

# VERA BELL

## MEDIA KIT



Vera Bell is a Georgia Author of the Year nominee and the award-winning author of the trilogy ***Always and Forever***, an epic reincarnation romance set in medieval Ireland and present-day United States. Book One, ***Through the Veneer of Time***, is her debut novel. She wrote it after trying past life regression and finding herself immersed in a world so captivating, she couldn't let it go. A former commercial artist, she lives in Atlanta with her husband, two teenagers, and one fur baby. Her favorite place to write is on her porch, overlooking a pond lined with river birches and magnolias. The topics she never tires of are bygone eras, our universal human condition, and love that transcends time and space.

Vera Bell has written three novels, including two Amazon bestsellers—***Through the Veneer of Time*** and ***Into the Lure of Time***—and her latest release, ***Beneath the Shadow of Time***, published by Timebound Publishing.



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# LITERARY AWARDS



2024 Reader Views Literary Awards Winners and Finalists, March, 2025  
**Copyright Adult Category — Romance Gold Winner | "Into the Lure of Time" by Vera Bell**



2024 American Writing Awards Category Winners and Finalists, November, 2024  
**Fiction — Romance Finalist | "Into the Lure of Time" by Vera Bell**  
AmericanWritingAwards.com announces the winners in the 2003 American Writing Awards.



The 21st Annual "Best Book" Awards Sponsored by American Book Fest™, October, 2024  
**Fiction: Romance Finalist | "Into the Lure of Time" by Vera Bell**  
"LOS ANGELES, OCTOBER 2024 – American Book Fest announced the winners and finalists of THE 21st ANNUAL BEST BOOK AWARDS (BBA), one of the world's largest international book award programs for mainstream, indie, and self-published titles.



Five-Star Review, Reader Views Book Review Blog, May 21, 2024



**"Into the Lure of Time" by Vera Bell ★★★★★**

"There is an edgy, seductive tone, enticing the darker themes of obsession, jealousy, manipulation, and the psychological depths of romantic and sexual relationships. Bell had me feeling 'all the feels' as I feverishly turned each page."



2024 American Legacy Book Awards, Sponsored by American Book Fest™, April, 2024

**Fiction: Romance Finalist | "Through the Veneer of Time" by Vera Bell**

LOS ANGELES, APRIL 2024 – American Book Fest announced the winners and finalists of 2024 AMERICAN LEGACY BOOK AWARDS. Over 500 winners and finalists were announced in over 100 categories.



2023 Time Travel/Dual Timeline Category Bronze Winner from The Historical Fiction Company, December 2023

**"Through the Veneer of Time" by Vera Bell**

Category Winners for the 2023 HFC Book of the Year Contest



2023 Highly Recommended Award of Excellence from The Historical Fiction Company, November, 2023

**"Through the Veneer of Time" by Vera Bell**

Bell has brought the past and present together with a masterful stroke of her quill. "Through the Veneer of Time" is a captivating story that will leave a lasting impression on the reader. It is a book that once read, is impossible to forget.





2023 American Writing Awards Category Winners and Finalists, November, 2023

**Fiction — Romance Finalist | "Through the Veneer of Time" by Vera Bell**

AmericanWritingAwards.com announces the winners in the 2003 American Writing Awards.



The 20th Annual "Best Book" Awards, Sponsored by American Book Fest™, November, 2023

**Fiction: Romance Finalist | "Through the Veneer of Time" by Vera Bell**

American Book Fest announces the winners and finalists of THE 20th ANNUAL BEST BOOK AWARDS (BBA), one of the world's largest international book award programs for mainstream and self-published titles.



Reader Views Book Review Blog, September 15, 2023

**"Through the Veneer of Time" by Vera Bell ★★★★★**

"I will be very anxiously awaiting book 2 in the Always and Forever series. My guess is that anyone who picks up this book will feel the same way when they are finished. 5 Stars!!"



Top Pick for 2024 from Author Shout Reader Ready Awards, December, 2023

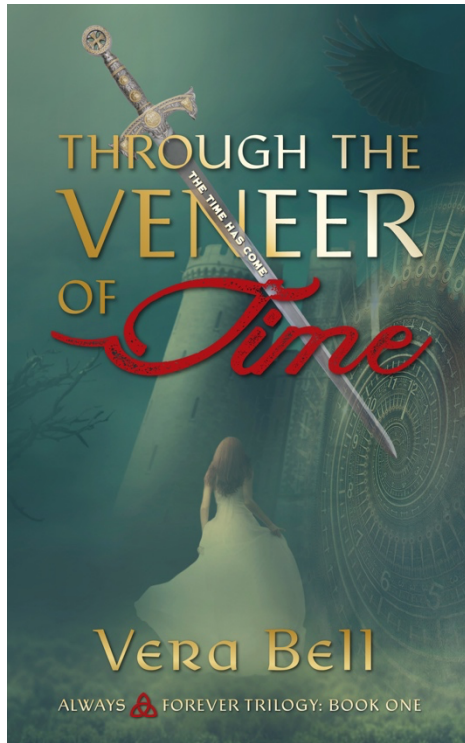
**"Through the Veneer of Time" by Vera Bell**

Author Shout is proud to announce the winners in the Reader Ready Awards.



# THROUGH THE VENEER OF TIME

## Always and Forever Trilogy: Book One



Author: Vera Bell  
Genre: Romance | Thriller | Historical  
Age recommendation: +18

### eBook

Publication Date: April 3, 2023 | ISBN: 9798989612406 |  
AISN: B0CNS4CB1B | Pages: 388 | \$4.99

### Paperback

Publication Date: June 16, 2023 | ISBN: 9798989612413 |  
AISN: B0CNQ8162V | Pages: 386 | \$16.99

### Hardback

Publication Date: November 20, 2023 | ISBN:  
9798989612420 | AISN: B0CNQ6TGVS | Pages: 386 | \$24.99

### Audiobook

Publication Date: September 28, 2023 | ISBN:  
9798368983578 | AISN: B0CJX4Q6HG | 14 Hours 49 Minutes  
| \$21.74

### WHERE TO BUY:

<https://books2read.com/throughtheveneeroftime/>

For fans of Diana Gabaldon and Susanna Kearsley comes a riveting new tale of time travel and romantic suspense: A haunted painter's past life visions are not the creative inspiration they seemed. They're a harbinger of her ancient revenge vow, and her FBI husband won't find the serial killer until she fulfills it. But it may already be too late.

**1559, ULSTER, IRELAND.** When a young noblewoman Neave McConway weds the newly elected King of Tyrone, Aedan O'Neal, the couple's rare union of love and passion becomes the talk of the region. But Aedan's bold rule and fierce defiance of the English crown threatens his powerful enemies, and they'll stop at nothing to crush his growing influence. After Aedan rides off to fight against the English occupiers, Neave suffers a shocking attack that will forever alter both their lives — as well as the lives they have not yet lived.

**2009, WASHINGTON, D.C.** While mural artist Siena Forte battles a creative block, her FBI husband Ryan Casey struggles with a serial killer case. When research leads Siena to the practice of Past Life Regression, she stumbles upon irresistible inspiration. But after her art exposes her to a vicious ancient adversary, she discovers the true reason for her past life visions. They're a harbinger of her centuries-old revenge vow, and the serial killer can't be stopped until she fulfills it. But there is another person from the past with unfinished business—her husband.

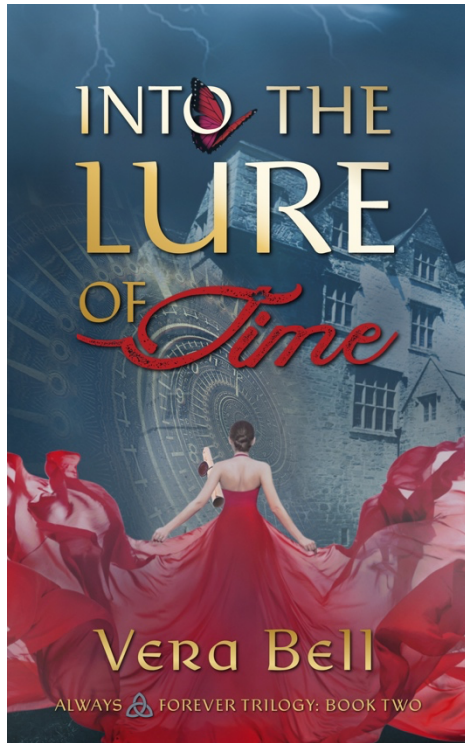
**Will Siena and Ryan settle their long-overdue score, or will the past repeat itself in a chilling parallel?**





# INTO THE LURE OF TIME

## Always and Forever Trilogy: Book Two



Author: Vera Bell

Genre: Romance | Domestic Suspense | Historical

Age recommendation: +18

### eBook

Publication Date: April 19, 2024 | ISBN: 9798989612437 |

AISN: B0CW1BQ7JC | Pages: 388 | \$4.99

### Paperback

Publication Date: April 19, 2024 | ISBN: 9798989612444 |

AISN: B0CZT76BST | Pages: 378 | \$16.99

### Hardback

Publication Date: April 19, 2024 | ISBN: 9798989612451 |

AISN: B0CZT1BX9P | Pages: 378 | \$24.99

### WHERE TO BUY:

<https://books2read.com/intothelureoftime>

In this gripping sequel to the award-winning novel, *Through the Veneer of Time*, echoes of Siena's past life lure her into a shocking indiscretion that threatens to destroy her marriage. She alone can undo the damage, but this chilling revelation is only the beginning of her battle.

**1564, ULSTER, IRELAND.** After Aedan's diplomatic visit to Queen Elizabeth's court results in his compulsory divorce and arranged marriage, Neave's violent unraveling drives her into another man's arms. But in seeking revenge, Neave falls into a perfect trap set by Aedan's enemy. By the time she learns the truth, it's too late to undo the damage to Aedan, herself, and the hard-won peace in Ulster. When despair makes her reckless, the price will be a lifetime of infamy, confinement, and isolation from what Neave treasures most—Aedan and her son.

**2011, WASHINGTON D.C./DALLAS, TX.** It seems like a reasonable plan—Siena finishing her final mural in D.C. while Ryan starts his new job in Dallas. But when Siena meets Ryan's new FBI partner, an inexplicable fit of jealousy sends her on a downward spiral. To make matters worse, the present mirrors the past when her visions take a startling turn. Consumed by insecurities, Siena takes a drastic step, which proves a catastrophic lapse in judgment. When her self-fulfilling prophecy unfolds in a devastating inversion of the past, Siena's actions could cost her the two people she most fears to lose—Ryan and their baby.

**Will Siena and Ryan beat their disastrous odds, or is their marriage foredoomed?**



# BENEATH THE SHADOW OF TIME

## Always and Forever Trilogy: Book Three



Author: Vera Bell  
Genre: Romance | Thriller | Historical  
Age recommendation: +18

### eBook

Publication Date: March 4, 2025 | ISBN: 9798989612468  
| AIN: BODFRRVYGT | Pages: 401 | \$4.99

### Paperback

Publication Date: March 4, 2025 | ISBN: 9798989612475  
| AIN: BODWKK47DT | Pages: 320 | \$16.99

### Hardback

Publication Date: March 4, 2025 | ISBN: 9798989612482  
| AIN: BODWLGKV3M | Pages: 320 | \$24.99

### WHERE TO BUY:

<https://books2read.com/beneaththeshadowoftime>

In this riveting conclusion to the *Always and Forever* trilogy, Ryan's classified new case awakens Siena's greatest fears. As shadows of the past deepen and close in, only Ryan's fulfillment of his ancient sacred vow can dispel them.

**1566, ULSTER, IRELAND.** Neave lives in fear as Queen Elizabeth's obscene bounty on Aedan's head turns him into a target. Undeterred, Aedan enlists his allies, the Antrim Scots, in his relentless fight to free Ireland from English rule. But when greed and treachery hide in plain sight, nothing is as it seems. After Aedan's plans crumble in a shocking twist, he makes a solemn oath to heartbroken Neave—one he may have to honor in another lifetime.

**2013, MIAMI, FL.** When Siena discovers the truth about Ryan's new case and their tragic past life, she realizes he is in mortal danger. Tormented, she begs him to quit, but Ryan is determined despite an inner voice urging him to do right by her. Unwilling to be sidetracked, he resolves to deal with it later and on his own terms. But when a ruthless cartel takes Ryan hostage, he just might run out of time.

**Will Ryan uphold his vow to Siena, or are they destined for disaster... again?**





# THE COMPLETE ALWAYS AND FOREVER TRILOGY BOX SET

## Irish Time Travel Romance Series - Books 1-3



Author: Vera Bell

Genre: Romance | Thriller | Historical

Age recommendation: +18

### eBook

Publication Date: June 4, 2025 | ISBN: 9798989612499

| AISN: B0F2CMMBNY | Pages: 1294 | \$9.99

### WHERE TO BUY:

<https://books2read.com/alwaysandforevertrilogybookset>

**Against evil. Against self. Against time. Against all odds.**

Embark on a heart-pounding, time-bending journey, perfect for fans of Diana Gabaldon and Susanna Kearsley. The award-winning Always and Forever series masterfully weaves together romance, mystery, and suspense across lifetimes, following the captivating story of Siena Forte, a haunted mural artist whose past life visions hold the key to unlocking a chilling ancient revenge vow. Alongside her FBI husband, Ryan Casey, Siena must confront the tragic missteps of their shared past while navigating the deadly dangers of their present.

**Spanning centuries from medieval Ireland to modern America, past and present collide in this epic saga of passion, betrayal, and the ultimate battle for love.**

**BOOK 1: THROUGH THE VENEER OF TIME:** Siena's artistic block shatters when she's drawn into vivid past life visions, taking her back to 16th-century Ireland. There, she discovers eerie parallels between her life and that of a noblewoman named Neave McConway. But when Siena uncovers the dark truth behind her visions, she realizes her connection to Neave is not the creative inspiration it seemed—and that her shocking ancient vow might be the key to stopping a modern-day serial killer.

**BOOK 2: INTO THE LURE OF TIME:** As Siena's visions take a dark turn, past and present clash once more, pulling her into a tragic tailspin of jealousy, insecurities, and mistakes of her distant past. But when the echoes of Siena's past life lure her into a scandalous indiscretion that threatens to destroy her marriage,



it forces her to confront a chilling truth: she's not a victim of circumstance, but a perpetrator of her own downfall. And this bloodcurdling revelation is only the beginning of her battle.

**BOOK 3: BENEATH THE SHADOW OF TIME:** As the shadows of their tragic past close in, Siena and Ryan's love is threatened by a hidden enemy whose betrayal could destroy everything. With Ryan's life at stake, Siena's visions reveal the desperate truth: only Ryan's fulfillment of his ancient sacred vow can save them from a fate that transcends time and death. In a heart-pumping race against time, Ryan must confront his darkest fears and honor his promise to Siena, or risk losing her forever. The stakes have never been higher, and the outcome has never been more uncertain in this riveting conclusion to the *Always and Forever* trilogy.

Rich in historical intrigue and brimming with romance and suspense, the *Always and Forever* trilogy is a tale of love that defies the bounds of time. Will Siena and Ryan break the cycle of heartache, or are they destined to be torn apart again? Dive into this unforgettable historical time travel romance series to find out.



# CRITICAL ACCLAIM

*"Past and present lives collide in Vera Bell's hauntingly beautiful debut. A sexy, sensuous tale, where connections are never truly lost and love is the most powerful force of all."*

— JULIE MCELWAIN, national award-winning journalist and author of *A Murder in Time*

*"Bell has brought the past and present together with a masterful stroke of her quill. A true masterpiece. It is a book that once read is impossible to forget."*

— THE HISTORICAL FICTION COMPANY

*"Vera Bell's novel successfully combines historical fiction, romance, and a contemporary thriller. The flashbacks to Ireland are particularly engaging, with detailed and vivid descriptions."*

— HISTORICAL NOVEL SOCIETY

*"I will be very anxiously awaiting book 2 in the Always and Forever series. My guess is that anyone who picks up this book will feel the same way when they are finished. 5 Stars!!"*

— READER VIEWS

*"This book has become my new obsession. I loved every second of it from page one straight to the end. This is Vera's debut novel and WHAT a novel! I completely fell in love with the world she has created."*

— IRISH BOOKLOVER BOOK REVIEWS

*"A tantalizing medieval time travel novel. I give it 5 stars and hope to read more by Vera Bell!"*

— CELTIC LADY'S REVIEWS

*"From the bustling streets of Washington D.C. to the rolling Irish hills, Through the Veneer of Time is one story you won't want to miss."*

— THE BOOKISH HISTORIAN REVIEWS

*"Bell mixes romance, mystery, and history to take the reader on an adventure across centuries."*

— BOOKLIFE PRIZE BY PUBLISHERS WEEKLY

*"Against the backdrop of love, hate, and a killer's threat lies the attraction of a thriller's fast pace and heated twists."*

— MIDWEST BOOK REVIEW



# A CONVERSATION WITH VERA

## COBB LIFE MAGAZINE | APRIL 2024

### How did the idea for "Into the Lure of Time" come about?

"Into the Lure of Time" is a second book in the "Always and Forever" trilogy. The story takes place across the characters' past and present lives in sixteenth-century Gaelic Ireland and present-day Washington, D.C. The medieval timeline is anchored in the events preceding the English crown's plantation of Ulster and in the life of the legendary Irish hero and adversary of Elizabeth I, Shane O'Neill. At the peak of his rule, he arrived at the English court with a guard of deadly gallowglasses and an elusive mission. While his visit's purpose is widely speculated, most historians agree it was to marry an English noblewoman or the queen herself! My hero, who is based on Shane, is happily married to my heroine. Historically, Shane's visit culminated in his humiliation. As I did research, I wondered how my heroine would react if this trip led to her beloved's compulsory divorce and a politically arranged marriage. In the present time, I wanted to explore how the echoes of the past affect both characters as their lives unravel in a chilling parallel.

### What separates this book from other pieces you've written? What connects it?

In the first book, "Through the Veneer of Time," my heroine learns that her past life visions are not the creative inspiration they seemed. Rather, they're a harbinger of her ancient revenge vow, and her FBI husband won't find the serial killer until she fulfills it. The central literary conflict there is the heroine vs. the villain, otherwise known as an age-old fight of good against evil. In "Into the Lure of Time," an adversary who is mentioned in passing in book one, emerges to play a key role. But while he is certainly villainous, this story deals with a more subtle conflict. The underlying theme is an inquiry into the inner strife of a heroine against herself, as well as how hero's unendurable circumstances can turn him into a victim—or an antihero. While the novel features a recurring cast and falls under the genres of time travel romance and historical thriller, it also carries darker undertones of domestic suspense.

### What can readers expect from your second book?

Since its publication in April 2023, "Through the Veneer of Time" has won six literary awards and was lauded by book bloggers and reviewers as a "stirring and suspenseful debut," a "new obsession," and a "delightfully unputdownable story you won't want to miss." In the words of The Historical Fiction Company, "it is both an enthralling crime thriller and a romantic tale, (and) a book that once read, is impossible to forget." As a novelist, I attribute this lovely praise to my obsessive characterization. While the plot is always front and center, I'm passionate about my characters. They turn into real, multi-dimensional people to me, complete with all their flaws, ambitions, quirks, and motivations. I live in their heads while I write, sort of like a method actor. Based on feedback from early reviewers, "Into the Lure of Time" carries the same range of emotional intensity, immersive setting, understated symbolism, and surprising twists and turns.

### How does inspiration strike you?

Like most artists, I find inspiration, or muse, to be a somewhat fleeting entity. It's a thrill that materializes in the oddest of circumstances and at the most inconvenient times: in the car, in the shower, at a party, during a conversation, while falling asleep. Donna Tartt says it best: "...inspiration often strikes hardest when one is not looking for it—and in that sense, it is a *coup de foudre*, like falling in love." This is quite



brilliant and describes it perfectly. Further, inspiration usually comes when I don't force it. I seldom "write" in a conventional sense. By the time my fingers touch the keyboard, I've already written and fleshed out the story in my head. The act of typing is simply documenting what I've been carrying within me. I'm also deeply inspired by music. Something clicks when I listen to angsty, emotionally charged songs as I'm churning out a scene in my mind. It helps me connect with my characters on a very intimate level. The most important songs have landed on my Spotify playlists.

### **Do you have any rituals/best practices for writing?**

My writing process is similar to stone carving. The first draft is mostly me telling the story to myself. The next step is carving away at imperfections until each sentence is as authentic and honest as can be and flows effortlessly into the next. I work slowly through each scene, returning to it until it's as multi-dimensional, nuanced, and complex as possible. In my novels, I strive to reflect life as it really is — messy, illogical, unfair, beautiful, scandalous. This often results in somewhat raw scenes, but this sort of unpremeditated vulnerability is writers' gold. All great fiction has a distinct thread of reality that resonates with the readers on the deepest levels. This is probably the hardest thing about being a writer — pouring your soul on paper for all the world to see. But it's crucial for crafting a novel both truthful and honest.

### **What advice can you share with other local aspiring authors?**

The common advice is to write what you know, but I disagree. We don't always like what we know or want to write about it. Such advice only serves to clip an artist's wings. My advice is to write what you want to know instead — authentically, from the heart. In fact, I recommend turning off all the noise and advice — even this — and focus on why you wanted to become a writer. Write a book you'd want to read, and others will want to read it, too. Incidentally, we are extremely fortunate to have many excellent local resources at our fingertips — everything from writing clubs to workshops. Don't shy away from having your work critiqued by another writer (whether locally or online). In terms of substance and quality, few things top having a fresh set of eyes on your manuscript.

### **How has your environment influenced your work?**

I was born in Eastern Europe, lived in Northern California and South Florida, and traveled extensively throughout Europe before moving to my forever home in our beautiful Georgia. I believe this multi-faceted background allowed me to gain an insight into a multitude of cultures and ways of perceiving and processing life. Artists inevitably manifest their experiences in their creations. When I craft my character arcs, I consider their backstories through the prism of all I've learned so far.

### **What's your favorite part about writing? Your least favorite?**

I love everything about writing — from research to editing. The parts I could do without are marketing and publishing. While I hope I do an adequate job of it, I'd rather do it less. Anything that's not writing takes me away from telling stories. As well, transitioning back to a creative mindset requires some time, which I perceive as lost.

### **Who are you currently reading?**

In February, I joined to a new book club at Bookmiser, called "Don't Tell Me What to Read." Each member reads a unique book, then shares what they liked or disliked with the club. I'm currently reading "Wrong Place, Wrong Time" by Gillian McAllister. As part of my historical research for the third book in the trilogy,





I'm also reading "Mary, Queen of Scotland and the Isles" by Margaret George. Lastly, I'm reading "The Linchpin Writer" by John Matthew Fox in my ongoing effort to hone my craft.

**Why did you start writing? What made you take the plunge?**

I don't remember a time when I didn't write. As a little girl, I used to invent alternative plots for all the fairytales, Greek mythology, and action and adventure stories I read. When I was ten, I took a stab at novel writing after reading a beautifully illustrated Brothers Grimm's "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs." The "Always and Forever" trilogy was born about ten years ago, after I experimented with past life regression and emerged with an elaborate dual-timeline plot.

**What/who is your favorite book/author of all time? Why?**

There are so many, but my absolute favorite is "The Goldfinch" by Donna Tartt. This book is literary perfection. I was in awe after I finished reading it. The complexity, honesty, and vulnerability combined with beautiful, lyrical language is mind-blowing. I wanted to do that, too. In many ways, it inspired me to write.

**What makes your work stand out from other authors in the same genre?**

While this may not be the best practice from the commercial standpoint, I don't think in terms of genre when I write. Instead, I let my characters drive the plot forward — they always know best. As a result, my work is neither genre romance nor a conventional thriller. Rather, it's a blend of both, which can be loosely classified as romantic suspense. Also, because I currently write dual-timeline novels, they fall into the category of alternative historical fiction. But above all, I like to think of my stories as books that make you feel.

