



Carolina Moon

By Nora Roberts

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#1 New York Times bestselling author Nora Roberts presents a novel of redemption and suspense, as a woman haunted by the unsolved murder of her childhood friend returns to her small South Carolina hometown...

Tory Bodeen grew up in a run-down house where her father ruled with an iron fist and a leather belt—and where her dreams and talents had no room to flourish. Her one escape was her neighbor Hope, whose friendship allowed Tory to be the child she wasn't allowed to be at home. Then Hope was brutally murdered, and everything fell apart.

Now, as she returns to Progress with plans to settle in and open a stylish home-design shop, Tory is determined to find a measure of peace and free herself from the haunting visions of the past. As she forges a new bond with Cade Lavelle—Hope's older brother and the heir to the family fortune—she isn't sure whether the tragic loss they share will unite them or drive them apart. But she is willing to open her heart, just a little, and try.

But living so close to those unhappy memories will be more difficult and frightening than Tory could ever have expected. Because Hope's murderer is nearby as well...

From the Trade Paperback edition.

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

With its blend of evil killers, handsome heroes, and feisty, sensitive heroines, Nora Roberts's latest thriller meets the same standards of terror and romance that made last year's *River's End* a bestseller. This time, our heroine Tory Bodeen has returned to her hometown of Progress, South Carolina, to face the fearsome memories of her childhood friend Hope's death and rebuild her life in a town that once betrayed her.

Struggling to balance the disturbing recollections, Tory finds comfort in the arms of Hope's older brother, Cade Lavelle. Though she sets about developing relationships with old friends and establishing her own business, Tory's worst fears come true and her past catches up to her: Tory's unique role in Hope's death makes her not only the focus of the Lavelle family's hatred, but the next choice for Hope's killer, who is still at large.

With the same skills that earned her the honor of being the first Romance Writers of America Hall of Fame inductee, Roberts weaves a winning blend of mystery, terror, and romance that loyal followers and new fans will enjoy immensely. Sure to be another bestseller, *Carolina Moon* will keep your heart beating in triple time. --Nancy R.E. O'Brien

From Publishers Weekly

Doyenne of the bestseller lists, Roberts (*River's End*) may have achieved her personal best in this tense Southern gothic. As atmospheric and unsettling as a Tennessee Williams play, the story takes us into the gifted mind and troubled soul of visionary Tory Bodeen, whose childhood in Progress, S.C., was marked by her father's beatings, her mother's passivity and, when she was eight, the rape and strangulation of her best friend, Hope Lavelle. Now 26, still haunted by Hope's unsolved murder and memories of an unsettling experience in New York City, to which she fled at age 18, Tory returns to Progress after a quiet four-year stint in Charleston. Although profoundly ambivalent about her psychic ability to connect with other minds, she knows she'll never find peace until she uses her unsettling skill to find the murderer. And by opening a shop full of beautiful objects, she wants to show Progress that she's more than the bruised spawn of despicable Hannibal and Sarabeth Bodeen. She doesn't reckon on being swept off her feet by Hope's older brother, Cade, or by making an enemy and then a fine friend of Hope's twin, Faith. Nor could she have imagined that she would stumble on a chain of past murders seemingly linked to Hope's death. The mystery heats up as a wave of new murders sweeps Progress, but the increasingly intricate plot developments never overwhelm the human element. Roberts--again like Williams-- seems disgusted only by unkindness; she treats most of her big cast with affection and compassion for their foibles. Cade doesn't yield an inch to his mother's snobbish contempt for Tory, and the complicated Tory is allowed to hate her own mother and wish her father a painful death: there are no saccharine reconciliations here. Even when a few over-the-top sex scenes and hackneyed phrasings slip in, Roberts's witty dialogue and moody descriptions soon counteract them. This is romantic drama at its best. 400,000 first printing; Literary Guild Main selection; author tour. (Mar.)

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From Library Journal

Roberts has firmly established herself as one of the major stars of the romance genre, yet this novel is darker, more serious, and more pensive than most of her previous work. It's the story of Tory Bodeen, a young woman haunted by the murder of her childhood friend years ago. Tory's own childhood suffered from a deplorable lack of love and kindness. At the mercy of her ruthless father, who routinely beat her, Tory found

brief solace with her friend Hope Lavelle. After Hope's unsolved murder, Tory grew up, left home, worked hard, and now financially independent has returned to her birthplace to open a small gift shop and try to put the memories of the past to rest. When another young woman in the town is brutally murdered, Tory realizes her premonition that the killer is still at large is horrifyingly true. Although Tory's romance with Hope's brother, Cade, takes second place to the childhood grief and trauma that imbue the plot with atmosphere and foreboding, fans are unlikely to be disappointed. Roberts develops her many characters thoughtfully, builds suspense, and gives readers a satisfying if somewhat surprising ending. Essential for public libraries.

---Margaret Ann Hanes, *Sterling Heights P.L., MI*

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

James Dorman:

This Carolina Moon book is just not ordinary book, you have after that it the world is in your hands. The benefit you get by reading this book is actually information inside this publication incredible fresh, you will get facts which is getting deeper a person read a lot of information you will get. This particular Carolina Moon without we comprehend teach the one who studying it become critical in considering and analyzing. Don't end up being worry Carolina Moon can bring once you are and not make your handbag space or bookshelves' turn out to be full because you can have it with your lovely laptop even cellphone. This Carolina Moon having very good arrangement in word as well as layout, so you will not really feel uninterested in reading.

Deborah Hayes:

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Gail Delamora:

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