



## The Summer of Moonlight Secrets

*Danette Haworth*

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**The Summer of Moonlight Secrets** Danette Haworth

**A summer tale full of magical wonder and starring an unforgettable antebellum hotel**

At The Meriwether, Florida's famous antebellum hotel off of Hope Springs, nothing is quite as it seems.

Secret staircases give way to servants' quarters and Prohibition-era speakeasies make for the perfect hide-and-seek spot.

Allie Jo Jackson knows every nook and cranny of The Meriwether—she's lived there her whole life—and nothing surprises her, until the first time she spots the enigmatic and beautiful Tara emerging from the springs.

Tara's shimmery skin, long flowing hair, and strange penchant for late moonlight swims disguise a mysterious secret—and once Allie Jo and her friend Chase discover Tara's secret, nothing will ever be the same.

From the celebrated author of *Violet Raines Almost Got Struck by Lightning* comes another magical summer tale full of memorable characters and a one-of-a-kind setting.

## The Summer of Moonlight Secrets Details

Date : Published May 25th 2010 by Walker & Company

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Author : Danette Haworth

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## **From Reader Review The Summer of Moonlight Secrets for online ebook**

### **Leslie Santamaria says**

Once again, Haworth delivers a well-written, engaging novel for middle graders (and we adults who love middle grade literature!). The story unfolds smoothly from three points of view: 11-year-old Allie, 13-year-old Chase, and 16-year-old Tara. Each character grapples with secrets and everyday problems. Allie is bullied by a group of mean girls who make fun of her for living in a hotel. They call her poor, but the cool old hotel she lives in with her parents, who run the place, is a rich experience. Chase struggles to hide the fact that his mother left him and his travel-writer dad. Tara's secret has her hiding from a creepy guy with a dubious claim. When Allie and Chase learn Tara's secret, they have to decide whether or not they believe her and how they should help her, but they don't agree.

The setting is magical: the old hotel has secret passages and is situated by some Florida springs. The writing contains several lovely, subtle metaphors. Haworth handles the 3 points of view (2 in first-person, 1 in third) and tenses (mainly present tense with some reflections written in past) expertly. The dialogue is realistic as well, and the final chapter is especially satisfying in the way it gently reflects the book's opening. The story does include an innocent first kiss between two young teens.

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### **Elfiegirl says**

This was a good book. 100%. If there is something wrong with this book it is beyond my mind. I love this in depth plot with old fashioned characters, strange surprises and funny dialogue--it is everything a book should be.

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### **Krissy says**

This book was great.not only did it tell the story but it told the story from different points of view.this is a book any one might be interested in.If I were you I would go to your library and check this book out.the main charcters are Chase,Allyjo and Tara.The setting was a hotel that Allyjo lived in.

Danette Haworth is a great author.i can't wait to see if she wrote any other books.

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### **Kristi says**

Danette Haworth is one of my new favorite authors. If I were a kid again, she would be my new Judy Blume.

I absolutely loved this book for its folklore-esque style. Each chapter alternates between Allie Jo, Chase and an italicized mystery observer. I really loved how the POV of this book added to the story itself.

As I was reading this book, I really wanted to be a kid in a big, abandoned place with secret passages. This

book is full of adventure, intrigue and fun!

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### **Vincent Stoessel says**

This is a review from my 10 yo daughter:  
"Loved the story, loved the ending!!!"

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### **P.Q. Glisson says**

Danette Haworth wrote a very sweet book that alternates between three different POV's. I would recommend to anyone who wants to relive the innocence of youth, believing in the unbelievable, and the bittersweetness of first love.

Alli Jo lives in the Meriwether Hotel where her parents work. She has her own duties around the hotel which is steeped in mystery and hidden passages. She is somewhat of an outcast (they've dubbed her "hotel rat") from the rest of the kids who live in the area. Her only friend Melissa has gone on vacation with her family leaving Alli Jo completely alone and friendless....until Chase and Sophie arrive....along with a very mysterious young girl (Tara) who she finds hiding in a closet in one of the old rooms.

It doesn't take them long to figure out that there is something "odd" about Tara. She speaks funny and shows up most times in soaking wet clothes. All she tells them is that something happened and she had to run away from home.

Through their friendship over the summer, they learn to believe in the impossible when they find out who...or what Tara really is.

There is one other person who knows her true identity....and unfortunately, he's closing in fast.

I really liked this book. I had won the ARC from a contest on goodreads. I thought I knew exactly what Tara was from the summary....boy was I wrong. As I said before, I would recommend this book to everyone.

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### **Ryan says**

A surprisingly good, very sweet story, told in alternating chapters by Allie Joe, who lives at the Meriwether Hotel and knows all its secrets; Chase, visiting for the summer with his father, a writer; and Tara, who climbs out of the water one night, fully clothed. All three are lonely in their own way, and they discover each other and unexpected friendship. Nothing is really fixed at the end, which is a pleasant way for the story to end.

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### **Echo says**

Cute story.

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### **Paige says**

the summer of moonlight secrets was an amazing book!!!!!!!!!!!!!! from fun to terror this book is amazing!!!!!!!!!!!!!! i reccomend that you read this book! mt favorite part was the end it went from calm to a little scary. the end of the book was about... oh wait i don't want to spoil it for you

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### **Angela says**

In "The Summer of Moonlight Secrets," by Danette Haworth, Allie Jo Jackson lives at the Meriwether Hotel in Hope Springs and there are many secrets there. There are secret staircases going up to the nanny quarters, and Allie Jo goes there every day. But the biggest secret Allie Jo and her friend Chase has to keep is Tara, the mysterious girl who hides from people. She is shy and she is keeping something from them. In the story, Allie Jo and Chase bond with Tara, and they become best friends! Once she feels comfortable with them, she finally decides to tell them her secret. She is hiding from somebody and Allie Jo and Chase take turns to help Tara. They sneak around providing her food and clothes. But they have to be careful because their parents don't know. Sophie, one of their other friends, doesn't know about Tara either. So it can be tricky for Tara to act "normal." Read to find out more!

I think this book was very inspiring. Throughout the book, the friendship between the three grows more and more. They become very close and in the end, they are like brothers and sisters. This story is really good for people who like books that are inspiring and touching. If you like a good friendship, then this book is for you. I gave this book three stars because when you scrolled to the stars to click on it, there were phrases such as I liked it, I loved it, and It was ok. I based it on how I liked it. It wasn't as mind blowing as some other books I've read in my life. Therefore, that was the reason why I gave it three stars. There is no other sequel to this, but I wish there was because I really enjoyed this book. I hope you would enjoy it just as much!

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### **Meagan says**

This book was about a girl who lives in a historical hotel, a boy who stays there while he and his father are on a trip and a mysterious girl who can't go home because of a man who is searching for her so he can put her on TV and become rich and famous. It is set in the 1980's, but it wasn't so time-specific. I really liked this book I thought it was interesting and original. I was expecting the character to be a mermaid like most authors would probably have her be, but instead this author was more creative. I also liked the end which I usually hate about most books. I would recommend this book to a friend.

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### **Kimberley Little says**

A delightful book with a mystery, an old hotel (loved the setting!) and a girl with a secret . . . I want to be Allie Joe's best friend and Tara's best friend and swim with manatees!

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### **Melissa says**

It takes quite a while for The Summer of Moonlight Secrets to take off with an actual plot. The pace is overly slow, events taking place are boring, there are awkward transitions into scenes that are meaningless and which feel out of place, and I noticed mistake after mistake as far as the use of past and present tense go.

The characters add nothing to a story that is dragging. The mystery is not only easy to solve, but nothing is done about it until the last few chapters. I found this book a complete bore full of too many mistakes. I don't see how children, adults, or teens would enjoy this read. This is one read I hope to forget.

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### **Danette says**

Loving old historic houses--or even better, ABANDONED old houses, I loved using historic Floridian hotels as the inspiration for the once grand Meriwether, the hotel in which the story takes place. Florida bubbles over with natural springs, which lure flocks of manatees each winter. But its summer now, and it's not a manatee who visits.

Allie Jo lives at the hotel and makes friends with Chase, a guest. Together they discover living in the abandoned upper floors, an enigmatic teenage runaway with a mystery of her own.

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### **Sandie says**

Good story....not as gripping for me as I would like but still a very good book for young readers. I absolutely was thrilled to see a fantasy book for kids that was not about vampires, werewolves, fairys or mermaids. I love storys about all those things, very much. But the creature this author chose to write about is not one I have read many stories about and it was a very nice change.

Little bit of suspense, particularly in the last few chapters. This book is written much like James Patterson has written many of his books for young readers, with a chapter by one character and then one by another, this particular book is written specifically from two of main characters, Allie Joe and Chase. There is another chapter written either by Tara who would be the main character or a narrator type person I think.

The setting of the story in the hotel is great, really interesting and Allie Jo sounds like someone I would like to know better, her life sounds like an adventure.

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