



Finger Prints

Barbara Delinsky

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New York Times bestselling author Barbara Delinsky displays her deep understanding of the desires and fears that move us all in this poignant story, first published in 1984, of danger, love, and trust.

Once upon a time she was Robyn Hart, a journalist whosaw too much and wasn't afraid to expose it. But that courage nearly cost Robyn her life. Under the protection of the Witness Relocation program, she now has a new identity -- Carly -- and a new job. But the terror of the past still lingers, and Carly lives in fear that her enemies will find her.

Though she tries to wall herself off from the world, onedetermined man breaks through her defenses -- successful young attorney Ryan Cornell. And though she yearns to give him her heart, Carly doesn't know if she can. While loving him offers a happiness she thought she'd forever lost, trusting him could cost her everything.

Finger Prints Details

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From Reader Review Finger Prints for online ebook

Shirlene says

Robyn Hart had been a journalist whose husband died in a hotel fire. He had been a professor and was 14 years older than her. She had done some investigative work and was witness to Gary Culbert committing arson on his properties and people had died. She had been attacked by Horace Theakos (Ham) but he hadn't been caught and no one yet knew his name. Culbert had hired him to kill Robyn. Robyn was now in the Witness Protection Program and her name was Carly Quinn. She taught English at a private high school in Cambridge. Her contact was Sam Loomis. They talked frequently and were good friends. He was married and his wife was pregnant with their second child.

She was walking home from work one evening when she heard footsteps behind her. She started running home and literally ran into Ryan Cornell. Sam had come by to see her and was still there when Ryan knocked on her door and asked to use her phone. Sam recognized Ryan as a successful lawyer in Boston. Sam knew that he had recently divorced. He had him checked out for Carly's sake but was sure that it was safe for Carly to spend time with him.

They began running together in the mornings and got to know each other. She found out that he had married young and his wife was more worried about her status in society than Ryan and he was more in love with his work than her. They had grown apart and finally divorced. Carly told Ryan that her husband had died 4 years ago. She didn't tell him much more because she didn't know how much was safe. He was trying to get her to sleep with him but he noticed that she was very frightened to take that step in their relationship so he backed off.

Carly spent Thanksgiving with her father in NY and Christmas with her brother and his family in the Bahamas. Ryan was trying to take the next step in their relationship but he felt that Carly still wasn't ready so he withdrew from putting pressure on her. Carly was distracted from their relationship when she was told that Culbert was working on an appeal of his murder charge with his lawyer, Philip Mancusi. She learned that he was trying to discredit her testimony by putting shade on her relationship with one of the murdered men, Peter. They had been friends and co-workers but never lovers. Carly was worried about how she would explain her absence to Ryan should she be called back to Chicago for another trial.

Sheila Montgomery had been Robyn's bodyguard in Chicago and they had kept in touch. Sheila had been transferred to Boston and had stopped by to see Carly. Sam was worried about Sheila. He felt there was something off with her and tried not to let it bother him. His assistant, Greg, felt the same. Sheila didn't understand why Carly was tense and struggling with her life. She felt that Carly had everything she could ever want. She didn't understand the pressure Carly was under with someone trying to kill her or Carly's insecurity. Sheila had grown up poor and had made something of herself but still wasn't content. She had noticed Ryan's brother, Tom and Tom had also noticed her. Ryan and Carly talked and decided to introduce them to each other when it was convenient.

Ryan noticed that Carly never talked about the time period between when her husband died and they ran into each other. He was a bit jealous of her relationship with Sam because he didn't understand it. Carly left for a few days after the first of the year and she told him she was going to Des Moines. The tags on her luggage had Chicago on them. He noticed things looked off in her place. There was not much of her in the way her home was decorated. He thought there was no fingerprints of herself. Carly herself was growing more uncomfortable not telling Ryan the truth about herself and her past but she didn't know how to tell him and was afraid for his safety. There were times that Ryan noticed that she drifted off and became easily frightened. Neither would approach their concerns about the other for fear of losing each other. They had started sleeping together on New Years Eve and practically lived together. Ryan had told Carly that he loved her but she never spoke those words to him. Ryan felt she loved him and wanted to hear her say them but wouldn't pressure them out of her. He had bought the place he was living in below Carly's and had talked about opening up the place and building a spiral staircase into hers.

They had found a way to introduce Tom to Sheila. Sam was worried about Sheila and kept her out of the

loop in regard to what was going on with Carly. Sheila felt it and tried to not let it bother her. Sam asked his assistant, Greg, to try and get to know Sheila to see what was up with her. Sheila had begun to spend more money and Carly wondered why she seemed to be splurging on herself because it was unlike Sheila. They went shopping and she didn't seem at all hesitant when purchasing an expensive outfit. Tom had asked Sheila out a few times and she put off sleeping with him. She felt he had more potential than others she had dated but she had other plans for her body than Tom.

Sam was worried about the threat of a new trial and wanted to place a guard on Carly but she resisted. She accepted Sheila as her friend and bodyguard. Ryan took her to the school in the morning and Sheila picked her up. Sheila dated and slept with Greg, Sam's assistant. She was using him to get close to Sam and to get more information on Carly's case.

Carly accepted a date with Ryan to hear him speak and one of the lawyers there recognized Carly. He mentioned something to Ryan and the pieces all began to fall in place. Carly had decided to tell Ryan about her past but he never showed up when he was expected. Carly got worried and called Sam. Sam found out that he had gone to Chicago. Sam met Ryan when he returned to the airport and questioned Ryan. Sam decided to keep quiet and let Ryan find out about her past from Carly. Sam and Ryan reached an understanding that day. He hadn't trusted Sam's relationship with Carly but now he understood it.

Sheila had picked up Carly from school one afternoon and was taking her to Vermont. They had driven around a bit and Carly noticed Ham sitting outside of Ryan's office building. She recognized him from the arson trial. Sheila told Carly that she was calling Sam to tell him but she didn't. She did call Ryan and tell him that she hadn't seen Carly but thought she might be headed for Vermont where they spent New Year's together. Ryan called Sam and told him that he was headed there.

Sam, Greg and Tom all got together at Carly's place. Greg told Tom that he and Sheila had slept together but she had called out Tom's name during their sex. Greg was put off by it but realized that Sheila hadn't known that she had done that. They all headed toward Vermont by helicopter after the talk they had.

Sheila and Carly met up with Ham at the hotel in Vermont and he tied Carly up. Sheila had a gun and threatened to use it on Carly but she continued to try and fight her way out to no avail. They were going to tie Carly to a rafter in an attempt to make it look like a suicide. They forced her to write a note and gunpoint. Ryan arrived to break up the party. Then the rest of the police showed up. Ham was furious at Sheila but they still had Ryan and Carly as hostages. Tom stepped up and asked Sheila to talk to him and she couldn't resist. When the police got her in the open, they shot her. They then stormed the house and Ham was also killed. Tom had loved Sheila and she had loved him. That was over now.

Carly and Ryan were engaged a week later and married a month later. Tom transferred to London and after some time had passed, he met another woman and eventually married. Sam and his wife, Ellen, became good friends with Ryan and Carly Cornell. Carly and Ryan ended up having three children and built a spiral staircase connecting their two places.

Gary Culbert and Nick Barber didn't get another trial and Culbert was charged for attempted murder of Carly. He was in prison for three years when he had a stroke. He died 4 months after the stroke.

The Cornell's eventually relocated to Lincoln and raised their children in a spacious home on a large piece of real estate.

Kathryn says

Gah. Wanted it to be better than it was.

Stephanie Tuell says

an excellent story right from the beginning. delinsky gives excellent details to ensure that you get the best

picture of the story in your head. the way she describes the emotions that carly, ryan, sam, tom, and even greg are feeling are awesome. i love the way carly holds back her true feelings for ryan. i love the way ryan finially accepts them. while under the witness protection program, carly is relocated to boston. while there she runs into ryan, a well known lawyer. carly hates the thought of any lawyers, so there is no way that she wanted to get involved with this one, no matter how handsome he was. but ryan never gives up. he has everything he wants, except carly's trust. and carly doesn't know who to trust anyone. a must read for any fan of barbara delinsky.

Judy Churchill says

This was another early book written by Delinsky. It could have been so much better had it not focused exclusively on the helpless, vulnerable female lead character. It was still a good story.

Judith Wrinkle says

Ok, interesting topic, but a bit smutty for my liking. Not sure what that adds to the plot. Might give author one more try but very much like Sandra Brown and I don't read her anymore.

Robyn Choate says

This was a 3.5 star book. Characters were good, however, storyline a bit predictable. Still a fun, easy read.

Michelle says

Good book:

Plot: excellent, well written

Characters: developed with a great support cast and secondary mystery

Love Story: Believable

Linda says

I picked this up to read because it was here in the house for someone else. The interesting plot and the love story kept me reading, but I really wouldn't go very far to look for a copy. Robyn Hart, a journalist in Chicago, who "saw too much and was willing to talk about it" becomes Carly under the Witness Protection program and moves to Boston to teach high school English. Lawyer Ryan Cornell, who lives in the apartment directly under Carly's, falls in love with her at first sight. However, he is confused by Carly's evasiveness about her past and her unwillingness to take risks in meeting new people or seeing new places. I thought that the shoot-em-up ending was rather contrived.

Sue Emanuel says

I normally love Barbara Delinsky's books, and I wanted to like this one, but I found it very disappointing. Nothing happened!!! For pages and pages and pages!!! The storyline just really, really dragged for me. I did stick it out, though, wanting to see if it picked up any, but I don't think it ever did. I did have to go back and check the publishing date because at one point, Carly said she had a 4:00 flight and Ryan offered to drive her to the airport and would pick her up at 3:00!!! Definitely pre-9/11! Overall, I wouldn't recommend this book. Almost anything else by this author has been a winner for me, but I'd like the hours devoted to this book back!

Babs says

Always a wonderful read from Delinsky albeit predictable. It didn't slow me down in the least! Happy this was the book I grabbed to end my non-reading stint. I knew it would take an author of her caliber to make that happen.

Estella Feeney says

GoodreDing

I enjoyed the story line. The conclusion I felt was sort of predictable with many. Hints leading to the end however I enjoyed the story

Judy van Ryn says

I really enjoyed this book. It had mystery, romance, frustration, terror and so much more.

Julie Barrett says

Fingerprints by Barbara Delinsky

Carly Quinn is now under the witness protection program and she lives in MA. She has visited a few local touristy places to help fit in.

Her father she only calls when she really needs him. He has no access to call her but he has access to the agents who can help her.

Ryan Cornell, a lawyer, is new to her complex. Ryan is the runner she had walked across his path earlier. He had locked his keys in his car.

Sam Loomis is the agent and his partner is Riley. She had seen something that will put others away in jail forever. If it comes to trial she will have to testify.

Needlepoint helps calm her. Her mentor is Sylvia and she loves to teach her new things.

Gary Culvert is the criminal she hopes to put away.

I got wrapped up in this book and can feel/sense the danger just around the corner. Things aren't going good with her as the criminal is appealing the decision and he may get off...

Lots of hot steamy sex as she learns to trust him.

Sheila is back in her life now also as she moved to Boston. Ryan sets up his brother Tom to date Sheila so they are a foursome now.

Carly almost wants to confide in Ryan about her past but will it be safe?

Things don't add up and Ryan figures a few things out. There are other signals that Carly doesn't see...

Lisa Clarke says

My first Delinsky novel. It was very good! She's a very detailed author which makes it very long. What took 488 pages could've been done in 250 but in any case—A great read, loved the storyline.

Mary says

I stuck with this book because I like Barbara Delinsky's writing style. I was disappointed because it took a very, very, long time to get to the resolution.
