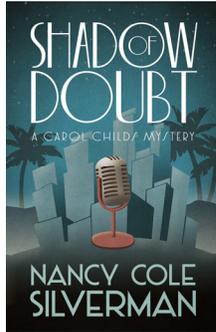


SHADOW OF DOUBT

A Carol Childs Mystery | Nancy Cole Silverman



When a top Hollywood Agent is found poisoned in the bathtub of her home, suspicion quickly turns to one of her two nieces. But Carol Childs, a reporter for a local talk radio station, doesn't believe it. The suspect is her friend, and also her primary source for insider industry news. After a media frenzy pits one niece against the other—and the body count starts to rise—Carol must save her friend from being tried in the court of public opinion. And when a Hollywood psychic warns Carol there will be more deaths, things really take an unexpected turn.

Author Bio:

Nancy Cole Silverman credits her twenty-five years in news and talk radio for helping her to develop an ear for storytelling. But it wasn't until after she retired that she was able to write fiction full-time. Much of what Silverman writes about is pulled from events that were reported on from inside some of Los Angeles' busiest newsrooms where she spent the bulk of her career. She lives in Los Angeles with her husband, Bruce, and two standard poodles.

The Carol Childs Mystery Series:

SHADOW OF DOUBT (#1)

BEYOND A DOUBT (#2)

WITHOUT A DOUBT (#3)

ROOM FOR DOUBT (#4)

Author Appearance Opportunities:

- Skype or FaceTime
- Conference Call
- Facebook Live
- In-Person

Nancy will happily attend in person if it fits these travel parameters:

“While it's a big country, my motto is *Have Book Will Travel*. So, if your book club is in the Southern California area, count me in.”

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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. In this first Carol Childs Mystery, Carol has reinvented herself as a radio reporter after spending the better part of her career on the business side of the same station. What problems does she encounter in her new role as a reporter? Would you be willing to put up with a similar situation to achieve your dream job?
2. As a middle-aged, single mom, Carol finds herself working for a man half her age and size. Tyler is not wild about having an older woman working for him. How does Carol handle age discrimination? Have you ever been a similar situation?
3. Child actors like Amber in the book frequently work long hours, and the types of work they do can be challenging. For Amber, the work took its toll, and she began to believe in the fantasy she saw on the screen. Did knowing Amber's story make you wonder about child actors and what they are exposed to? And, at the end of the book, did you find the punishment fit the crime?
4. Carol's best friend, Sheri, is her opposite in many ways. Carol's tall. Sheri is short. Carol's got a demanding career, and Sheri is a stay at home mom, but together they tease that they make up one terrifically good person. And, of course, they are both single moms with growing adolescent boys. What instances between them did you like best? Do you have a best friend that is your opposite and do you think that adds to your friendship?
5. Carol has recently started dating Eric, an FBI agent. Their romance is new and exciting and not one her boss Tyler thinks is wise. Tyler tells her law enforcement and reporters make for bad bedfellows. A reporter's job is to seek out information and maintain it is the public's right to know, while law enforcement frequently finds themselves on the other side of the argument and believe information should only be available on a need to know basis. This makes for a rocky relationship. What signs early on in Carol's relationship with Eric signal things may not always go well? Have you ever had a job where you were attracted to someone you knew wouldn't be good for your career?
6. There are several themes in this book. Child labor. Treatment of the criminally insane. Romance. What theme affected you most?
7. What scene grabbed you most? Why?
8. What surprised you most? Why?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS - cont'd:

9. The book ends untraditionally. Not all the guilty parties are arrested and found guilty. In life, sometimes that's the way it is. Were you bothered and intrigued by the ending?
10. Did any of the characters remind you of yourself or someone you know?
11. Carol is deceived by Sam. She thought Sam was her friend when all along, she was using her. Were you surprised to learn that Sam wasn't on the level? Did you like how the author slowly developed the relationship between the two women? When did you first know Sam couldn't be trusted?
12. If you could have a conversation with any of the characters, who would it be? And why?
13. Misty Dawn is an unusual character. She possesses clairvoyant powers, and Carol doesn't really believe in them. But, as the book progresses, Carol comes to realize Misty is able to do things that surprise her. Do you believe in psychics and have you ever had a psychic experience that left you wondering if maybe there might be powers at play we don't all understand?
14. Were there moments in the story that you disagreed with Carol's actions?
15. Did any of the characters remind you of yourself or someone you know?
16. Are there books you would compare this to? How does this book hold up to them?
17. What did you take away from this book?



PAIRING MENU

Crisp Salad Greens (vinegar based dressing)

Eggplant Lasagna (recipe on the last page)

Crunchy Garlic Bread

Wines: Full-Flavored White (Chardonnay) and/or Medium-Bodied Red (Merlot)

Bonus: Long Shadows Pedestal Merlot

GOODIES & SWAG

The author is happy to send along swag: bookmarks and branded door prizes.

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TOP CRITICAL REVIEWS

“Silverman provides us with inside look into the world of talk radio as Carol Childs, an investigative reporter, finds herself in the middle of a Hollywood murder mystery...A hunky FBI Agent and a wacky psychic will keep readers guessing from beginning to end.” – Annette Dashofy, *USA Today* Bestselling Author of *Lost Legacy*

“Carol is a smart, savvy heroine that will appeal to readers. This is a cozy with a bite.” – *Books for Avid Readers*

SHARE PHOTOS

We love photos! Please snap a few shots of your book club holding the book or with swag or toasting the author. **Send to: social@henerypress.com**. Be sure to tag Henery Press and the author when sharing on social media. Use hashtags: #HeneryPress #instantbookclub #justaddreaders #mysterylovescompany.

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EGGPLANT LASAGNA

Eggplant has long been revered as a plant with magical values. Misty Dawn, Carol's live-in housekeeper and former Psychic to the Stars, believes it can even help bring on childbirth. Like my protagonist, Carol Childs in my books, I'm not certain about that. But when my daughter was two weeks overdue with my grandson, I made up the recipe below and twenty-four hours later I was a grandmother.

Ingredients

2 eggplants, sliced about ¼" thick

4 tablespoons olive oil

sea salt

fresh ground black pepper

Marinara sauce. Use your favorite or make from scratch. The smell of tomatoes sautéing is guaranteed to fill the house with wonderful smells.

Ricotta cheese – 15 ounces

3 large eggs

1 cup grated Parmesan cheese

1½ cups grated Mozzarella cheese

Instructions

1. Preheat oven to 350° F.
2. Pre-bake eggplant by slicing it into thin strips and brush with olive oil and sprinkle with salt and pepper. Roast in the oven until tender or for about 10 minutes.
4. Mix together Ricotta cheese, eggs, and Parmesan cheese in a separate bowl.
5. Prepare a large baking dish with non-stick cooking spray and begin layering lasagna as follows: sauce, cheese mixture, eggplant, cheese mixture, marinara sauce and top with Mozzarella cheese.
6. Bake until bubbly, about 30 minutes.