

## *The Notorious Pagan Jones*

By Nina Berry

### *Grade Levels:*

- Interest and Reading Level, 9-12

### *Synopsis:*

- Pagan Jones is thrilled to be getting out of the Lighthouse Reformatory for Wayward Girls and to be getting back to her work as an actress starring in a movie filming in Berlin. Her guardian, Devin Black, is both infuriating and thrilling. When they get caught up in the rising of the Berlin Wall and try to rescue her co-star and his family, things get complicated and Pagan wonders what Devin has really gotten her into.

### *Author Website:*

- [www.ninaberry.com](http://www.ninaberry.com)

### *Associated Websites:*

- <https://www.pinterest.com/ninaberry/pagan-jones/>
- <https://www.pinterest.com/ninaberry/pagan-jones/> - be sure to translate to English

### *Curricular Connections:*

- History: Cold War, Berlin Wall, spies such as Casanova, Julia Child, Josephine Baker, Roald Dahl, Ian Fleming, Mata Hari, Lucky Luciano, M. Butterfly, Harry Houdini
- Fine Arts: Billy Wilder, Dior

### *Lesson Ideas:*

- Research the after effects of the Berlin Wall and describe what everyday life would be like.
- Research spies and how they were able to use their real life to cover up what they were doing to help their country.

### *Common Core Standards:*

- CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.9-10.3. Analyze how complex characters (e.g., those with multiple or conflicting motivations) develop over the course of a text, interact with other characters, and advance the plot or develop the theme.
- CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.11-12.3 Evaluate various explanations for actions or events and determine which explanation best accords with textual evidence, acknowledging where the text leaves matters uncertain.

### *Suggested Companion Titles:*

- *Pagan Jones: City of Spies* by Nina Berry (second in the series)
- *Going Over* by Beth Kephart
- *Daily Life Behind the Iron Curtain* by Jim Willis

*Playlist:*

- *Someone to Watch Over Me*
- *I've Got a Crush on You*
- *Just Another Rhumba*
- *Begin the Beguine*
- *Fairest Stars*
- *I Fall to Pieces*

*Professional Reviews:*

- *Booklist*, 04/15/15
- *Horn Book Guide*, 10/01/15
- *Kirkus Reviews*, 03/15/15
- *Publishers Weekly*, 04/06/15
- *School Library Journal*, 06/01/15