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Shortlisted for Book of the Year at the British Book Awards 2020!

Cilka is just sixteen years old when she is taken to Auschwitz-Birkenau in 1942. The commandant at Birkenau notices her long beautiful hair, and forces her separation from the other women prisoners. Cilka learns quickly that power, even unwillingly given, equals survival... After liberation, Cilka is charged as a collaborator for sleeping with the enemy and sent to a Siberian prison camp. There, she faces more challenges, including the unwanted attention of the guards. But then she is taken under the wing of a female doctor and finds endless resources within herself as she tends to the ill in the camp, confronting death and terror daily. And when she nurses a man called Alexandr, Cilka finds that despite everything that has happened to her, there is room in her heart for love...