

# The Fiancée

by Kate White

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## About the Book

***New York Times* bestselling author Kate White returns with a riveting thriller about a captivating but cunning woman who joins a family and threatens to upend their picture-perfect lives.**

**They had everything they needed for a perfect family vacation: close-knit relatives, a bucolic setting...and a murderer in their midst?**

Summer is looking forward to a break from hustling for acting work in Manhattan when she, her husband Gabe, and Gabe's nine-year-old son arrive at the annual family get-together at her in-laws' sprawling estate. On the agenda are leisurely gourmet meals, tennis matches and plenty of relaxation by the pool.

But this year, Gabe's brother Nick has invited his new flame Hannah, whom Summer immediately recognizes from a few years before. Oddly, her brother-in-law's girlfriend claims not to know her. Yet she charms the other family members, and after Nick announces that he's proposed to Hannah, Summer doesn't have much choice but to grin and bear it.

Then the reunion is rocked by tragedy when a family member is found dead. Though the doctors attribute the loss to natural causes, a grieving Summer fears that the too-good-to-be-true Hannah is involved, even as Gabe dismisses her suspicions.

How far will Summer go to expose the truth? As she investigates just what Nick's fiancée might have done to keep her perfect image intact, she begins to fear that the first death might only be the beginning.

## Discussion Guide

1. Do you think Summer's relationship with her in-laws is a typical one? If you have in-laws, what is your relationship with them like?
2. How much of Summer's initial wariness about Hannah did you chalk up to jealousy? Do you think that jealousy can ever be a useful emotion?
3. Were you surprised to discover that the Keaton family wasn't as picture-perfect as they seemed at first? Do you think most families aren't what they seem at a glance?
4. It becomes clear that Claire has always been very protective of her sons. Do you think she went too far at times, or can you relate to what she did to protect her kids?
5. The Keaton boys' relationships and places in the world seem very related to their birth order. How much do you think birth order determines our paths in life?
6. What could Summer have done differently to make the people around her more cautious after Claire's death?
7. Were you surprised by who the killer turned out to be? Did you understand the killer's motivation?
8. Do you feel that Summer saw herself more clearly at the end of the book?
9. By the book's end, do you think that Summer and Gabe's marriage was stronger for all they'd gone through?

## Author Bio

Kate White is the *New York Times* and *USA Today* bestselling author of 19 novels of suspense: 11 stand-alone psychological thrillers --- including her latest, *I CAME BACK FOR YOU* --- and eight Bailey Weggins mysteries.

A former *Glamour magazine* Top Ten College Women Contest winner and cover girl, Kate had a long career in the media world, which included running five national magazines. For 14 years she was the editor-in-chief of *Cosmopolitan*, which under her became the most successful magazine in single copy sales in the U.S. Though she loved her magazine career, she decided to leave 12 years ago to concentrate full-time on another passion: writing suspense fiction.

Kate's first mystery, *IF LOOKS COULD KILL*, was a Kelly Ripa Book Club pick, a #1 bestseller on Amazon, and an instant *New York Times* bestseller. She has been nominated for an International Thriller Writers Award in the fiction category, and her books have been published in over 30 countries.

Kate is a frequent speaker at libraries, bookstores and conferences, and has appeared on many television shows, including "Today", "CBS This Morning," "Good Morning America," "Morning Joe" and CNN's "Quest Means Business."

She is also the author of several bestselling career books, including *I SHOULDN'T BE TELLING YOU THIS*, and the

groundbreaking *Wall Street Journal* bestseller, WHY GOOD GIRLS DON'T GET AHEAD BUT GUTSY GIRLS DO.

Kate is an avid traveler and spends each winter with her husband at their home in Uruguay. She holds an honorary doctorate of letters from her alma mater, Union College, where she gave the 2022 commencement address.

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