

Secrets She Kept

Cathy Gohlke



MuddyPearl

An epic story of uncovering the past, its impact on the present and the journey to forgiveness

In a small North Carolina mountain town in the early 1970s, Hannah Sterling struggles with questions of forgiveness after her mother's death. All her life, Hannah longed for a close relationship with her estranged mother and following Lieselotte's death, she determines to unlock the secrets of her mother's mysterious past. In her search for answers, Hannah is shocked to discover a grandfather living in Germany.

Thirty years earlier, Lieselotte's father is quickly ascending the ranks of the Nazi party, and a proper marriage for his daughter could help advance his career. Lieselotte is in love – but her beloved Lukas is far from an ideal match, as he secretly works against the Reich. Yet Lieselotte never imagined how far her father would go to ensure her cooperation.

Both Hannah's and Lieselotte's stories unfold as Hannah travels to Germany to meet her grandfather, who is hiding wartime secrets of his own. Longing for connection, yet shaken by all she uncovers, Hannah must decide if she can atone for her family's tragic past and how their legacy will shape her future.

... this well-researched epic depicts life under the Nazi regime with passionate attention ... a touching example of the healing power of forgiveness ...

Publishers Weekly

Author

Cathy Gohlke is a three-time Christy and two-time Carol and INSPY Award-winning and bestselling author. She writes novels steeped with inspirational lessons, speaking of world and life events through the lens of history and championing the battle against oppression. When not travelling to historic sites for research, she, her husband and their dog, Reilly, divide their time between northern Virginia and the Jersey Shore.

Key Selling points

- A gripping, split narrative with chapters that alternate between and weave together the present day and Germany under Hitler's rule, revealing the impact of the past on the present
- Author has carried out extensive research on this period of history to provide an authentic account of life in Nazi Germany
- Deeply moving and challenging – explores themes of family loyalty, forbidden love and the difficulty, yet importance of forgiveness
- Unique insight into the lives of both Jewish and Nazi families during World War II

Readership

- Those who enjoy historical and romantic fiction
- Fans of bestselling World War II fiction like *The Tattooist of Auschwitz* and *The Book Thief*



Available Now

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Category: Historical Fiction

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