



Her Mother's Shadow (The Keeper Trilogy)

By Diane Chamberlain

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Her Mother's Shadow (The Keeper Trilogy) By Diane Chamberlain

Annie

A loving mother and wife, Annie O'Neill was the heart of the small community of Kiss River. But her generous nature hid a darker side that remained secret for years after her tragic death.

Lacey

When Lacey O'Neill finally learns the shattering truth about the mother she's spent a decade emulating, the foundation of her life begins to crumble. Then her close childhood friend dies, leaving her teenage daughter, Mackenzie, in Lacey's care, and Lacey unwillingly finds herself in the role of mother.

Mackenzie

Uprooted by her mother's death, Mackenzie resents her new home of Kiss River. She wants nothing to do with the father who never knew she existed—and especially not her mother's oldest friend. But the person who could understand her best might be the one she resents most: Lacey.

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Chamberlain (*Kiss River*; *Keeper of the Light*; etc.) bridges the gap between romance and relationship novels in another tale of lost family and found love on North Carolina's Outer Banks. On Christmas 1990, 13-year-old Lacey O'Neill watches as her mother, a volunteer at a battered women's shelter, is fatally shot by a man aiming at his estranged wife. Lacey grows up in thrall to her mother's memory, at first trying to emulate the saintly Annie and later rejecting her after learning about her many infidelities. As the novel opens in 2003, Lacey is living in Kiss River with her brother, Clay, and his family, working in her stained-glass studio and reading books about healthy relationships. But when her best friend is killed in a car accident, Lacey becomes the guardian of her preteen daughter, Mackenzie. Familiar with rebellion and loss, Lacey struggles to help bitter Mackenzie, who finds some relief in helping Clay train dogs. Meanwhile, Lacey wavers between Bobby, the former bad boy she's sure is Mackenzie's father, and Rick, the handsome lawyer who arrives in town just as Lacey's trying to write a statement protesting the parole of her mother's killer. Meanwhile, a middle-aged nurse's search for her estranged son leads her from San Diego back to the Outer Banks to reveal some secrets of her own. Bringing in characters from past novels and introducing folks sure to show up in future ones, Chamberlain adeptly unfolds layers of rage, guilt, longing, repression and rebellion while gently preaching a message of trust and forgiveness. Complex, credible characterization raises her saga so far above soap opera that even readers who are not already fans will sympathize with the flawed but caring people she compassionately evokes.

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From [Booklist](#)

Twenty-five-year-old stained glass artist Lacey O'Neill is the focus of this fine sequel to *Kiss River* [BKL F 1 03]. Her newfound stability is threatened when she is named guardian of her childhood best friend's 11-year-old daughter. Mackenzie is justifiably angry that her young mother was killed by a drunk driver, and that she is forced to leave everyone she has ever known to go to Kiss River with a virtual stranger. In the midst of all these conflicts Lacey is also juggling two men: bad-boy Bobby who took her virginity at age 14 and then spent the summer with her best friend, and Rick, an extremely attractive--in a buttoned-down sort of way--law professor who is visiting the Outer Banks while working on a book. On top of all this, the man who murdered her mother is up for parole and Lacey's victim statement may affect the decision. Chamberlain has penned another compelling women's novel with characters who become real through their talents, compassion, and indiscretions. *Diana Tixier Herald*

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Review

"Complex, credible characterization... Even readers who are not already fans will sympathize with the flawed but caring people [Chamberlain] compassionately evokes." -Publishers Weekly

"Chamberlain weaves backstory and front story with skill and tender ferocity as the characters alternate between a joyful harmony among themselves and with one another, painfully awkward moves that threaten to destroy relationships, and an ultimately wise understanding that forever changes their lives. Many voices populate the novel, from the women's to the teen daughters', leading to unexpected, plot-twisting surprises later on." - Booklist on *THE MIDWIFE'S CONFESSION*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

John Minnis:

As people who live in the modest era should be revise about what going on or details even knowledge to make all of them keep up with the era which is always change and move ahead. Some of you maybe will update themselves by reading through books. It is a good choice for you personally but the problems coming to an individual is you don't know which you should start with. This Her Mother's Shadow (The Keeper Trilogy) is our recommendation to make you keep up with the world. Why, since this book serves what you want and want in this era.

Martha Holt:

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