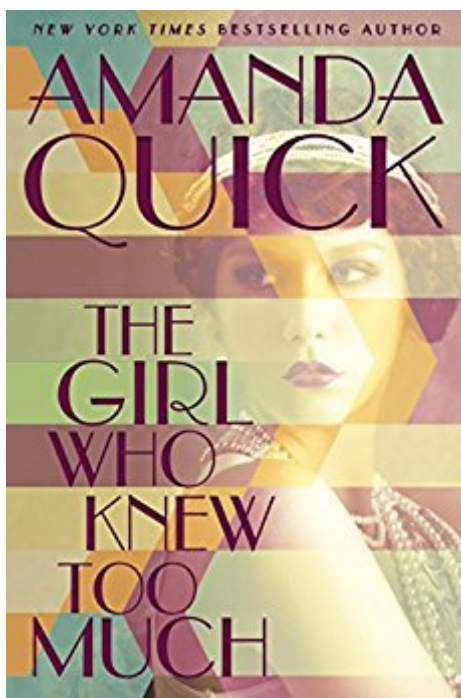


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The Girl Who Knew Too Much



Synopsis

THE NEW YORK TIMES A BESTSELLER Amanda Quick, the bestselling author of *Til Death Do Us Part*, transports readers to 1930s California, where glamour and seduction spawn a multitude of sins. When Hollywood moguls and stars want privacy, they head to an idyllic small town on the coast, where the exclusive Burning Cove Hotel caters to their every need. It's where reporter Irene Glasson finds herself staring down at a beautiful actress at the bottom of a pool. The dead woman had a red-hot secret about up-and-coming leading man Nick Tremayne, a scoop that Irene couldn't resist—especially since she's just a rookie at a third-rate gossip rag. But now Irene's investigation into the drowning threatens to tear down the wall of illusion that is so deftly built around the famous actor, and there are powerful men willing to do anything to protect their investment. Seeking the truth, Irene finds herself drawn to a master of deception. Oliver Ward was once a world-famous magician until he was mysteriously injured during his last performance. Now the owner of the Burning Cove Hotel, he can't let scandal threaten his livelihood, even if it means trusting Irene, a woman who seems to have appeared in Los Angeles out of nowhere four months ago. With Oliver's help, Irene soon learns that the glamorous paradise of Burning Cove hides dark and dangerous secrets. And that the past always just out of sight could drag them both under.

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Customer Reviews

I was so excited when I heard this book would be set in the 1930s. Amanda Quick books are always great no matter what time period she is writing in but this was just so much fun to read. I could just picture the Packard and the glamorous clothes as I was reading. This book opens with a bang as Anna Harris (later known as Irene Glasson) comes upon her murdered boss. She discovers things have not been as they seem and her life could be in jeopardy with her knowledge of a notebook containing sensitive information. She takes the book, her cash and flees cross country in her Packard. In order to stay under the radar, she changes her name to Irene Glasson, leaves her Packard along the road and becomes a gossip reporter in California. Following the trail of an up and coming actor, she discovers another dead body, this one belonging to her informant. While trying to get to the truth of what happened she develops a relationship with the manager of the hotel (Oliver Ward) where the actor is staying. From this point the novel is classic Krentz/Quick suspense. I won't spoil it for you with the details but it was fabulous. Amanda Quick did a great job transporting the reader to 1930s Hollywood. Not just in the cars and clothes but the way the characters interacted with each other. They were true to the time period. I enjoyed the building of the relationship between Irene and Olivier. Despite their attraction, they were hesitant at first based on their pasts and came to trust one another as they worked to find a killer (or two). The quick wit and repartee of their conversations put me in mind of the old movies like The Thin Man series with William Powell and Myrna Loy. This novel would be a very good start to a series like that. The Girl Who Knew Too Much will become one of my favorites. I intend to get a copy and re-read at my leisure. Thanks so much Amanda Quick/Jayne Ann Krentz for this delightful book. Please consider making this a series.

Anna works as personal assistant to a wealthy socialite. When she arrives at the country estate, she finds her employer murdered in a particularly gruesome manner. And in her own blood, the woman has written the word "RUN". That is an attention getting beginning to a story. Anna does the wise thing and runs. She runs all the way from one side of the country to the

other. She becomes a new person, with a new name and starts a new career as a reporter for a Los Angeles scandal sheet. This is an interesting mystery. As Anna who is now Irene, begins to follow a story she becomes certain she is going to get the story of her reporter's career. Irene believes she can prove that a movie star is a serial killer. During her process of searching for the facts, she discovers a body. The body is in the pool at a luxurious hotel owned by a former magician. Oliver Ward wants to find out the truth. His future, and the future of his entire staff, depends on the hotel continuing to be a success. It is a place of luxury and comfort where celebrities can be treated to great service as well as the assurance their privacy will be protected. The bad publicity of a dead body is not going to help the image of a peaceful and safe place to relax. For me this story started very slowly. It held my interest, but I at times I became impatient for more action and fewer descriptions. But, then things began to pick up and it was wonderful. The two characters of Irene and Oliver are not trusting of strangers. Neither one wants to admit that their dealings with one another will be very cautious. Sharing is not a characteristic that comes easily to either of them. They each have a history which contains betrayal and that is a difficult hurdle to overcome. Slowly, they learn to rely on the honesty they find in one another. The secondary characters are absolutely terrific. Everyone is a complete person who adds to the depth of the story. There are friends and enemies and out and out villains. Some of the evil is quite evident but other wickedness is more insidious. Ms Quick is notorious for her plotting. She has created a story which is not simple but it is absolutely enthralling. The reader is brought along as events unfold, clues are discovered and conclusions become realities. Things unfold like a rose opening, eventually we are able to see the complete beauty of the thing. This is a new era for Ms Quick. It is a period in time which appeals to me. I hope that it will appeal to her many readers. Who does not love Art Deco? I loved this mystery. It was entertaining and provided a wonderful read for me.

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