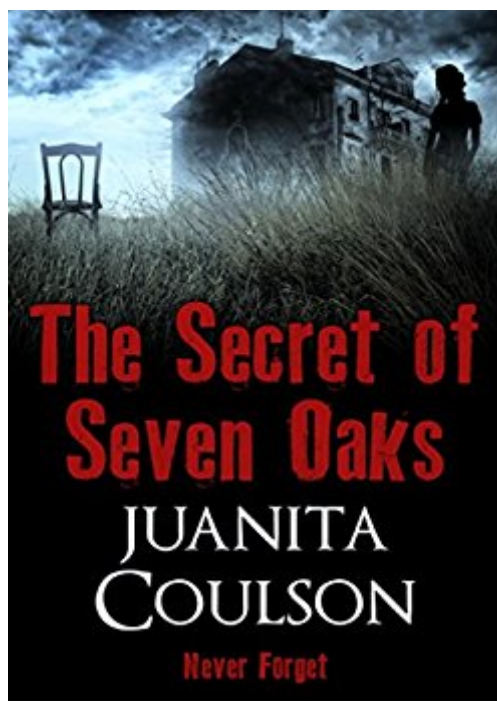


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The Secret Of Seven Oaks



Synopsis

What was the secret of Seven Oaks? When Ellen Chalmers came to the village of Seven Oaks to be the companion of mentally-ill Diane Young, she was still mourning the death of her fiancé. But Diane and her brothers Barrett and Andrew had had more than their share of sorrow. Shadowed by the uncanny prophecies of the Tarot, Ellen becomes involved in a terrifying family struggle that first began more than ten years ago. Ellen is obsessed and must investigate. What was the secret of Seven Oaks?

The Secret of Seven Oaks is a thrilling supernatural horror tale told in the classic tradition, sure to delight and terrify fans of Stephen King and Simon Clark.

Praise for Juanita Coulson: "A richly detailed construction" • C J Cherryh "Coulson works on an enormous canvas" sometimes almost overwhelming. The characters are always memorable. • Marion Zimmer Bradley

Juanita Coulson is an American science fiction and fantasy writer. She is also widely known in folk music circles since the 1950s for her singing and songwriting; she has won several Pegasus Awards for her filking. For thirty-three years, she co-edited the science fiction fanzine Yandro with her husband "Buck" (Robert Coulson). Yandro was nominated for a Hugo Award every year from 1958-1967; it won the award in 1965, thus marking Coulson as one of the very first women to be so honored.

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Customer Reviews

Good Inclusion of Tarot Knowledge and a decent story line work to make this a good example of light reading for the person not needing a strong mystery or romance. There is some good information on tarot readings, and there is a rather basic romantic story line involved. The author includes elements of mystery, suspense and romance, allowing the reader to not fully identify with the characters while connecting enough to understand the basic connections that make the story one that the reader will appreciate. Ellen is a young woman interested in helping a mentally ill peer, both ladies having experienced the loss of a fiancé through death. Ellen drives a car that needs help, and she doesn't really have interest in the tarot deck's potentials as seen by her new patient, Diane. Her patient's brothers have hired her to be a companion to their sister as she has been unable to face reality, with two previous companions having left their charge without a replacement immediately available. A friendly artist appears in the brother's gallery, offering unique paintings that sell immediately. He and Diane are immediately attracted to each other, which may be what the young woman needs to help her face reality. As the plot develops, Ellen witnesses a murder, and she suspects there is more to the story of Diane's fiancé's death than anyone is willing to admit. Set in a time before cell phones, the story has a timeless element that will make the reader wonder why the use of the telephone is not implored more--and, while there is good descriptions of the countryside, such descriptions are offered in a style that makes the reader believe foreboding foreshadowing is at play, somewhat misleading in this reader's humble opinion. The book is a good one to read when you don't want to be totally invested in the story, but you want something that makes your mind work to better understand motive and plot points along the way.

This mystery struck me as a good oldfashioned style mystery; it sucked me in quickly and held me tight! Being a bit of a Tarot fancier, I loved how the characters were identified with the cards. A very entertaining read!

Excellent read, keeps you hooked all the way through with a great plot and subplots. It's definitely one you can't put down and you're sorry it's over...way too soon!

This is a good mystery in the old style. Liked the main characters. Thought the romance was a bit rushed.

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