

Whispers In The Sand Barbara Erskine

Midnight is a Lonely Place Sara Berman's Closet The Devil's Punchbowl Whispers in the Sand Minong'ono Mchangani (Whispers in the Sand) Canadian Books in Print Lady of Hay Compulsory Games A Very Fine House Sands of Time Lady of Hay Suzie Bitner Was Afraid of the Drain Whispers of Hope: The Continuing Story of Anna The Tenderest Petal Hears The Darkest Hour Whispers from the Cove The Well The Whisper of Pialogos Solomon's Whisper Kaapse bibliotekaris Whispers in the Sand Daughters of Fire The Memory of Light A Week at the Shore Kingdom of Shadows Whispers from Heaven Just a Wish Away Book Review Index Child of the Phoenix Something Dangerous The British National Bibliography Whispers Of A Warrior The Dream Weavers Bite Every Sorrow Encore Whispers in the Sand The Night Ferry Before and Again River of Destiny Whispers from the Past Hiding from the Light

Midnight is a Lonely Place

The best and most interesting stories by Robert Aickman, a master of the supernatural tale, the uncanny, and the truly weird. Robert Aickman's self-described "strange stories" are confoundingly and uniquely his own. These superbly written tales terrify not with standard thrills and gore but through a radical overturning of the laws of nature and everyday life. His territory of the strange, of the "void behind the face of order," is a surreal region that grotesquely mimics the quotidian: Is that river the Thames, or is it even a river? What does it mean when a prospective lover removes one dress, and then another—and then another? Does a herd of cows in a peaceful churchyard contain the souls of jilted women preparing to trample a cruel lover to death? Published for the first time under one cover, the stories in this collection offer an unequalled introduction to a profoundly original modern master of the uncanny.

Sara Berman's Closet

"Kingdom of Shadows must be called a spy novel, but it transcends genre, as did some Graham Greene and Eric Ambler classics."—The Washington Post Paris, 1938. As Europe edges toward war, Nicholas Morath, an urbane former cavalry officer, spends his days working at the small advertising agency he owns and his nights in the bohemian circles of his Argentine mistress. But Morath has been recruited by his uncle, Count Janos Polanyi, a diplomat in the Hungarian legation, for operations against Hitler's Germany. It is Morath who does Polanyi's clandestine work, moving between the beach cafés of Juan-les-Pins and the forests of Ruthenia, from Czech fortresses in the Sudetenland to the private gardens of the déclassé royalty in Budapest. The web Polanyi spins for Morath is deep and complex and pits him against German intelligence officers, NKVD renegades, and Croat assassins in a shadow war of treachery and uncertain loyalties, a war that Hungary cannot afford to lose. Alan Furst is frequently compared with Eric Ambler, Graham Greene, and John le Carré, but Kingdom of Shadows is distinctive and entirely original. It is Furst at his very best. Praise for Kingdom of Shadows "Kingdom of Shadows offers a realm of glamour and peril that are seamlessly intertwined and seem to arise effortlessly from the author's consciousness."—Janet

Maslin, The New York Times "Subtly spun, sensitive to nuances, generous with contemporary detail and information discreetly conveyed. . . . It's hard to overestimate Kingdom of Shadows."—Eugen Weber, Los Angeles Times "A triumph: evocative, heartfelt, knowing and witty."—Robert J. Hughes, The Wall Street Journal "Imagine discovering an unscreened espionage thriller from the late 1930s, a classic black- and- white movie that captures the murky allegiances and moral ambiguity of Europe on the brink of war. . . . Nothing can be like watching Casablanca for the first time, but Furst comes closer than anyone has in years."—Walter Shapiro, Time

The Devil's Punchbowl

Whispers in the Sand

Against her family's wishes, Mississippi-born black filmmaker Lorraine Barbette breaks off her loveless engagement and travels to Senegal to shoot the documentary of her dreams, only to find herself pleasantly distracted by a handsome diplomat. Reprint.

Minong'ono Mchangani (Whispers in the Sand)

The new, gripping historical novel from the Sunday Times bestselling author of Lady of Hay

Canadian Books in Print

From the three million copy bestselling author of Lady of Hay comes the big new novel by the bestselling author of WHISPERS IN THE SAND is a gripping tale of witchcraft and romance, past and present, as her modern-day characters are caught up in a battle that has been raging for hundreds of years.

Lady of Hay

"A gripping time-slip suspense story." —The Bookseller Recently divorced, Anna Fox decides to cheer herself up by retracing a Nile cruise her great-great-grandmother, Louisa, made in the mid-nineteenth century. Anna carries with her two of Louisa's possessions—an ancient Egyptian scent bottle and an illustrated diary of the original cruise, a diary that hasn't been read in a hundred years. As she follows in Louisa's footsteps, Anna discovers in the diary a wonderful love story from the Victorian past—and the chilling, more distant secret of the little glass bottle. Meanwhile, two men on the cruise are developing an unfriendly rivalry for Anna's attention—and a disturbing interest in Louisa's things. Most frightening of all, Anna finds herself the victim of a threat that grows in strength and darkness as the dramatic stories from three different eras intertwine along the mysterious waters of the Nile. What Readers are Saying "The images she creates are fantastically interwoven in a mysterious romance. I couldn't stop reading." "Great! Chilling and full of betrayal, revenge, and heat." "All Barbara Erskine's books have the excitement, detail, slight historical slant, and twists which make the reader

look over their shoulder." "I found myself gripped by the story of Anna and her ancestor, Louisa. The two stories are skillfully threaded together with a magical blend of the stunning descriptions of Egypt and the love stories that enfold the two women." "It is a mystery that is unfolding before your very eyes. A real page-turner."

Compulsory Games

Includes pronunciation guide, glossary, and suggested further readings.

A Very Fine House

Set in a modern-day Britain where water is running out everywhere except at the farm of one seemingly ordinary family whose mysterious good fortune leads to a shocking act of violence, *The Well* is “extraordinary a mesmerizing read...combining a gripping mystery, nuanced psychological drama, and striking prose” (Publishers Weekly, starred review). When Ruth Ardingly and her family make that first long drive up from the city in their grime-encrusted car and view *The Well*, they are enchanted by a jewel of a farm that appears to offer everything they need: an opportunity for Ruth, an escape for her husband, and a home for their grandson. But when the drought begins, everything changes. Surrounded by thirty acres of lush greenery, the farm mysteriously thrives while the world outside crumbles under the longest dry spell in recorded history. No one, including the owners, understands why. But *The Well*’s unique glory comes at a terrible price. From the envy of their neighbors to the mandates of the government, from the fanaticism of a religious order called the Sisters of the Rose to the everyday difficulties of staying close as husband and wife, grandmother and child—all these forces lead to a shocking crime. Accusations of witchcraft, wrongdoing, and murder envelop the family until their paradise becomes a prison. A beautifully written debut novel that “channels Margaret Atwood and Gillian Flynn, creating a story that’s speculative and suspenseful” (Minneapolis Star Tribune), *The Well* is an utterly haunting meditation on the fragile nature of our relationships with each other and the places we call home.

Sands of Time

Lily Larsen has never been afraid of anything, yet the effects of the war are wearing her down. Her beautiful home in Cades Cove, Tennessee, lies deep in the Smoky Mountains. For decades, her family has farmed and lived peacefully, until the soldiers came and made every day a struggle to survive. Whether they wear gray or blue, the men in uniform arrive unexpectedly and take whatever they want. Not only do they steal food and livestock, but some believe they can help themselves to anything they desire. Lily now has something to fear. Caleb Henry is running from his own battles, bleeding and broken. He seeks refuge in the cove and literally runs into Lily. Because he's injured, she shows compassion and sneaks him into her cabin, trusting her folks to tend him. But there's more to Caleb than they see on the surface. His arrival changes their lives, and what happens going forward can never be undone.

Lady of Hay

Kinyume na matarajio ya familia yake, Lorraine Barbette mtengenezaji filamu mzaliwa wa Mississippi anajikuta akivunja uchumba wake namwanaume asiyempenda na kukimbilia mji unaovutia wa Senegal ili kutengeneza filamu halisi ya kiutamaduni . Kisha kijana mtanashati asiye na kifani mwanadiplomasia Momar Diallo anauteka moyo wake. Mwenye msimamo mkali wa kuilinda nchi yake, Momar ana wasiwasi na filamu hiyo lakini anatekwa na hisia kali za mapenzi kwa Loraaine .Kadiri penzi linavyozidi kuwaleta karibu zaidi migongano yao ya kitaaluma nakiutamaduni nayo inazidi kuwatenganisha. Wanaweza kumaliza tofauti hizi kwa kusikiliza sauti za ajabu ambazo zinanong'ona kwenye nyoyo zao na kudai hatma yao ya kuishi pamoja.

Suzie Bitner Was Afraid of the Drain

Beautiful repackaged edition of this Barbara Erskine classic, the story of a remarkable mediaeval noblewoman whose life shaped the history of three crowns

Whispers of Hope: The Continuing Story of Anna

Beautifully repacked edition of this stunning novel of contemporary and historical betrayal and revenge, from the author of LADY OF HAY

The Tenderest Petal Hears

Two Women, Eight Hundred Years, and the Destiny They Share "Barbara Erskine can make us feel the cold, smell the filth, and experience some of the fear of the power of evil menThe author's storytelling talent is undeniable." -Times of London
With a story as mesmerizing as it is chilling, Lady of Hay explores how Jo, a journalist investigating hypnotic regression, plunges into the life of Matilda, Lady of Hay-who lived eight hundred years earlier. As she learns of Matilda's unhappy marriage, her troubled love for Richard de Clare, and the brutal treatment she received from King John, it seems that Jo's past and present are hopelessly entwined. Centuries later, a story of secret passion and unspeakable treachery is about to begin again-and she has no choice but to brave both lives if she wants to shake the iron grip of history. "So well researched and so well written that it is almost impossible to put down. The novel has everything that readers of racy fiction could ask for: beautiful characters, exotic settings, and passionsituations and characters that are so completely convincing that they come to life."
-Philadelphia Inquirer "Told with hair-raising intensity, this is a gripping tale." -Daily News "Barbara Erskine is a superb storyteller." -Los Angeles Daily News
"Fascinating, absorbing, original-all such praise comes easily when describing Barbara Erskine's Lady of Hay. But perhaps the most suitable word is hypnotic."
-She What Readers are Saying "A classic in its own right." "An extraordinary story of time travel at its best." "The most unputdownable book I have ever come across." Barbara Erskine is a historian and internationally bestselling author of Lady of Hay as well as Time's Legacy, Kingdom of Shadows, Encounters, Child of the Phoenix, Midnight Is a Lonely Place, House of Echoes, Distant Voices, Whispers in the Sand, Hiding from the Light, and On the Edge of Darkness. Her first novel

blending the historical and the supernatural catapulted her to success, and her novels have been translated into thirty languages.

The Darkest Hour

As Liv Bergen investigates the long-ago murder of her niece, she uncovers a well-guarded secret—and stumbles into one the most prolific killer she’s faced yet. Once an amateur sleuth, Liv “Boots” Bergen has now found her footing as an official FBI agent. It should be Liv’s dream career—she’s working closely with a bureau legend, Agent Streeter Pierce, as well as the exotic Agent Jack Linwood, with whom she shares a growing romance. Liv has proven to be an adept agent, and the whole office has been moved to a brand new, state-of-the-art facility in central Denver. And yet, doubt plagues her. Liv is tormented by the knowledge that her work with the FBI could endanger her extended family—and has almost resolved to leave the bureau as a result. Agent Streeter Pierce, who harbors an affection for Liv that sometimes transcends the professional, comes up with an unorthodox plan to keep her around: she can investigate a cold case that’s especially important to her, the kidnapping and murder of her ten-year-old niece, Brianna. Liv jumps at the chance, but her focus on finding Brianna’s killer is soon diluted. Piece by piece, the case reveals itself to be just one point in a harrowing series of murders. Spanning decades and the country, the web of crime Liv uncovers causes her to question everything—including the integrity of her own colleagues.

www.sandrabrannan.com

Whispers from the Cove

Devastated by the loss of their loved one, they could not understand why. At that very moment, the Lord brought forth a word of comfort and peace to help them.

The Well

The dazzling Lytton twins, Adele and Venetia, are born into the great Lytton publishing empire. In 1928, on their eighteenth birthday, they are rich and admired, with a confidence verging on arrogance. But the specter of Nazi Germany is growing... Gradually their privileged world darkens in unimaginable ways—but it is not just the twins whose lives have been irrevocably changed. Barty Miller, rescued from the London slums in babyhood by Celia Lytton, is clever, ambitious, and a complete contrast to the twins—and she faces temptation of the most unexpected kind...

The Whisper of Pialogos

Whispers of Hope is book three in the continuing story of Anna and is also set in down east Maine. Growing up, Anna had been without the love of a mother from the early age of three. Not only was her mother to die but Anna, along with her brother and sister were to be taken away from all they loved and raised by an angry and often abusive father. These hard and unimaginable times left their mark on Anna. Only her determination and faith in God gave her the courage to go on. Now being left on her own to face the many challenges of raising her own children,

Anna began to pray for even a Whisper of Hope for a better life. This is a book that everyone should read as it shows that even in the darkest of times, light will always follow.

Solomon's Whisper

From the Sunday Times bestselling author comes an epic tale of love, passion and heartbreak.

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From Barbara Delinsky, the New York Times bestselling author of Blueprints and Sweet Salt Air, a brand-new novel about a woman in hiding finding the courage to face the world again. Mackenzie Cooper took her eyes off the road for just a moment but the resulting collision was enough to rob her not only of her beloved daughter but ultimately of her marriage, family, and friends—and thanks to the nonstop media coverage, even her privacy. Now she lives in Vermont under the name Maggie Reid, in a small house with her cats and dog. She's thankful for the new friends she's made—though she can't risk telling them too much. And she takes satisfaction in working as a makeup artist at the luxurious local spa, helping clients hide the visible outward signs of their weariness, illnesses, and injuries. Covering up scars is a skill she has mastered. Her only goal is to stay under the radar and make it through her remaining probation. But she isn't the only one in this peaceful town with secrets. When a friend's teenage son is thrust into the national spotlight, accused of hacking a powerful man's Twitter account, Maggie is torn between pulling away and protecting herself—or stepping into the glare to be at their side. As the stunning truth behind their case is slowly revealed, Maggie's own carefully constructed story begins to unravel as well. She knows all too well that what we need from each other in this difficult world is comfort. But to provide it, sometimes we need to travel far outside our comfort zones. From a multimillion-selling master of women's fiction, *Before and Again* is a story of the relationships we find ourselves in—mothers and daughters, spouses and siblings, true companions and fair-weather friends—and what kind of sacrifices we are or aren't willing to make to sustain them through good times and bad.

Whispers in the Sand

A collection of energetic and inquisitive poetry invites the reader to explore beauty, heartbreak, loss, and outrage

Daughters of Fire

"When Vicky Cruz wakes up in the Lakeview Hospital Mental Disorders ward, she knows one thing: After her suicide attempt, she shouldn't be alive. But then she meets Mona, the live wire; Gabriel, the saint; E.M., always angry; and Dr. Desai, a quiet force. With stories and honesty, kindness and hard work, they push her to reconsider her life before Lakeview, and offer her an acceptance she's never had. But Vicky's newfound peace is as fragile as the roses that grow around the hospital. And when a crisis forces the group to split up, sending Vicky back to the

life that drove her to suicide, she must try to find her own courage and strength. She may not have them. She doesn't know. Inspired in part by the author's own experience with depression, *The Memory of Light* is the rare young adult novel that focuses not on the events leading up to a suicide attempt, but the recovery from one -- about living when life doesn't seem worth it, and how we go on anyway."

The Memory of Light

The Tenderest Petal Hears is Co-Winner of the first Blue Horse Press Chapbook Contest. It was selected by guest judge Larry D. Thomas, 2008 Texas Poet Laureate. This *Tenderest Petal Hears* is a skillfully executed poetic testament not only to a life fully lived, but a life lived with razor-sharp reflection, sensitivity, love, yearning, the power of memory, and the transcendent capabilities of language carefully studied, appreciated, and utilized to its full potential. Simultaneously classical and contemporary, these poems are richly textured with allusions to mythology, history, philosophy, music, fairy tales, and psychology: composed by a poet well versed in both the great literature of the past and the present. The poet's diction, although accessible to the college-educated reader, is scintillant with daring word clusters and intriguing turns of phrase: "Quixote midget tilting at little windmills," "trumpeted yowls / dancing on chordal clouds," "misty-mint aura / washing pastel across the day," "Orioles flap hunger to jam-dolloped platters," "rising like purple pagodas, spirit-scenting / promised whispers of healing," and "when a lover traced the curve of my hip / as if it were the lip of God." With an incantatory voice one would expect from a shaman, the poet of these poems leads the reader through a contemporary inferno of existential angst, betrayal, abuse, homophobia, the undying love and horrors of familial relationships, and promise unfulfilled, only to redeem that reader with the splendors and unfathomable mysteries of the natural world teeming at their fingertips. -Larry D. Thomas, Contest Judge, 2008 Texas Poet Laureate and Member of the Texas Institute of Letters

A Week at the Shore

"Vibrant and utterly contemporary. An altogether superior thriller." --Los Angeles Times Struggling detective Alisha Barba is trying to get her life back on track after almost being crippled by a murder suspect. Now on her feet again, she receives a desperate plea from an old school friend, who is eight months pregnant and in trouble. On the night they arrange to meet, her friend is run down and killed by a car and Alisha discovers the first in a series of haunting and tragic deceptions. Determined to uncover the truth, she embarks upon a dangerous journey that will take her from the East End of London to Amsterdam's murky red light district and into a violent underworld of sex trafficking, slavery and exploitation.

Kingdom of Shadows

From the bestselling author of *Time's Legacy* and *Lady of Hay* comes a thrilling new novel, *River of Destiny*, an epic story that spans Anglo Saxon Britain, Victorian Suffolk and the present day. Perfect for fans of Kate Mosse's *Labyrinth*.

Whispers from Heaven

Hired to document an aging eccentric's search for an ancient scroll, novelist Stuart Adams sets out with Greek archaeologist Dr. Niki Mikos to a Mediterranean location that may hold the prize they all seek.

Just a Wish Away

A deep river pit in Natchez, Mississippi, reputed to be the hiding spot for Jean Lafitte's hidden treasure and a dumping ground for numerous murder victims, becomes the site of a dangerous showdown for Penn Cage, in a tale beset by racial tension, betrayals and illicit sex. By the author of Third Degree. Reprint.

Book Review Index

Child of the Phoenix

Something Dangerous

The British National Bibliography

'Book Review Index' provides quick access to reviews of books, periodicals, books on tape and electronic media representing a wide range of popular, academic and professional interests. More than 600 publications are indexed, including journals and national general interest publications and newspapers. 'Book Review Index' is available in a three-issue subscription covering the current year or as an annual cumulation covering the past year.

Whispers Of A Warrior

A spine-tingling collection of haunting tales, from the Sunday Times bestselling author of Lady of Hay.

The Dream Weavers

Issues for Nov. 1957- include section: Accessions. Aanwinste, Sept. 1957- (also published separately)

Bite Every Sorrow

Maira Kalman, the author of the bestsellers *The Principles of Uncertainty* and *The Elements of Style*, and Alex Kalman, the designer, curator, writer, and founder of Mmuseumm, combine their talents in this captivating family memoir, a creative blend of narrative and striking visuals that is a paean to an exceptional woman and a celebration of individuality, personal expression, and the art of living

authentically. In the early 1950s, Jewish émigré Sara Berman arrived in the Bronx with her husband and two young daughters. When the children were grown, she and her husband returned to Israel, but Sara did not stay for long. In the late 1960s, at age sixty, she left her husband after thirty-eight years of marriage. One night, she packed a single suitcase and returned alone to New York City, moving into a studio apartment in Greenwich Village near her family. In her new home, Sara began discovering new things and establishing new rituals, from watching Jeopardy each night at 7:00 to eating pizza at the Museum of Modern Art's cafeteria every Wednesday. She also began discarding the unnecessary, according to the Kalmans: "in a burst of personal expression, she decided to wear only white." Sara kept her belongings in an extraordinarily clean and organized closet. Filled with elegant, minimalist, heavily starched, impeccably pressed and folded all-white clothing, including socks and undergarments, as well as carefully selected objects—from a potato grater to her signature perfume, Chanel No.19—the space was sublime. Upon her death in 2004, her family decided to preserve its pristine contents, hoping to find a way to exhibit them one day. In 2015, the Mmuseumm, a new type of museum located in a series of unexpected locations founded and curated by Sara's grandson, Alex Kalman, recreated the space in a popular exhibit—Sara Berman's Closet—in Tribeca. The installation eventually moved to the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and in spring 2019, will become an outdoor monument to independence at the National Museum of American Jewish History on Independence Mall in Philadelphia. Inspired by the exhibit, this spectacular illustrated memoir, packed with family photographs, exclusive images, and Maira Kalman's distinctive paintings, is an ode to Sara's life, freedom, and re-invention. Sara Berman's Closet is an indelible portrait of the human experience—overcoming hardship, taking risks, experiencing joy, enduring loss. It is also a reminder of the significance of the seemingly insignificant moments in our lives—the moments we take for granted that may turn out to be the sweetest. Filled with a daughter and grandson's wry and touching observations conveyed in Maira's signature script, Sara Berman's Closet is a beautiful, loving tribute to one woman's indomitable spirit.

Encore Whispers in the Sand

Dean has just started secondary school and, apart from football, is finding it a bit of a bore. Somehow it's always his name that is on all of his teachers' lips, his name on the report card and his mother who seems to be on first name terms with the Head of Year. Lessons are 'boring' and never manage to maintain his concentration. The only joy he has is meeting with his mates and playing in the school team. Despatched to his grandparents' house with no phone and no tablet, Dean is bored senseless until something quite inexplicable happens and causes him to question his entire history.

The Night Ferry

Presents 124 humorous and whimsical poems in which mice wear roller skates, a girl turns into a peanut butter and jelly sandwich, and a boy discovers the hard way that the girl he just tried to tease studies tae kwon do.

Before and Again

"A first-rate storyteller who creates believable, sympathetic characters who seem as familiar as your neighbors," (The Boston Globe), Barbara Delinsky presents a captivating new novel about a woman whose unexpected reunion with her estranged family forces her to confront a devastating past in *A Week at the Shore*. One phone call is all it takes to lure Mallory Aldiss back to her family's Rhode Island beach home. It's been twenty years since she's been gone—running from the scandal that destroyed her parents' marriage, drove her and her two sisters apart, and crushed her relationship with the love of her life, Jack Sabathian. Twenty years during which she lived in New York, building her career as a photographer and raising her now teenage daughter Joy. But that phone call makes it clear that something has brought the past forward again—something involving Mallory's father. Compelled by concern for her family and by Joy's wish to visit her mother's childhood home, Mallory returns to Bay Bluff, where conflicting loyalties will be faced and painful truths revealed. In just seven watershed days at the Rhode Island shore, she will test the bonds of friendship and family—and discover the role that love plays in defining their lives.

River of Destiny

Two Women, Eight Hundred Years, and the Destiny They Share "Barbara Erskine can make us feel the cold, smell the filth, and experience some of the fear of the power of evil menThe author's storytelling talent is undeniable." -Times of London With a story as mesmerizing as it is chilling, *Lady of Hay* explores how Jo, a journalist investigating hypnotic regression, plunges into the life of Matilda, Lady of Hay—who lived eight hundred years earlier. As she learns of Matilda's unhappy marriage, her troubled love for Richard de Clare, and the brutal treatment she received from King John, it seems that Jo's past and present are hopelessly entwined. Centuries later, a story of secret passion and unspeakable treachery is about to begin again—and she has no choice but to brave both lives if she wants to shake the iron grip of history. "So well researched and so well written that it is almost impossible to put down. The novel has everything that readers of racy fiction could ask for: beautiful characters, exotic settings, and passionsituations and characters that are so completely convincing that they come to life." -Philadelphia Inquirer "Told with hair-raising intensity, this is a gripping tale." -Daily News "Barbara Erskine is a superb storyteller." -Los Angeles Daily News "Fascinating, absorbing, original—all such praise comes easily when describing Barbara Erskine's *Lady of Hay*. But perhaps the most suitable word is hypnotic." -She What Readers are Saying "A classic in its own right." "An extraordinary story of time travel at its best." "The most unputdownable book I have ever come across." Barbara Erskine is a historian and internationally bestselling author of *Lady of Hay* as well as *Time's Legacy*, *Kingdom of Shadows*, *Encounters*, *Child of the Phoenix*, *Midnight Is a Lonely Place*, *House of Echoes*, *Distant Voices*, *Whispers in the Sand*, *Hiding from the Light*, and *On the Edge of Darkness*. Her first novel blending the historical and the supernatural catapulted her to success, and her novels have been translated into thirty languages.

Whispers from the Past

A Very Fine House is an intimate memoir of a mother's Norman Rockwell family turned upside down by her daughter's descent into meth addiction and crime. Bright and beautiful, Annie is an unlikely candidate for meth. Living fast and hard on the streets of Bend, Oregon, she commits crimes against herself, the community, and her own family. The author chronicles her child's addiction in a way that other writers have not written about addiction. What begins as an obsession to save her daughter, and a rage against God for allowing drugs to devour her college-age girl, transforms into release in a life changing letting-go-and-letting-God moment. The reader is first introduced to the Stoeffen family and Barbara's dream for its idyllic future. Kinks in the perfect life appear. When Annie's alcoholism, drug use, and criminality ensue, Barbara fights to save her. There is all-consuming grief and the devastating loss of not just her daughter, but her dream for her own life as well. Barbara eventually finds support and a new way of thinking. While she continues the battle to save her daughter, she ultimately finds the courage to save herself. The conclusion deals with Annie's recovery—and Barbara's. Both experience a spiritual awakening and are transformed. A new and better dream for Barbara's life is born.

Hiding from the Light

There are never enough words to describe the trials that are endured as we travel through this life. As we sit within a moment of reflection, at times, our past stares back at us through eyes of regret. All too often we fail to realize that our strength is not destroyed by the wicked ways of the world, but rather, it is intensified, amplified, justified. One girl saw the world through the innocent eyes of a child until one day that innocence was savagely ripped from her hands. Refusing to succumb to the illusion that 'we are reflections of our past', she sought to discover a world unlike any she had ever known. Through the eyes of the horse, she became reborn into a life of purpose, and discovered that within her tiny hands, she held the spirit of a warrior.

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