



Lilies on Daybreak Pond

Mindy Starns Clark

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This free short story prequel by bestselling author Mindy Starns Clark offers an exclusive bonus to The Men of Lancaster County series by Mindy Starns Clark and Susan Meissner. Fans of the series will enjoy this brief opportunity to revisit a family they have grown to love, and new readers will be introduced to a life-altering act that ends up reverberating throughout the three full novels of the series, *The Amish Groom*, *The Amish Blacksmith*, and *The Amish Clockmaker*. This e-short story also includes the first chapter of *The Amish Groom*.

It's coming on spring, and Joel Miller is beginning to understand that his daughter is never coming home again. Three months ago, 18-year-old Sadie snuck away in the dead of night, breaking from the Amish faith to live the life of an *Englischer*. The family she left behind has been dealing with the loss ever since—especially her father, who is still struggling to comprehend how God could have allowed this to happen. Now the family dog has gone missing as well, and Joel is determined to find him and bring him back home no matter what it takes. As he searches for the missing pet, he wonders how find the strength to let his daughter go and move on with his life. How can he help his family do so as well?

Lilies on Daybreak Pond Details

Date : Published December 15th 2014 by Harvest House Publishers

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From Reader Review Lilies on Daybreak Pond for online ebook

Maureen says

The beginning was good bit then after about 10 min it was so so sad and ya get to the middle of the book and start thinking their is hope and. I'm trying to word this with. out giving anything away. I love this book I can read this 10 times over and not get tired of it. The end is so sweet I almost started crying. .

I love dogs and being outside. This book is so good if your into pup stories. The ending is so sweet.

Taneshha says

This book had been on my to read list for a while. So I had forgotten what it was about. So, when I decided to read it today, I just thought it was some kinda period drama story. Then, as I started reading, I just thought it was about a family man on a farm.

Finally, all the clues connected and the light bulb in my head went off. Lilies on daybreak pond is an amish story. I was really surprised because all I know about the Amish is what's on Lifetime. But this story changed my view. It was very emotional and religious.

Laura says

This is an e-short prequel to the Amish Men Of Lancaster County series, showing how the father of our first hero's mother (in The Amish Groom) felt when his daughter left home without warning. A lost dog added insult to injury and the father is left floundering, unable to work, just trying to heal his relationship with God and come to terms with his loss. I enjoyed getting to know Joel a little better.

To those who read the prequel and are judging the series by this, don't. The series is wonderful, full length, and I totally loved all three books in the series.

Recommended.

Barbara says

This is a bittersweet short story that is a prequel to the Amish Men of Lancaster County series. It was not totally satisfying by itself, but that is probably the intention, so that you will read the series. God answers prayers in unusual ways in this one, and it was a beautiful example of an Amish family dealing with joy and heartache together.

Cindy says

Uplifting

I enjoyed this book. However I did hope his beloved daughter would have come back home with shadow in tow.

Agnieszka says

Usually I'm not a fan of Amish fiction and was surprised I really liked this contemporary short story.

My only two issues were:

- the use of the German-influenced Amish language (though with adequate translation for a change) I'm aware it's part of the culture and that way important/making sense in these books but I'm still not liking it.
- It appears to me like the story is a continuation of a previous book (which it's not as far as I could see)

Apart from the style I loved the way spiritual values (forgiveness, trust in God) were woven into the story and made alive in every-day-situations.

Rachel says

I loved this book. The storyline was a bit unusual- always a plus for me, although not essential. It's usual to see/hear of a woman's pain/hurt/anguish, however we seldom see it from the other side. This portrayed those feelings and I felt them right along with Joel. It was bad enough that his oldest daughter ran away from home but then for her dog to disappear.... The characters were well developed and as far as I can recall there were no editing problems (a big plus for me). I don't recall reading this author before, however I definitely plan to in the future. I want to discover the answer to the one main question that was unanswered (purposely, I'm sure) in this prequel. Why did Sadie leave home? I also enjoyed the free glimpse into the first book of this series (The Amish Groom) which is included in this prequel. It makes you want to read the series...at least it has me wanting to! I definitely recommend it to readers. Especially those who enjoy Amish fiction.

Lila says

A short revelation of family and finding God's love in difficult situations. Well done.

J. Kahele says

Blurb:

It's coming on spring, and Joel Miller is beginning to understand that his daughter is never coming home again. Three months ago,

18-year-old Sadie snuck away in the dead of night, breaking from the Amish faith to live the life of an Englischer. The family she left behind has been dealing with the loss ever since—especially her father, who is still struggling to comprehend how God could have allowed this to happen. Now the family dog has gone missing as well, and Joel is determined to find him and bring him back home no matter what it takes. As he searches for the missing pet, he wonders how to find the strength to let his daughter go and move on with his life. How can he help his family do so as well?

This was a free short story, an introduction to the series, The Men of Lancaster County. It gave just enough insight and interest to make me really want to read the book.

Elaine says

This is the story of a daughter who suddenly leaves her Amish family. She is said to have left a note for the family but the author doesn't let us know what she wrote.

The girl's father can't accept the fact that she's gone and worries about her. His trust in God is the only thing that can help him in his sorrow. The lily pond she had created with so much love will always remind him of her

P.S. Winn says

I enjoyed this short story and want to thank the author for giving this book free and letting readers enjoy her writing style. A very descriptive read which takes readers to the life of a family on Daybreak Pond, where tragedy has struck when one of the children becomes a runaway. The author shows a gift for sentiment in this story and readers will find a bonus chapter at the end introducing another book by this author.

Gail says

This story is a prequel to the Men of Lancaster County series. If this is any indication of the series it should be fantastic. A missing dog brings back reminders of a daughter lost to this Amish family as she has run away.

Pam Pavkov says

Grieving is also for the living.

Lilies on Daybreak Pond is a free eBook short story written by Mindy Stearns Clark as a prequel to her The Men of Lancaster County series. This short story tells us a lot about the feelings of grief a family was dealing with after their daughter Sadie left the Amish for good. The characters in this story actually made you feel their loss and sadness. The descriptions of the pond actually bring the pond to life. The storyline was sad but

also forgiving. The pond had been Sadie's favorite place to reflect and then it became her father's refuge in his grieving process.

I was given a complimentary eBook copy to read. I was not approached at any time to post a favorable review. All opinions and statements expressed are strictly my own. I have rated this book with five stars for meeting my expectations of an outstanding story that I can highly recommend to others.

Congratulations to Mindy Stearns Clark for releasing such an amazing short story to build interest in her new series. I will be watching for more books to be released by this author in the future.

Valerie says

Can't sleep

Not being able to sleep I grabbed my kindle to read. This was a nice little story and I now want to look for the rest of the books.

Cindy says

This was a free short story that I picked up at Amazon. It is a prequel to the series, The Men of Lancaster County.

After reading this wonderful short story, this is a series that I definitely have to read. The author has such a beautiful descriptive voice that I felt as if I too stood there looking at the pond. You could almost feel the pain that Sadie's family felt at her disappearance.

If you are reading this series or thinking about it, this is a prequel that I would highly recommend!
