

# Music that inspired the writing of *THE SECRETS WE KEPT*

Music played a pivotal role during the writing of Lara's novel. She's often inspired by music and uses it to tap into a certain emotion or place while writing. She usually writes listening to the same song, over and over again, until she tunes out the words and is left with just the feeling. We hope these playlists get you even more into the mood of *The Secrets We Kept* and make the perfect backdrop for your discussion.

## Lara's East Playlist

For the Eastern thread, Lara listened mostly to atmospheric music. This includes contemporary artists like Sufjan Stevens, Philip Glass, and Explosions in the Sky. She also listened to sparse classical music—such as Franz Liszt, Tchaikovsky, and two Ukrainian pianist friends of Boris Pasternak's: Heinrich Neuhaus (who was also the first husband of Pasternak's wife Zinaida), and Sviatoslav Richter (who played at Pasternak's funeral).

**"Doctor Zhivago – Prelude and Lara's Theme,"**

Maurice Jarre

**"Thaw,"** Ken Thomson, JACK Quartet

**"Piano Sonata No. 14 in C-Sharp Minor, Op. 27, No. 2 "Moonlight": I. Adagio sostenuto,"**

Ludwig van Beethoven, Heinrich Neuhaus

**"6 Consolations, S. 172: No. 3 in D Flat Major (Lento, placido),"** Franz Liszt, Daniel Barenboim

**"Mystery of Love,"** Sufjan Stevens

**"Début,"** Roberta Flack featuring Donny Hathaway

**"Back Together Again,"** Mélanie Laurent

**"Threnody,"** Goldmund

**"Your Hand in Mine,"** Explosions in the Sky

**"Clear Language,"** Balmorhea

**"Vladimir's Blues,"** Max Richter

**"Falling, Catching,"** Agnes Obel

**"Empire Builder,"** Laura Gibson

**"Animal,"** Javier Dunn

**"Start a War,"** Dom La Nena

**"Throes,"** Half Moon Run

## Lara's West Playlist

While composing the Western thread, Lara listened predominantly to 1950s and 1960s music. She especially listened to R&B, jazz, and soul music popular in Washington, D.C. during that time—artists like Shirley Horn, Duke Ellington, Ruth Brown, and more. She also listened to 50s and 60s-era Italian and French music while writing this thread, including Édith Piaf and Mina.

**"Somebody Was Watching,"** ABC

**"It's A Man's World,"** James Brown

**"Long Walk To D.C.,"** The Staple Singers

**"I Heard It Through The Grapevine,"** Marvin Gaye

**"Baby (You've Got What It Takes),"**

Dinah Washington, Brook Benton

**"Be My Baby,"** The Ronettes

**"Sh-Boom – Single Version,"** The Chords

**"I'm In Love Again,"** Fats Domino

**"You Send Me - Remastered,"** Sam Cooke

**"Volare (Nel Blu Di Pinto Di Blu) - Remastered,"**  
Dean Martin

**"Più di te (I Won't Tell),"** Mina

**"Baby I'm Yours,"** Barbara Lewis

**"Straight From The Heart,"** Irma Thomas

**"Stagger Lee (Re-Recorded),"** Lloyd Price

**"Cigarettes and Coffee,"** Otis Redding

Listen to the complete playlists at [laraprescott.com/inside-look](http://laraprescott.com/inside-look)