

Title: **The Subway Girls. 2018.**

Author: **Schnall, Susie Orman**

Genre: *Historical fiction*

Subject: *Parallel stories of two women living in New York City during different times -- 1949 and 2018*

Hook: *Uses the same advertising campaign*

Reviewer's opinion: *enjoyed the every-other-chapters between the two periods, ... although the building up to the eventual connection between the two women wasn't very surprising*

Personal recommendation: *I would recommend this book to someone looking for a quick, summer/beach-type of read.*

Reviewed by **Jessica Eisenberg**

TBI member

This novel tells the **parallel stories of two women** living in New York City during different times -- Charlotte in 1949 and Olivia in 2018. Both are strong female characters with career aspirations, and the novel draws on the **similar struggles the women** faced during the two periods. I especially enjoy novels with dual time periods like this one, so that immediately attracted me to this book, as well as the theme of strong female characters trying to make their ways in the world.

I enjoyed the every-other-chapters between the two periods, and although the building up to the eventual connection between the two women wasn't very surprising, overall, it was an enjoyable novel. I mostly enjoyed reading about Charlotte's story of a woman in **1949 with goals other than marriage and family and with problems that aren't often depicted of women in that time**, although one aspect of her story in particular felt a bit forced just to add more drama to her storyline. I did really like how her part of the story was based on the real-life Subway Girls ad campaign, which I hadn't heard of before. There was extra historical information/resources at the end of the book about that. Unfortunately, the modern character Olivia was more disappointing, as she was less-likable and several aspects of her story were more cliché, so I didn't care for it or her as much. But, I think many aspects of her story do ring true for women today, especially given the rise of the #metoo movement.

Overall, I really like **dual time period** novels, so I would recommend this book to someone looking for a quick, summer/beach-type of read.