



# The Distant Shore

*Mariam Kobras*

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## **The Distant Shore** Mariam Kobras

The Distant Shore is a contemporary romance with a light twist of suspense.

There's nothing like finding a letter on your breakfast table informing you have a teenage son you knew nothing about, but that's what happens to international rock star, Jonathon Stone. He drops everything to find the boy, and his mother the girl he loved so many years ago who left him when his rock n roll life became too much for her to bear.

Seeing her is like falling in love all over again, and everything seems perfect, until someone sets out to destroy their idyllic life.

## **The Distant Shore Details**

Date : Published January 17th 2012 by Buddhapuss Ink LLC

ISBN : 9780984203543

Author : Mariam Kobras

Format : Paperback 366 pages

Genre : Romance, Contemporary

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## From Reader Review The Distant Shore for online ebook

### Shalon says

This book was PAINFUL to read. The dialogue throughout the book was so elementary, it shocked me. The plot seemed to skip a good 100 pages, making the story so one dimensional. The same things were said 100 different ways with no depth of character given. My fifth grader would do a better job writing a conversation.

I have never SKIMMED a book like this before...had to read it for book club.

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### Megan says

I am done. I just haven't been able to get into this book. I never like to leave one unfinished but I need to move on! The dialogue annoyed me to no end and the jumping around was too choppy to keep me interested. And I kept waiting for the fact that the main woman in this story never told the man that he had a son to become a heated issue. Hadn't yet happened. All he cares about is her. I guess I child you had never met could wait a few more weeks. And meeting said son was like having coffee with a coworker. Just not pulling me in. No time to spend on something I'm not interested in...and what American modern day rock star talks like that!?

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### Junying says

Jonathan Stone—a handsome, famous rock star—despite never being short of female fans who throw themselves at him at every opportunity, still pines for the woman who left him over a decade ago, sets off across the ocean to find her again. Sounds familiar, right? Many of us have read or heard something like this before.

However, Kobras' novel is not your usual Mills and Boon romance, nor one of those average, happy ever-after Hollywood movies, either. The author weaves a fascinating story, with a range of believable characters, and enough twists and turns to keep the reader's interest. It is truly contemporary literature at its best. The settings span from the beautiful shores of Northern Norway, to the heart of Europe, the British Isles, and the expanse of North America. As I leafed through these pages eagerly, one after another, I hopped onto my very own private jet, setting off to different, exotic locations on an adventure and felt like true Hollywood Royalty. It was almost like feasting on a stack of glossy magazines in one sitting, devouring the hot gossip of celebrity life. But this is so much better, because instead of looking at those glamorous stars in their fancy dresses, I was treated to the exquisite beauty of written words, deliciously and expertly penned by the author. They vividly painted pictures in my mind, far more enchanting, and satisfying to my hungry senses.

I very much enjoyed the insights into music, as well as the exploration into the lives of the rich and famous. At 366 pages, it isn't a fast read, and it took me a few more late nights than I would have liked. Yet I felt more than compensated by the smooth story-telling and beautiful flow of words, sentences and paragraphs. When I eventually came to end of it, I was reluctant to let it go.

I MOST DEFINITELY want to read more of Mariam's novels. The Distant Shore is just a introduction to this first-class story-teller, and what a fabulous introduction it has proven to be!

For my full review and a chance to win goodies, visit <http://www.junyingkirk.com/?p=1492>

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### **Colleen says**

sometimes way to intimate

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### **Talli Roland says**

A evocative, beautifully written story of finding love and hanging on to it, no matter what distance must be travelled.

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### **Gill says**

I love this book it is unputdownable, the story draws you in right from the start & keeps up the pace ..a real page turner

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### **Jane says**

This is a gorgeous book; from the strangely tactile, softly coloured cover right through to the unresolved ending, Kobras plays on all the senses to weave a tale of love that is bigger than either of the main characters.

The book begins unconventionally with a lost love regained, leaving the reader wondering where the story can possibly go from there. However, though drawn helplessly together, the main characters have oceans between them, complex histories and enormous amounts of baggage to overcome. The language of the book explores the depths of their characters, leaving them raw and open for the reader, at times almost uncomfortably so.

Geography and landscape play a large role in the story, and are exquisitely drawn by Kobras to the extent that the reader feels the warmth of the sun, the salt spray of a frigid sea, or a cold stone held in a hand making the reader absolutely present within the story. It takes a great writing craftsperson to draw in the reader in such an irrevocable manner, and Kobras is such a writer. Her style is reminiscent of Anita Shreve, and if you liked Body Surfing then you will love this.

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### **Peach says**

The story was long and dull. Naomi was totally unlikable and very rude.

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## **Mariam Kobras says**

Today, May 2nd, 2012, the IPPY Awards committee announced that "The Distant Shore" won Bronze in the "Romance" category for 2012! I'm beyond happy, and so grateful!

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## **Vicki says**

Mariam Kobras has written a beautiful book about a famous rock star named Jonathan Stone. Just as most people imagine a rock star would have groupies, Jonathan has his fair share of women throwing themselves at him; however, for some reason he isn't really interested because his heart is elsewhere.

The skillfully written novel begins with "THERE IT WAS...Jon found the letter among the pile of mail he had carelessly tossed on the counter the night before." The letter has news for him that would shock anyone, and that begins a journey that takes Jonathan back to a time and a woman, Naomi, that he has loved for years. The journey is one of looking for Naomi and the son that she evidently bore for Jonathan, but about whom he didn't know.

The setting of the book takes the reader to exotic places in and around Europe mostly. This is the type of book that readers live for because it takes them to places that they, perhaps, have never been or never will be. The way Kobras describes the scenery is gives the reader such a good visual that you really feel like you are there and can see the landscape.

*The Distant Shore is a book that when you are finished you'll find yourself begging for more. The ending is ambiguous, and I don't know that there is a book two, so the readers just might have to form their own conclusion based on conjecture.*

*Recommendation: Absolutely a must read in my opinion. The author has a way with wording that puts the reader in absolute awe of her command of the English language.*

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## **Johanna Harness says**

I know Mariam Kobras from Twitter. She's a funny, smart, wise-cracking woman with an answer for everything. She lives in Germany and is already wide awake while I'm pouring my first cup of coffee and settling into 5AM writing.

When I opened her book, I was so surprised at her beautiful, flowing lines. It was like watching someone goof around on stage just before breaking into an intricate, gorgeous dance. This is a delicious book, one that demands tea or chocolate and hours to savor the words and thoughts of her characters.

The set-up is straight-forward. Jonathan Stone, an aging rock star, still longs for the woman who walked out of his life years ago. His fan mail is usually screened, but this time his manager gives him a letter. "My mother's name is Naomi Carlsson," it begins. "We live in a small town in Norway called Halmar where she manages a hotel, the Seaside. She said you are my father." From there, the story tumbles out beautifully, structured with a sense of inevitability---and yet I still found myself surprised.

Mariam hits familiar notes and yet the story feels altogether fresh. She is a lovely writer and one to watch. She just signed a two-book deal with Buddhapuss Inc. and I couldn't be happier for them. I can't wait to see

all three books of this trilogy on my shelf.

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### **\*LeIgH\* says**

Had such a hard time getting thru this book. Literally just finally gave up, too many good ones to read on my list to drag thru it any longer. Wanted to love it, just could not get into it.

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### **S.G. says**

It's hard for me to explain exactly what I loved about this book. Sure it's a love story - and a good one. It's the start of a trilogy so you know you don't have to miss the characters long when it's over. But it was more than that. Mariam Kobras manages to engage all of your senses in this story, drawing you in and wrapping you up in light and shadow, in smells and temperatures and textures until you're not just reading this book, you're floating in it. This isn't a quick 'read in the doctor's office' book. This is a book to read while curled up under a comforter, the outside world far far away. This is a book to savor.

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### **Heather says**

I stopped at 24%. I just couldn't make myself keep reading. There was something just completely NOT believable about it. It was too easy for them to start up where they left off 17 years before. How is that possible? Naomi clearly had issues with being part of his life but she grabs hold immediately, agrees to marry him and then constantly cried when it's hard, when they don't know how things will work with her Inn in Norway and his work in L.A. Duh!! Where are the conversations about their real life. We know he can't just stay at the Inn in Norway and never go back and she clearly isn't going with. Jon doesn't gather the info of REALLY why she left so long ago. Do the same issues still exist? How will they be over come this time. Naomi has been on her own raising a gifted son, running an Inn. She is not the same young girl from 17 years ago. Jon doesn't know her any more. How is it possible to fall completely in such a short time without talking more. She seems like a whimp and not the independent single mother and Inn Keeper. Yah, I couldn't keep going.

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### **Linda Sienkiewicz says**

This eloquent love story begins in Norway, so well described I could feel the cold wind blowing in from the rocky coast. International rock star, Jon Stone, sets off to find his first love after receiving a startling letter from a teenage boy. Is it possible that his first love, Naomi, left him only to give birth to his son and raise him in secret? Why? Jon never stops to think that his lifestyle could have been an issue.

The writing is lyrical, Jon and Naomi's lovemaking has just the right amount of intensity, and the drama is high. The story will carry you away.

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