



EXCERPT

This time she laughed aloud. The sinister sound echoed inside the truck cab. With not another vehicle in sight, the pickup made its way back to the cabin secluded in the woods. It was now time to put the next step into action. Tonight had gone perfectly and that family was going to regret having ever crossed paths with hers. She laughed louder, pleased that her revenge felt so good!

Annie groaned and tried to move, but her body was reluctant. She opened her eyes and tried to focus on her surroundings. Everything appeared blurry though and her head was throbbing. She reached up with one hand and rubbed her head and when she looked, her hand was covered in blood. She moaned and then her eyes closed.

She forced herself to open them, moving her right arm across the seat next to her, searching for her cell phone. She found nothing. She tried to sit up straight and leaned back in her seat. The throbbing was beginning to worsen. She looked over in the seat and saw the phone lying on the passenger floorboard.

She moaned and tried to pull her legs up enough to move around in the car to reach it. But her legs were numb. They wouldn't cooperate with her brain. Using her hands, she reached down and pulled on her left knee, lifting it up. But her feet and legs were completely numb. Her first thought was of paralysis. Her heart began beating faster, her adrenaline pumping harder as the thought frightened her. She reached down to do the same with her right leg. But her foot was stuck under the brake pedal.

She tried to lean forward to free it, but her head began bleeding more and the throbbing pain in her head intensified.

She had to free her legs to motivate around closer so she could reach the phone to call for help! More frightened now than she had ever been in her life, she grit her teeth together and again, using both hands, tugged in an upward motion on her right knee. Finally her shoe gave way and her leg came out.

More intense pain shot through her body. Realizing it was probably broken and definitely not numb, Annie leaned to her right, dragging the left side of her body along enough to enable her to reach down. She was just inches shy of touching it.

PURCHASE INFORMATION

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

An avid reader since childhood, [Cindy Bauer](#) often dreamed of becoming a writer. She graduated from Assumption High School in Davenport, Iowa in 1975, married her husband Robert in 1976 and left her dream behind.

While working at a small town newspaper, prompted by her sister's encouragement, Cindy published her first novel, [Chasing Memories](#), in 2006 and went on to publish her second novel, [Shades of Blue](#), in 2007. She published a second edition of both those novels again in 2008, finishing off the trilogy in 2009 when she published her third novel, [Crystal Clear](#).

Since mysteries are her favorite books to read, Cindy is currently working on a series of mystery-suspense novels, along with co-authoring some young adult books with two other authors as well.

Besides writing and marketing her own works, Cindy is a volunteer partner with [Books In Sync](#), a site dedicated to promoting authors and their books.



"I believe the Lord has chosen me to spread His word through my words and who am I to question His plans for me?" ©2008 Cindy Bauer

"Dreams can be turned into reality if one has the courage to try. Failure comes only to those who don't." ©2006 Cindy Bauer

Contact

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