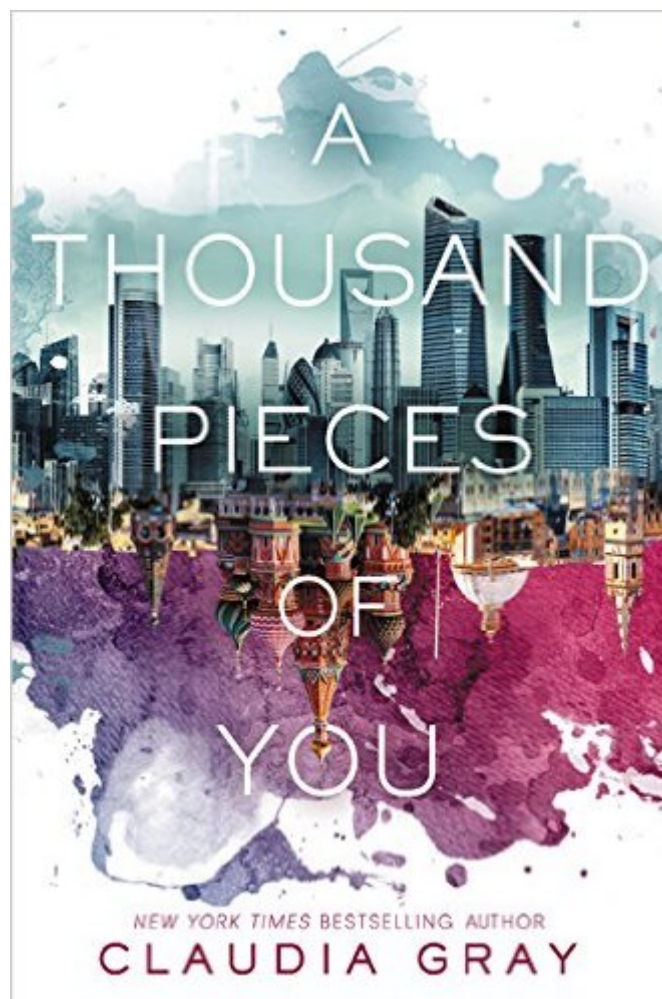


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# A Thousand Pieces Of You (Firebird)



## Synopsis

Cloud Atlas meets Orphan Black in this epic dimension-bending trilogy by New York Times bestselling author Claudia Gray about a girl who must chase her father's killer through multiple dimensions. Marguerite Caine's physicist parents are known for their groundbreaking achievements. Their most astonishing invention, called the Firebird, allows users to jump into multiple universes and promises to revolutionize science forever. But then Marguerite's father is murdered, and the killer—her parent's handsome, enigmatic assistant Paul—escapes into another dimension before the law can touch him. Marguerite refuses to let the man who destroyed her family go free. So she races after Paul through different universes, always leaping into another version of herself. But she also meets alternate versions of the people she knows—including Paul, whose life entangles with hers in increasingly familiar ways. Before long she begins to question Paul's guilt as well as her own heart. And soon she discovers the truth behind her father's death is far more sinister than she expected. *A Thousand Pieces of You* explores an amazingly intricate multi-universe where fate is unavoidable, the truth elusive, and love the greatest mystery of all.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

2.5 Stars. There's no doubt that Claudia Gray knows how to write well. She strings sentences and paragraphs together quite coherently (unlike many others I've tried to read) and her best-selling status reflects that a lot of readers appreciate her writing skills. I don't disagree with that at all. Now, because Gray is a good writer (no spelling errors, can write dialog, etc), other readers may very well

enjoy this book so I'm going to lay out exactly why I didn't like it so everyone else can decide if that applies to them as well. If it does, skip the book. If not, you will probably really like it. So read on to see what bugged the heck out of me: The problems I had with her most recent release, *A Thousand Pieces of You*, had nothing to do with her technical writing skills. Rather, it was the plot and development of the story itself that fell into, well, a thousand pieces. A quick synopsis: Marguerite's parents are famous scientists who not only discover that multiple dimensions co-exist all around us, but invent a small device that allows a person to travel among these dimensions and inhabit our "other dimension" self, one at a time. Needless to say, it's a world-altering discovery/invention but Marguerite's father is murdered immediately following the discovery. One of his two trusted lab assistants, Paul, is accused of the murder (we don't know by what evidence), and Paul skips town. Or rather, he skips their dimension entirely using the newly invented device called the Firebird, hence the series title. Marguerite and the other lab assistant, smarmy Theo, take two more Firebirds and chase after Paul to extract revenge. So you might think this book is a thriller. It is *\*not a thriller.\** There is very little action in this book.

Review also posted on my blog, *Babbling of a Book Babe*. This book was one of my most anticipated of last year. I mean, check out that cover, it's beyond gorgeous. And travelling through parallel universes? Uhm, yes please. I don't think I've ever read any of Claudia Gray's other stuff, but I was beyond excited to read this one and experience the intense ride the summary promised. Unfortunately, a lot of this book was very disappointing to me. Maybe my expectations were too high and I knew exactly what I wanted to get from this book, so when it didn't deliver, I had a hard time getting into it, but no matter what the reason, I didn't like this book nearly as much as I thought I would. To start off with, I didn't particularly like Marguerite as our main character and narrator. I never really got much of a connection with her and found her to be a bit bland, to be honest. I felt like the author was trying a little too hard to make her seem cool, but to be honest, she just kind of felt like a hipster. I can't believe that I'm using that word to describe anyone, but that's what she reminded me of with her artsy skills, constant pondering, appreciation for homeschooling, and closet full of fun clothing. I just got the feeling that she thought she was cooler than everyone else because she was different. So of course, I wasn't surprised when she ended being special because she was importantly different from everyone else. I'm not going to spoil anything, but it frustrated me that instead of being a normal girl who just so happens to have super smart parents, she also ends up having something super special about her. As far as the romance went, there was a love triangle and I didn't really particularly care for

either boy.

I had heard nothing but good things about this book and just look at that gorgeous cover! Who could say no to that? And believe me, this book lived up to the hype 110%! This book swept me up in its stunning prose and creative plot. I have honestly never read anything like it, though I will admit to never having read time travel, or in this case alternate dimension, books. However, I don't think it can get better than this. At every turn, I had no idea what was going to happen. For me, this book was completely and totally unpredictable, and my love for this book knows no bounds. Let's talk about these amazing characters for one hot minute! I found Marguerite to be a refreshing female heroine. Her spunk, passion, and wit made me fall in love with her as the narrator. I generally don't like first person narratives, but her voice throughout the novel was so clear, so inspiring almost. She was intelligent without being obvious or over the top, but she also stayed human in that she hoped with all her heart that Paul Markov didn't do what people say he did. I also absolutely loved Paul/Lt. Markov. I'm not going to lie, he's probably my favorite character because he is so genuinely sweet and caring while also staying logical. I think sometimes we read about too many characters that are emotional and over the top, so it was a breath of fresh air to read about a man who was logical and thought of situations in a very clear and concise way. Also he's just adorable and I loved the way Paul's character grows throughout the novel in various ways. The way he looks at Marguerite changes and you just want them to be together for always. On the other hand, I found Theo to be lacking a bit. For some reason I was always a little leery of his character.

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