



Summer of Storms

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Anna Jameson has been haunted since the summer of the hurricane when she was three years old--the same summer her five-year-old sister Julie was murdered. Even 30 years later, Anna, now a photojournalist, sees crude composites of that night. She returns to New York City, the scene of this horrendous, unsolved crime--and comes closer to a killer.

Summer of Storms Details

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Author : Judith Kelman

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From Reader Review Summer of Storms for online ebook

Dale Safford says

I had to try several times to get going with this book. The beginning just didn't flow too easily. The book is also outdated since it talks about photography without acknowledging digital formats. Almost quit reading it. Maybe printing the book in a less formal font would have helped.

Anna Jameson was just three years old when her only sister was murdered on a stormy night in her own bed in their house as the family slept. Now grown, Anna is eager to leave her dead-end photography job in hometown Charleston, North Carolina for better opportunities. She accepts a photojournalist job in New York City, but the boss is nasty, she can't afford a very nice place to live, and she is suspended for a week from her job. There is danger where she lives as she is attacked and rescued one night, and she feels like the killer who was never caught will be coming after her now. Will her suspicions prove to be unfounded, or is danger really headed her way?

Laura Miller says

Excellent book...loved the mystery.

Kristine says

[(maybe I'm crazy, but it never comes out who actually doctored the photo?) (hide spoiler)]

Purple Iris says

I almost gave up on this book several times. It is super slow at the beginning. There are too many characters, too many story lines the author wants to develop. Plus, the translation sucks. I don't think I'll be reading Kelman again.

Shirley says

Unfamiliar with this author, but I did enjoy this book. Will look for others by her.

Marti says

This was quite a nicely written book, with a long ago murder, and present murders. Anna Jameson's five year old sister was killed in New York City years ago when Anna was only three. The case was never solved. The

family moved to Charleston, South Carolina where Anna, now grown up, feels that she has to move away from the relationship with Kevin Moultrie, her former fiance. Her uncle Eli is very helpful--sets up an interview with a publisher for a job for her as a photojournalist. Her best friend from school lives in NYC, but their lives have changed immeasurably. A new friend at the paper helps her find an apartment in Brooklyn. A group called the Arcanum takes on cold cases, and the Sleeping Beauty one is now current. Who is killing people now? Why? Read this book and find out.

Annabelle says

Kelman has a gritty writing style juxtaposing out-of-the-ordinary, vivid word choices to capture attention. However, sometimes it seems a little forced. The main character, Anna, a fledging photographer, living with her parents in Charleston after graduation and is shooting portraits at a down home, cheesy store. Her sister was murdered in at night in her home when she was a toddler, and it haunts her family and makes her mother controlling, obsessive and generally crazy. Anna moves to New York to work for an Enquirer-like, arrogant, punitive publisher, finding a cheap apartment in Brooklyn in the prostitute area. There is a journalist, Dixon, who is a mild love interest. Creepy things start to happen to Anna, and an elite cold case think tank, take on the old murder. The standard formula happens with the heroine fighting at the end and getting wounded, but triumphing getting a better job and possibly getting together with a love interest. I liked it, it dragged, but the plotting and writing kept up the interest.

Susan says

This book was very disjointed with many subplots that made it difficult to follow. I liked the main character and would have liked her to have grown in the book.

Michelle Parsons says

Great read. Surprise ending

Keri says

A few bad metaphors and one glaring error of information aside, this was a decent suspense / mystery. I would have given it 4 stars otherwise.

Kelly says

Great story line but hard to love a book when the main character is annoying & exasperating which I found happened too much.

Mary says

Thoroughly enjoyed the suspense; tough-to-put-down book. Found a great quote-"Sometimes things simply slip off the careful course you set."

Carol says

Light mystery about a girl whose sister was murdered when she was six. Entertaining, without a lot of substance.

Anne Marie says

It's been thirty years since Anna Jamieson's sister Julie was murdered in the middle of the night back when the family lived in an apartment in New York City. The family lives in South Carolina now. When an opportunity for a photography job comes along thanks to Uncle Eli who has connections, Anna decides to take it even though it's back in New York City. Anna soon finds out that her dream job isn't all that it's cracked up to be. Her outspoken boss wants to see what kind of job she can do before he hires her, and she has to find a place to live since her friend Shelby is having too many family problems to take her in. Luckily, a guy from work, Dixon, helps her find a place. It's not in the greatest location, but is doable. In the meantime, the Arcanum, a group that tries to solve old unsolved murder cases, decides to take on the Julie Jamieson case because one of the members received a disturbing phone call about it. Instead of contacting any of the Jamieson family members, the group focuses on the phone call, and soon a murder of a group member takes place as well as a threat to one of the member's children. By the time anyone thinks to contact Anna, it's too late, and she has to witness not only who the murderer is, but the loss of a beloved relative because he felt too guilty of the past crimes to move on.

Final thought: it was nice to have Anna volunteer at a school to help out her friend's kindergarten class to show them how to take pictures. But this book, published in 2001, should have been more realistic. Parents need to give permission to have their children being photographed, Anna was taking her chances photographing children outside of a playground, and no permission needed from the principal to do a photography workshop?

Janiere James says

Truly a page turner hands down! Funny as well as intriguing and intense! Al Elisson got me!! I did not figure out the killer, but it was so obvious!!! This book is one of the best books I have read! Great from beginning to end!
