

KEEP THIS FOR ME

A NOVEL

BY JENNIFER FAWCETT

On sale October 7, 2025



The acclaimed author of the “chilling, mesmerizing debut” (Rachel Harrison, author of *The Return*) *Beneath the Stairs* returns with a gripping, atmospheric suspense novel about a woman investigating a serial killer’s connection to her mother’s disappearance—for fans of *I Have Some Questions for You* and *Notes on an Execution*.

One hot August night in 1993, a young couple go to a party. When their car breaks down, they are picked up by a truck driver who attacks the man and abducts the woman. She is never seen again.

That woman was Fiona Green’s mother.

When the trucker, Eddie Ward, is caught, a mass grave of bodies is discovered in his backyard but Fiona’s mother isn’t there. Thirty years later, on his prison deathbed, Ward insists that he didn’t kill her, so Fiona finds herself back in the small town where her mother disappeared. Fighting demons of her own, she’s shocked when history repeats itself: another woman, another roadside breakdown, and another disappearance. Only this time the primary suspect is Jason Ward, Eddie’s son. Desperate, Fiona hunts down answers, unaware that she is being drawn into a dangerous trap.

With Jennifer Fawcett’s signature “suspenseful and immersive” (*Library Journal*) prose, *Keep This for Me* is a **fresh, spellbinding exploration of what we unwillingly inherit from our parents and how one random act can send ripples years into the future.**



Before writing books, **Jennifer Fawcett** was an award-winning playwright and cofounder of the theater company Working Group. She is the author of *Beneath the Stairs*. Born and raised in Canada, she spent a decade living in the Midwest before settling in the Hudson Valley. She holds an MFA from the Iowa Playwrights Workshop. Her plays have been published by Original Works and in *Third Coast Magazine*, *Reunion: The Dallas Review*, and in the anthology *Long Story Short*. Visit her at JenniferFawcettAuthor.com

SELECT PRAISE FOR *KEEP THIS FOR ME*

"A compelling and complex story about motherhood, generational trauma, and small decisions that can have enduring consequences. There is a constant sense of foreboding, with the small-town setting adding another layer of tension and enough red herrings to keep readers guessing. Told from various perspectives and over multiple time periods, this heartbreaking tale will satisfy literary fiction and thriller readers alike." ***Booklist*, starred review**

"In her latest novel, Jennifer Fawcett has found the secret sauce: breakneck plotting and prose as lush and haunting as the lakeside setting. *Keep This for Me* is a gripping exploration of inherited violence—asking whether darkness is passed down or chosen—and anchors itself in the flawed humanity of heartbreakingly real characters. Raw and lyrical, this visceral ride through the wreckage one generation leaves for the next will captivate fans of Rebecca Makkai." —**Sarah Crouch, *USA Today* bestselling author of *Middletide***

"***Keep This for Me*** is a suspenseful and hauntingly beautiful mystery about a woman's search for closure and the enduring ripple effects of violence. Like the lake at its center, this book's reflective surface hides fathoms below: churning currents of loss, trauma, and cold-blooded murder colliding to drag you down into its dark depths. It grabs you on page one and doesn't let go." —**Luke Dumas, *USA Today* bestselling author of *A History of Fear* and *The Paleontologist***

"***Keep This for Me*** is a masterpiece—a stunning exploration of the darkest aspects of human nature and the emotional reverberations of violent acts. Fawcett deftly examines themes of family, motherhood, and childhood trauma, all through gorgeous prose and an enthralling mystery. You've never read a novel quite like this before." —**Julia Bartz, *New York Times* Bestselling author of *The Writing Retreat* and *The Last Session***

"Gripping and suspenseful, ***Keep This for Me*** centers on a brutal crime, its aftermath and whether those who remain can ever really escape its shadow. I was hooked from page one all the way to its shocking end." —**Ana Reyes, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The House in the Pines***

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