryan tries to convince Lyns of their connection, but his most recent memories of his last life point to Lyns' father's involvement in his death, along with Lyns in her previous incarnation. The novel moves at a good clip and we see Bryan in various incarnations and Lyns as she tries to make sense of all the seemingly random connections with Bryan. The individual lives are interesting, eventually bringing the reader to ancient Egypt and the idea that there was once an advanced civilization whose knowledge was lost to later generations. The idea is well executed and based on the nature of the past lives connections, plot incidences that might otherwise feel coincidental or even 'deus ex machina' make sense in the context. The characters were distinct enough and there were enough twists and suspense to keep my engagement high. The ending worked well, although it left enough open that I wonder if there will be a sequel. I enjoyed the dips into history and the brushes with the famous. Womack knew her the individuals she based 'past lives' on as well as their settings and the history. Womack used myth well to pull the threads together. While not the literary event of the year, it was an entertaining read that was thought provoking. Over all I would recommend this book to anyone who enjoys a fast-paced mystery based in science and in history.

I was browsing in a San Francisco bookstore when this cover caught my eye. I picked it up and its synopsis instantly had my thoughts chanting something like: "OMG FINALLY a fiction book with a past life twist!" a topic I've gotten curious about in recent years (sidenote: I'm quite confident that I've had a past life with at least one person that I currently know ). I couldn't stop thinking about it and got the book soon after, so excited was I to get to it. This story is enthralling and has SO much to draw readers in: captivating historical characters, romance, science, and adventure told via fast-paced short chapters, complete with a dash of suspense leaving you wondering what's next "wow indeed! Just as remarkable was the nod to Graham Hancock (and others) work on ancient Egypt, and which brought to mind the recommended Pyramid Code documentary tackling the

purpose of the pyramids and that ancient Egyptian civilization is likely much older than we think. Overall a skilled entertaining achievement that should resonate with anyone interested in the concept of past lives, and/or who wants a fun, multi-layered read! I'm also looking forward to her latest June 2017 release, *The Fortune Teller*!

One of the earlier reviewers said that Ms. Womack "dazzles." I'm always a little suspicious of such gushing statements, but I was indeed dazzled. Sure, there were a few minor discrepancies in facts that should have been edited... Sure, I wondered throughout the book why reincarnation novels seldom feature ordinary people... But I gladly overlooked these little annoyances because I thoroughly enjoyed the read, especially the parts about ancient Egypt. This was an ambitious first novel and I look forward very much to reading her next book. "*The Fortune Teller*."

I loved it!! *The Memory Painter* by Gwendolyn Womack captivated me from the first page! It is one of those books that you can't put down waiting to see what happens next. I loved the main characters Bryan, an artist, and Linz, a scientist, two people from very different worlds whose lives intertwine. The plot was thrilling, fast-paced, piques your curiosity and leads you to unexpected places. The book is well written and Gwendolyn's characters, places, and events are well researched and based on historical fact. I didn't want the book to end. I hope Gwendolyn writes a sequel! This book kept me thinking and imagining long after it was over how so many seemingly unrelated things in our lives are intertwined and put in our lives for a reason!

A fairly good read, I liked *THE TIME TRAVELERS WIFE* (I think that's it) was better. Characters only marginally interesting and the whole memory thing I thought was weak. I read it for a book club; had that not been the case I might not have finished it

A suspense-filled page-turner. I heard about this book on Dr. Brian Weiss' Facebook page. It's been a while since I read a book that was difficult to put down. Thought-provoking - ancient mysteries, reincarnation, memories stored in our subconscious over lifetimes and how these impact our present, how can we evolve into higher beings by tapping into the wisdom in our subconscious, and the eternal nature of our souls.

What an amazing book! It makes me wish that life is truly like this premise; that it's a big circle and we're all connected, somehow, to other past lives. It is making me wonder who is in my life for a

reason because we knew each other in a past life. The author put the story together so well and made it seamless, like a woven tapestry. It is definitely in my top five books read this year. I can't wait until book club tomorrow to discuss it!

A good tale of action, love, and betrayal. This was certainly a story to take you away from the hum-drum.

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