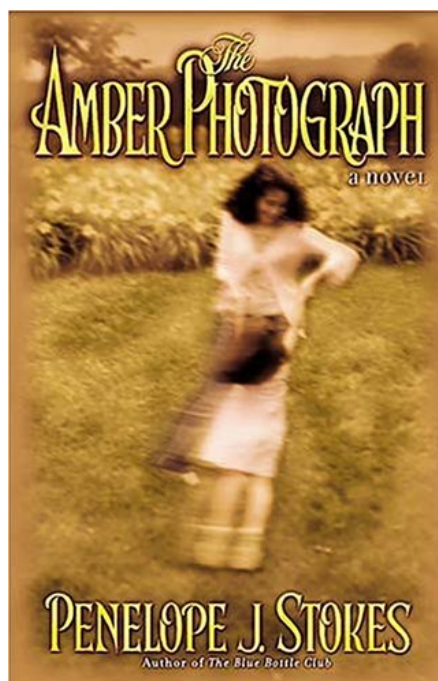




The Amber Photograph

Penelope J. Stokes

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Diedre McAlister's mother is dying. But before she lets go of this life, she gives her daughter an old photograph and these parting words: *"Find yourself. Find your truth. Just don't expect it to be what you thought it would be."*

And Now Diedre's search begins-a quest to find the only person who can provide the missing pieces, the truth. But that search will cost Diedre her naïve innocence and expose her family's unknown dark side. It will shake up Diedre's world, threaten lives, bring out the shadow of her past, challenge her faith-and quite possibly save her life.

The Amber Photograph Details

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Author : Penelope J. Stokes

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From Reader Review The Amber Photograph for online ebook

Hanna says

Mwah. De 'grote ontknoping' waar het hele boek naartoe werkt is op blz 280 ofzo, maar op blz 40 was het al zo klaar als een klontje. Weinig verrassends en mij een beetje te zoetsappig.

Tealen says

This is a good book, not what I expected but good. It is about healing from a terrible wrong done to someone and the consequences of that wrong on other people as well. I liked it and cruised through it in about 6 hours.

Rosie says

excellent!!!!

Tina says

This book seemed to drag on a bit and was a fairly predictable but an enjoyable reading. The tale of two sisters who were separated for nearly 20 years through family secrets are reunited to learn unknown and powerful secrets about their relationship that help them piece their lives together and move forward towards healing and healthy relationships with each other and others.

Polly says

What a sweet book! I really enjoyed this book. I picked it up from the library for \$1. I was a book on tape. It was an intriguing book. I thought I had it figured out but it was fun to find out if I had or not. Some of it I got right and other parts I did not. Good, clean book.

Tania says

When Diedre's mother passes away, she leaves Diedre with hints about her unclear past. Though all of the living people in her life are against it, Diedre sets out on a path to find out the truth about herself, her mother, and her family. Aided by her best friend Carlene, she is determined to follow this trail until the end. Meanwhile, across country, another woman is beginning to realize that she must also remember the past, and finally deal with it. As they set out on a collision course, they do not find it an easy road, but the only way towards the healing truth is forward.

Penelope J Stokes brings her characters to life as she traces Diedre's mysterious past across the country. The

inclusion of faith and its healing power were delicately wound into the story, and became a natural part of the girls' journey. The mystery portion of the book wasn't much of a mystery; it was pretty easy to guess within the first 50 pages. However I didn't find that anticipating the outcome of the story took anything away from it for me. The emotions were still there, it was easy to empathize with the characters, and to become outraged by events. This book sat on my TBR shelf for years, but once I gave it a chance I could not put it back down until I reached the end.

Megan Bodwell says

What a surprisingly good book! I can't remember now why I bought it or why it has sat for so long on my TBR shelf. However, I am so glad that I picked it up. A story so real, yet not graphic. The worst possible things to happen to a family, and author Penelope J. Stokes writes strong. In a rare display by a writer, Stokes writes honestly, without pulling any punches, yet the reader is not offended or horrified. I felt everything I am positive that Stokes intended her readers to feel: sadness, anger, happiness; all right when I was supposed to feel them. I felt empathy for the characters who deserved it as well as pity and disgust for those who warranted it.

There were some parts of the story that seemed to move slowly, but the feeling didn't last long. I was unaware that the author was a writer of Christian fiction until about halfway through the novel. It is unusual to hear many God references in contemporary fiction, particularly in relation to actual religion as opposed to as an expletive. Rather than making me feel slightly uncomfortable, as such references in fiction tend to do, I highly enjoyed the ties of faith into the story. The characters of Father Susan and Sam Houston were my favorites and many of their insights and spoken phrases really hit home and made me smile. A very lovely story.

Pat says

Some of the clueless reviews I see are the reason I have learned to be careful about revealing anything. Yes, it ended well - after more than 20 years of hell for Amber and Diedre. It isn't over yet either. These things never really are. Recovery is a life-long work in progress.

Denise says

I took so long to finish this book. No offense to the book, but sometimes it's hard to do all the things I need to do, like read. As for the book, it addressed the issue of sibling relationships, parent-child relationships and rebuilding a relationship with God. Overall, good book, but not great. I did appreciate the sensitivity that the author gave to the subject of hidden problems that sometimes come to light after a death.

Debbie Gatacre says

I enjoyed this book so why am I giving it only 2 stars? Ahh it's hard because I liked the idea of what the story was about however once the mystery was revealed it should have really had a conclusion and ended . But the author ruins the book with the crazy what I would call after story that never ends! And of course has this

incredible happy ending that is so far fetched . Why? It was going soo well... felt a bit frustrating.

Amy says

Part suspense story, part family drama, with a touch of spirituality thrown in! Really good read. I will look for others by this author now.

Jennie Damron says

This was a touching and heartbreaking read. I ended up liking the book because even though it was sad the book was filled with hope.

Susan says

Even though I had figured out the mystery by the time I was on page 32, I was still completely enthralled by this book. I read this in a few evenings and could not put it down. The story is about 2 women whose lives are connected by a disturbing past. Diedre and Amber must find each other, find healing and examine thier faith. A great book.

Amy Laurens says

I tried to read this one once years ago and it didn't work. I think probably because I'd just read two of Stokes's other books, and this one felt too much the same. However, coming back to it now, fresh and not having read her work for a long time, I found this book incredibly inspiring.

The younger character's (sorry, can't remember names right now - she's early 20s, though) mother dies, sending her life into a tailspin, and setting her on a determined path to uncover the mystery surrounding her parentage, when all she ever wanted was her Daddy's love.

Amber, a slightly older character, must battle the scars left behind by a childhood of misery and abuse; all she wants is to escape the shadow of her father, but it seems that everywhere she turns, she's reminded of him. She's moved across the entire country and that still isn't far enough - until she begins to find solace in her art.

Their paths cross, and secrets begin to come unraveled. A much shiny book that tackles deep issues and still realistically concludes with a feel-good ending, this book actually inspired one of my short stories, which ended up selling second time out. I'll tell you which one after it's been published - don't want to jinx it :D

Oh, and I should mention that this is a Christian novel. Rare that I find Christian fiction to be well-written, but Stokes seems to manage it - even if her books are all kind of the same.

Katy says

I found this book was well written, and the characters were interesting enough. However, it was a little more christian than I prefer, and I called the big shocking twist within the first couple of chapters. I was still compelled to keep reading, though, and wanted to know what would happen, so in that aspect it was pretty good.
