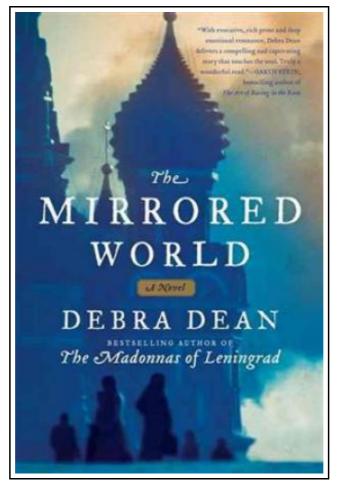
# The Mirrored World: A Novel



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### Reviews

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(Jaiden Konopelski)

#### THE MIRRORED WORLD: A NOVEL



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HarperCollins Publishers, 2012. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 15.4 x 23 cm. From Debra Dean, the bestselling author of the critically acclaimed THE MADONNAS OF LENINGRAD, comes the story of Xenia of St. Petersburg, a breathtaking novel of love and madness set in 18th century Russia. This is Debra Dean's first novel since the bestselling THE MADONNAS OF LENINGRAD. Set against the unparalleled extravagance and artifice of 18th century St. Petersburg, a world of ice palaces and opera and masquerade balls, THE MIRRORED WORLD is the reimagined life of St. Xenia, one of Russia's most beloved holy women. Narrated from the point of view of her younger cousin Dasha, a devoted friend and companion, THE MIRRORED WORLD follows the friends from their younger years in the lower nobility through the tragedy and madness that transforms Xenia into a revered angel of mercy to the poor and a controversial figure to the upper [Url removed] a is a young girl in 1736 when her widowed aunt moves into their St. Petersburg home, bringing with her two daughters: Nadya and Xenia. Dasha becomes a devoted third sister, especially to Xenia, a passionate and caring dreamer. Years later, their mothers bring all three girls out into society at once, and their debut, at one of Empress Elizaveta's extravagant weekly Winter Palace balls, will change their lives forever. On the night of their debut, Xenia falls madly in love with a singer in the empress's imperial choir, a charming and handsome soldier with friends in high places. The two marry after a whirlwind courtship, and the newlyweds welcome the painfully shy Dasha into their home. But the loss of Xenia's first child, followed by the tragic death of her beloved husband, sends the now-twenty-six year old into an excruciating, deep depression. When she does emerge after weeks...

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