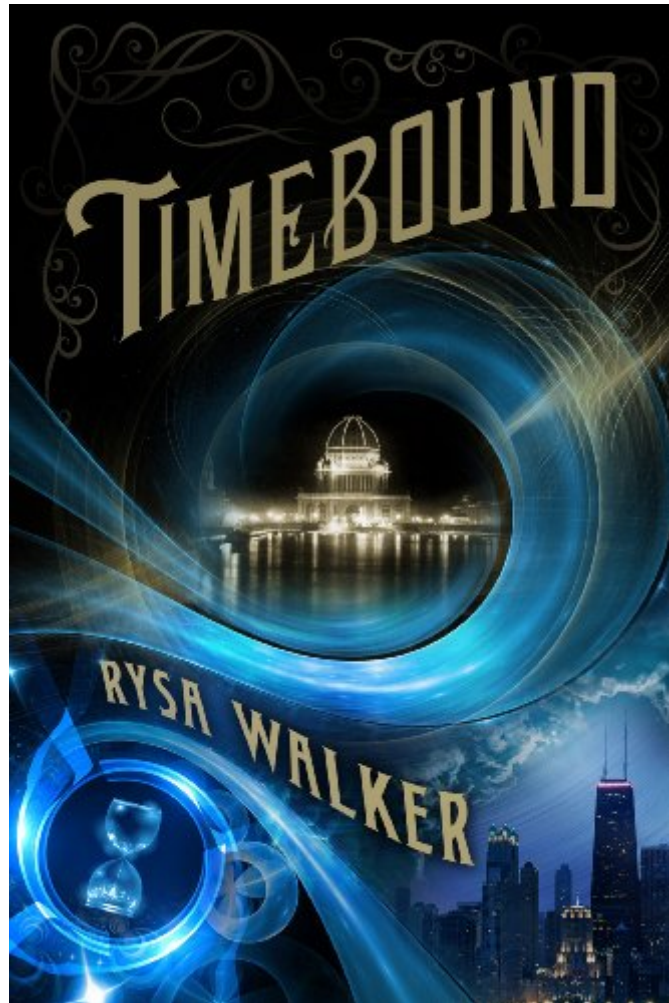


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Timebound (The Chronos Files Book 1)



Synopsis

2013 Winner of the Breakthrough Novel Award, Grand Prize and Young Adult Fiction Winner When Kate Pierce-Keller's grandmother gives her a strange blue medallion and speaks of time travel, sixteen-year-old Kate assumes the old woman is delusional. But it all becomes horrifyingly real when a murder in the past destroys the foundation of Kate's present-day life. Suddenly, that medallion is the only thing protecting Kate from blinking out of existence. Kate learns that the 1893 killing is part of something much more sinister, and her genetic ability to time travel makes Kate the only one who can fix the future. Risking everything, she travels back in time to the Chicago World's Fair to try to prevent the murder and the chain of events that follows. Changing the timeline comes with a personal cost—if Kate succeeds, the boy she loves will have no memory of her existence. And regardless of her motives, does Kate have the right to manipulate the fate of the entire world? Timebound was originally released as Kate's Twisted Arrow.

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Customer Reviews

Thanks to I discovered this book when the company offered 3 free specified downloads, Timebound being one of them. I hadn't realized it at the time that I was reading a young adult book (while in my 30's), but I didn't mind one bit because I remember being captivated by similar books when I was a young adult. I'm not sure if the genre made it naturally easy to read or if it was the story, but I lean on the side of the author and commend her for a very fun read overall. The story is about a young girl named Kate, who discovers her familial connections with real historians who can jump back and forth in time to record and analyze events. The focus of this plot was the 1893 world's fair in Chicago complete with Mayor Carter Harrison Sr.'s assassination and a notorious serial killer who was famed during that era. The backstory of time traveling however was the main centerpiece where Kate was tasked to going back in time to save her family and their existence. It was the perfect combination of adventure and connections with few touches of romance. I will say that the slight pitfall at least for me as a reader and aspiring writer was the rhetoric and different phrases that the author used with Kate's language in the book. Kate is supposed to be a teenager, one who is also just handling the shock of this whole other world she is involved in, and some phrases were clearly not how a teenager would express themselves. For example a 16 year old would never in a million years say, "bloody awful horrid rotten shoes," which honestly sounds like some old grandma from England, or call a band aid an "adhesive bandage." Just things like that threw me off. Overall however, even with my busy season it was a fun and quick read. Plus it fed my sci-fi and historical novel fix. So I leave you with this quote that I appreciate very much from the novel: "History is sacred - like a nature hike. 'Leave only footprints, take only memories.'" Thanks Rysa Walker for the great read!

I really wasn't expecting to like this book as much as I did! Timebound is smart, intense, and very deep. This is a time travel story that is well thought out with adventure and romance. The romance did not sideline the story; in fact, it raised the stakes. So we start out with Kate getting a chance to meet her estranged grandmother. She has this beautiful medallion on her that glows a bright blue, but Kate soon realizes that no one else can see it glowing. She then learns that she has a time travel gene that has been carried down from her grandmother. Her grandmother is actually from the future, but got stranded back in the 1970s, and has been leading a normal life since then. But the timeline has been skewed (remember the movie, Back to the Future II?) and now Kate and her grandmother are living in an alternate timeline. And Kate is the only one who has the gene who can go back and fix everything. I loved all the historical aspects to the story. We learn about civil rights, women suffragists, the Chicago's World Fair, and Woodstock all in one story. But I also loved that

the story still felt very modern, mostly due to Kate, who refused to get bogged down in all the details. She didn't mind taking a bright pink toothbrush to the World Fair in 1893! Kate is very smart, brave, but definitely not perfect. She is also a brown belt in Taekwondo, so she has some kick butt moments! She also meets Trey, whom she has taken her place in her school, since for all intents and purposes, Kate no longer exists. She is totally freaking out when she meets him, and realizes her mom has disappeared and her father has no idea who she is. Trey helps her out, at first thinking she must be a little crazy, but soon believes her after certain things around her that don't exist start disappearing. The romance between them is bittersweet, because after Kate hopefully fixes the timeline, Trey won't remember her at all. The other reality is she fails and disappears herself. The characters in the story were very well developed, even the side characters. We also get to meet a lot of different characters at different ages, but sometimes they end up all in the same time. The story line itself does get confusing at times, but I was mostly able to keep up. It was kind of scary how much harm can be done on our planet by just one power hungry time traveler! The ending was amazing, but it did have a bit of a cliffhanger. I would have liked a few more pages to find out what happens with Trey and Kate! I guess I'll just have to wait for the next book!

This book was not what I was expecting, it was better. From the description I was expecting a witchcraft type of book and that's not what it was about at all - no witches. I also don't generally like sci-fi, time travel, etc but really enjoyed this book as there was a somewhat logical premise to the time travel part and it wasn't extremely sci-fi. It kept my interest and was an easy read. There is a little romance (young, innocent) but not really what I would call sexual content and I would find it acceptable for teens to read. While there are some dangerous situations which bring some excitement to the book, I wouldn't call it violence. I'm glad I chose this book as my Kindle First book of the month and am considering buying other books in the series.

I am writing this review with the whole series in mind. I originally purchased this book over a year ago, and 20 pages in--for whatever reason--it got lost on my stack of books. I picked it up again recently, and I must have been incredibly busy or something then...because this book is fantastic. What a well written story on time travel and adventure. I loved the characters, which are well rounded and vivid. Keep reading the series. You won't regret it. I'm a mom of five and once I picked Timebound back up, I devoured all three novels and the two novellas in about a week and a half. I have Kindle Unlimited and bought paperback copies of the series anyway. These books are that good! Five stars!

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