



EXCERPT

Suddenly he lunged for her, grabbing her wrists and forcing her backwards until she was wedged into the corner of the entry hall, using the advantage of his larger physical size and greater strength, to hold her hostage there.

“Tom! Stop it! You’re scaring me!” Susan retaliated. She was trying not to scream, but it was difficult. She didn't want to wake Tommy. And this... well it wasn't like the night he had raped her in bed. It was more menacing, more violent. And the wildness in his eyes frightened her.

Susan’s head snapped to one side when Tom’s open hand forcefully hit her face. He grabbed her chin and slammed the back of her head against the wall behind her. She closed her eyes and prayed. This was a nightmare and not what she had expected. She had no idea he would resort to violence in such a nature.

“Shut up, nag!” Tom sneered as he hovered over her, close to her face in a threatening manner. And her visible fear only seemed to feed his anger and fuel his pleasure in holding her captive.

“Tom, stop. Please.”

He closed his fist, waving it at his side before slamming it into her upper lip and nose. Stunned and disoriented, frozen with fear, she was unable to move or defend herself. She immediately thought of Tommy upstairs in his bed and quietly begged Tom to let her go. He tightened his grip.

“What’s the matter, S-u-s-a-n? Not so brave *now*, are you?” Tom’s eyes danced wildly. He held his face so close to hers, she could see nothing but his eyes, feel little more than his warm breath. Without warning, he kissed her... brutally, splitting her upper lip against her teeth.

He pulled back and stared at her, but held his grip. She could see blood on his chin. Then suddenly, he just let go of her. He threw his arms open wide and with his fingers spread, he stood like a wild scarecrow shaking his hands at her.

“Get upstairs and go to bed, Susan! Now! And stay there! Or I can't be held responsible for what I'll do to you next.” He backed up, spit several profanities at her and then motioned to her that she was free to go.

She ran up the stairs as fast as she could, taking them two at a time and stumbling as she went. His taunting laughter heightened the fear she was feeling.

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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