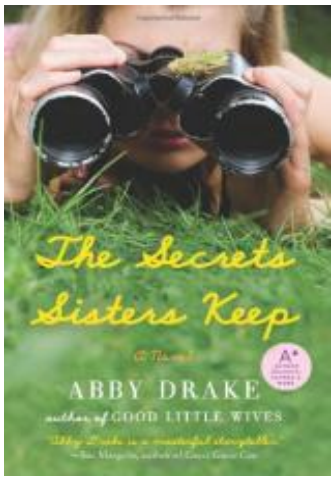
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The Secrets Sisters Keep

by Abby Drake



About the Book

Sisters should be the best of friends, but?

When it comes to family secrets, the four Dalton sisters have had more than their share. Then quirky, spirited Uncle Edward decides to throw a 75th birthday celebration and wanders off, leaving the women to face their past --- and one another.

Ellie: The eldest, tended to Uncle Edward instead of her dreams. Exasperated with his antics, aware that she's not getting any younger, is she finally ready to take off for Egypt?

Amanda: The Park Avenue snob, spent two decades raising three kids and squandering money she didn't have. Now that her husband's found a Brazilian back-waxer to take her place, will she reassess her life?

Babe: The movie-star beauty, fled New York for L.A. When she returns with her has-been actor-husband, will love and lust be reignited for her --- with someone else?

Carleen: The middle-class mom, a ninth-grade algebra teacher, quilts cloth pocketbooks for fun. Did she really once have orange hair, bad boyfriends, and an attitude? Will her sisters ever forgive her for their shattered family? Or will she be forced to tell them the truth?

And will these ladies ever be able to confront their long-buried past and act like, well, sisters again?

Discussion Guide

1. Which of Edward Dalton's nieces would you like to have for your sister?

2. Which of the sisters' lives would you most like to have...knowing you could make it better?

3. Why do you think Carleen really stayed away from her sisters for so long? Why did Babe?

4. Have you ever "forgotten" to show a trinket, a bauble --- something decadent --- you purchased to your husband? If you showed him, were you honest about the price?

5. Like Ellie, have you ever tucked a dream away in a small box in a closet?

6. If you were Edward, would you have wandered off?

7. Name one secret you never told your sister, brother, mother, or father. Surely there at least is one!

Author Bio

Abby Drake, a.k.a. Jean Stone, is a native New Englander whose 15 novels are set in locations from Martha's Vineyard to Manhattan. A former advertising copywriter and owner of her own ad agency for many years, Drake writes about women?their laughter, their lives, and their men who come and go and occasionally stick around, whether they're wanted or not. Each of her stories focuses on the connections between women with very different families, careers, and issues, but with a common problem that bring them together. In **Good Little Wives**, the problem is murder; in**Perfect Little Ladies**, the problem is panties! Lavender lace panties. They have been kidnapped. A ransom note has been received. And Elinor must dig up a half-million dollars for their return before all of New York, Washington, and maybe the world finds out.

Not including a small article in *Jack and Jill* magazine when she was 9, Drake's first published work was **Dare to Dream** , a nonfiction book, which she co-authored with Olympic gold medal gymnast Tim Daggett. Now, with three *USA Today* bestsellers, translations of her books in more than a dozen languages, and a TV movie option for **Good Little Wives**, Drake offers readers her next Avon title, **The Secrets Sisters Keep**.

She is a graduate of Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs, New York, and currently lives in Amherst, Massachusetts.

Critical Praise

"Drake?s funny and wise family soaper?depicts the search for Uncle Edward and the bumpy quest for family harmony with wit and style as the sisters try to make peace with the past."

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