



The Kindness

By Polly Samson

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The Kindness By Polly Samson

He followed her eyes skyward to a bird that was falling, turning and turning, like a heart that had leapt free. It fell, and as it did it became a falcon. He was transfixed.

Julian's fall begins the moment he sets eyes on Julia.

Julia is married and eight years his senior; he is a gifted English student, a life of academia ahead. Ignoring warnings from family and friends, they each give up all they have to be together. Their new life in London offers immense happiness, especially after their longed-for daughter Mira is born.

When Julian hears that Firdaws, his adored boyhood home, is for sale, he sets out to recreate a lost paradise for his new family. Once again, love blinds him. It is only when Mira becomes terrifyingly ill that it is impossible for Julia to conceal from him the explosive secret that she has been keeping at the heart of their lives.

Lyrical, haunting and exquisitely rendered, Polly Samson's second novel explores a deception that comes wrapped as a gift, a betrayal that is clothed in kindness, and asks if we can ever truly trust another. The result is an unforgettable story of love, grief, betrayal, and reconciliation, masterfully plotted and beautifully told.

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Editorial Review

Review

“Sumptuous.” *?The New York Times Book Review*

“Samson, creates a moving portrait of a family torn by the stress of a sick child--and a sensuous, lyrical account of a failed marriage.” *?Publishers Weekly*

“With its sensuous prose and blend of romance, disappointment, amazing sex, and exquisite domestic interiors, the novel hovers somewhere between conventional commercial fiction and something rather more ambitious.” *?Kirkus Reviews*

“Beautifully written, filled with warmth and humor, *The Kindness* is a powerful novel exploring the complexities of love and the nature of human relationships.” *?Booklist*

“A haunting story of pleasure, disappointment, and family, one that immerses you into their journey.” *?BlogCritics.org*

“This is elegant, witty writing, informed throughout by generosity and wise perceptiveness. Dealing with many kinds of love, and with misunderstanding, betrayal, grief and forgiveness, the novel dares to posit, ultimately, the possibility of redemption. It is a book to cherish, to recommend, to return to--and not to lend anyone.” *?Financial Times*

“In addition to displaying assured prose, Samson's book is precisely plotted.” *?The Minneapolis Star Tribune*

"Haunting . . . A compellingly plotted account of the corrosive power a secret has to destroy the happiest of families." - *Daily Mail* on BEST BOOKS ABOUT FAMILY SECRETS

"Addictive, cleverly structured and intriguing relationship story of lies and flawed communication." - Summer Book Choice, *Sunday Times*

About the Author

Polly Samson was born in London in 1962. She is the author of two highly acclaimed story collections and a novel, *Out of the Picture*, which was shortlisted for the Author Club's First Novel Award. Her most recent collection of linked stories, *Perfect Lives*, was a *Sunday Times* Fiction Choice of the Year. Samson lives in Sussex.

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Vivian Stafford:

Nowadays reading books become more than want or need but also work as a life style. This reading habit give you lot of advantages. Associate programs you got of course the knowledge even the information inside the book which improve your knowledge and information. The information you get based on what kind of publication you read, if you want attract knowledge just go with schooling books but if you want really feel happy read one together with theme for entertaining such as comic or novel. Often the The Kindness is kind of book which is giving the reader unforeseen experience.

Jennifer Stephens:

Spent a free time and energy to be fun activity to try and do! A lot of people spent their spare time with their family, or their particular friends. Usually they doing activity like watching television, planning to beach, or picnic in the park. They actually doing same task every week. Do you feel it? Do you want to something different to fill your own personal free time/ holiday? May be reading a book is usually option to fill your totally free time/ holiday. The first thing you ask may be what kinds of guide that you should read. If you want to consider look for book, may be the book untitled The Kindness can be great book to read. May be it might be best activity to you.

Homer Holmes:

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Sylvia Ferland:

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