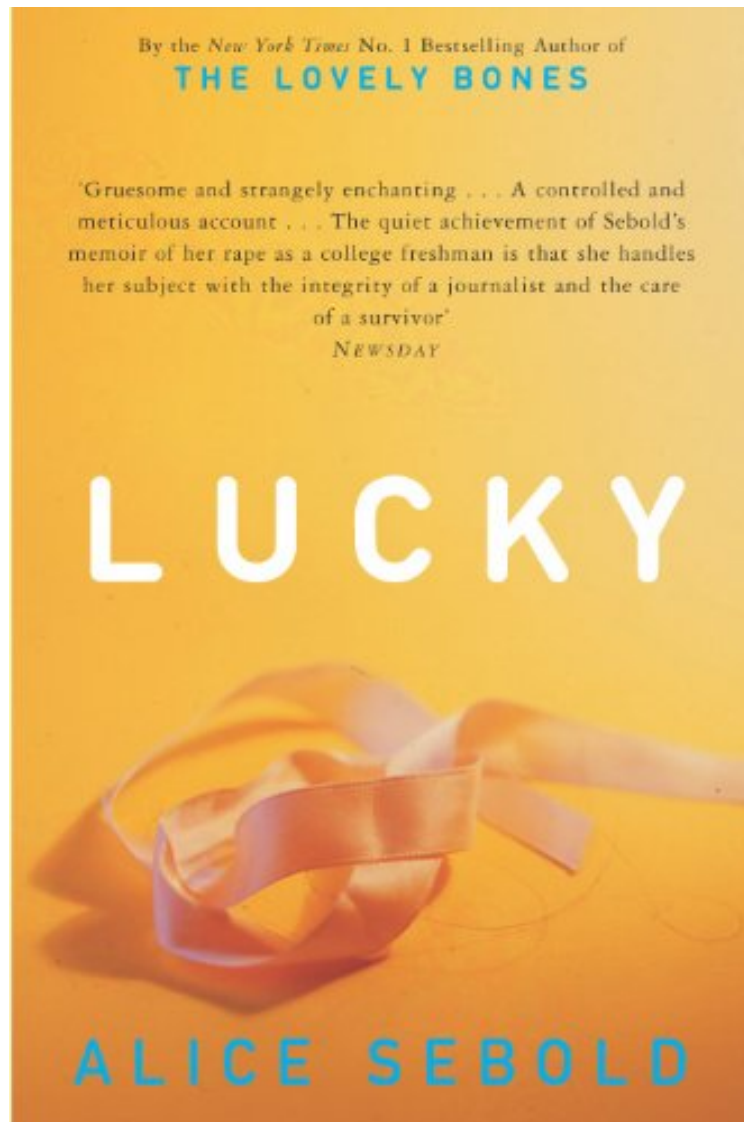


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## Lucky (English Edition)

Von Alice Sebold

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**Von Alice Sebold : Lucky (English Edition)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Lucky (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen9 von 9 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A stunningly honest book, written in a clear voice.Von R. StolzerEven before I write a commentary about Alice Sebold's book, I know that a mini-review like this could never do it justice. "Lucky" is an incredible book, written by an incredible author. What struck me most about Sebold's writing is her unadorned honesty. A previous reviewer stated that she found the characters to be cliché. I found the book and characters to be exactly the opposite. While reading

"Lucky", I wondered to myself if I could be as open and honest as Sebold writes. Probably not, was my answer. "Lucky" is a book that is written with a clear and honest voice; a voice that stayed with me for weeks after reading the book. And there was humor. Humor which both surprised me--because it struck me that a book about rape shouldn't contain humor--then made perfect sense to me, because Alice Sebold is a human being and humor is one of the functions that human beings employ in dealing with pain. This could have very easily have been a "poor me" book, and maybe some readers have the expectations that it should be more that type of book. One of the main reasons that I found "Lucky" to be as compelling as it is, is because of what it isn't. "Lucky" is not a book filled with self pity. I don't want to say that Sebold's book isn't emotional, because it most certainly is, but the emotions aren't worn on Alice Sebold's sleeves. She writes in a way in which a reader can understand some of the pain and trauma she has gone through (and I can only imagine, still deals with), but that emotion and pain does not get in the way of her being an excellent narrator. The narration is unnerving at times, because of how concise a writer Sebold is. She writes the story of her life and rape (as they are intertwined) in a very straight forward and matter-of-fact fashion. Maybe time and distance have allowed that type of narration to occur. But Sebold's straight forwardness has not resulted in a cold narration. "Lucky" is an incredible book written by a fragile human being; a human being who has bravely written what would have to be one of the most painful experiences ever to occur in anyone's life. In writing "Lucky", I feel that Alice Sebold has presented a gift to all of us. A gift of her pain, honesty, humor and fragility. I thank her for this gift.<sup>3</sup> von 3 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Powerful, haunting and beautifully written. Von Leila Hemaidan I read Lucky on a flight home. I couldn't put it down. I continued reading it while waiting for my luggage in the baggage claim area and I did not leave the airport until I read the last page. My autonomic nervous system took a beating. Alice's story haunts me. I think about the unintentional damage we do to people who have suffered an act of violence when we attempt to "understand." In our endeavor to put logic on the illogical, we tell ourselves that what happened was their fault, perhaps because of weakness or bad judgement. When we convince ourselves of this, we convince ourselves that we are in control our lives; random acts of violence couldn't possibly happen to us. Lucky blows apart this lie. Alice Sebold won't let you hide behind rationalization, explanation, or theoretical discussion on the ills of society to excuse or lighten the effects and the damage an act of violence has on another person. She will make you face the random, violent, crazy world we live in with a writing style that is direct, harsh and unapologetic. She never asks for your pity. But Lucky is also a story written with compassion, humor, warmth and intelligence. As Alice Sebold tells of her long and difficult journey from a place of fear, rage and despair to a place of meaning and hope, you cannot help but be humbled and awed at the complex union between fragility and strength in human beings. Lucky is a book you will remember long after you have finished the last page.<sup>7</sup> von 8 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Triumphant Von Cathy A Belben In 1980, as a college freshman at Syracuse University, Alice Sebold was brutally raped as she walked home through a park one night, and the event profoundly marked her life from then on. In this powerful memoir, at times shocking and other times humorous, Sebold recreates the event that scarred her life in grim detail, and recalls the decision she made to find and pursue the conviction of her attacker. With the help of her poetry professor Tess Gallagher and fiction prof Tobias Wolff, she was able to identify the man who robbed her of her virginity and left her physically and emotionally damaged, and to testify at the trial that sent him to prison. The opening chapter, in which the author details the brutal attack on her, left me crying, and the remaining chapters read like a gripping suspense novel and a triumphant account of justice. A powerful, moving read.

Kurzbeschreibung In a memoir hailed for its searing candour and wit, Alice Sebold reveals how her life was utterly transformed when, as an eighteen-year-old college freshman, she was brutally raped and beaten in a park near campus. What propels this chronicle of her recovery is Sebold's indomitable spirit as she struggles for understanding (After telling the hard facts to anyone, from lover to friend, I have changed in their eyes); as her dazed family and friends sometimes bungle their efforts to provide comfort and support; and as, ultimately, she triumphs, managing through grit and coincidence to help secure her attacker's arrest and conviction. In a narrative by turns disturbing, thrilling, and inspiring, Alice Sebold illuminates the experience of trauma victims even as she imparts wisdom profoundly hard-won: You save yourself or you remain unsaved. A rueful, razor-sharp memoir . . . Sebold tells what its like to go through a particular kind of nightmare in order to tell what its like slowly, bumpily, triumphantly to heal Sarah Kerr, Vogue From Publishers Weekly When journalist Sebold was a college freshman at Syracuse University, she was attacked and raped on the last night of school, forced onto the ground in a tunnel "among the dead leaves and broken beer bottles." In a ham-handed attempt to mollify her, a policeman later told her that a young woman had been murdered there and, by comparison, Sebold should consider herself lucky. That dubious "luck" is the focus of this fiercely observed memoir about how an incident of such profound violence can change the course of one's life. Sebold launches her memoir headlong into the rape itself, laying out its visceral physical as well as mental violence, and from there spins a narrative of her life before and after the incident, weaving memories of parental alcoholism together with her post-rape addiction to heroin. In the midst of each wrenching episode, from the initial attack to the ensuing

courtroom drama, Sebold's wit is as powerful as her searing candor, as she describes her emotional denial, her addiction and even the rape (her first "real" sexual experience). She skillfully captures evocative moments, such as, during her girlhood, luring one of her family's basset hounds onto a blue silk sofa (strictly off-limits to both kids and pets) to nettle her father. Addressing rape as a larger social issue, Sebold's account reveals that there are clear emotional boundaries between those who have been victims of violence and those who have not, though the author attempts to blur these lines as much as possible to show that violence touches many more lives than solely the victim's. (Aug.) Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Kirkus sA stunningly crafted and unsparing account of the authors rape as a college freshman and what it took to win her case in court. In 1981, Sebold was brutally raped on her college campus, at Syracuse University. Sebold, a New York Times Magazine contributor, now in her 30s, reconstructs the rape and the year following in which her assailant was brought to trial and found guilty. When, months after the rape, she confided in her fiction professor, Tobias Wolff, he advised: Try, if you can, to remember everything. Sebold heeded his words, and the result is a memoir that reads like detective fiction, replete with police jargon, economical characterization, and filmlike scene construction. Part of Sebolds ironic luck, besides the fact that she wasnt killed, was that she was a virgin prior to the rape, she was wearing bulky clothing, and her rapist beat her, leaving unmistakable evidence of violence. Sebold casts a cool eye on these facts: The cosmetics of rape are central to proving any case. Sebold critiques the sexism and misconceptions surrounding rape with neither rhetoric nor apology; she lets her experience speak for itself. Her family, her friends, her campus community are all shaken by the brutality she survived, yet Sebold finds herself feeling more affinity with police officers she meets, as it was in [their] world where this hideous thing had happened to me. A world of violent crime. Just when Sebold believes she might surface from this world, a close friend is raped and the haunting continues. The last section, Aftermath, has an unavoidable tacked-on-at-the-end feel, as Sebold crams over a decades worth of coping and healing into a short chapter. Told with mettle and intelligence, Sebolds story of fierce determination to wrest back her life from her rapist will inspire and challenge. -- Copyright 1999, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.