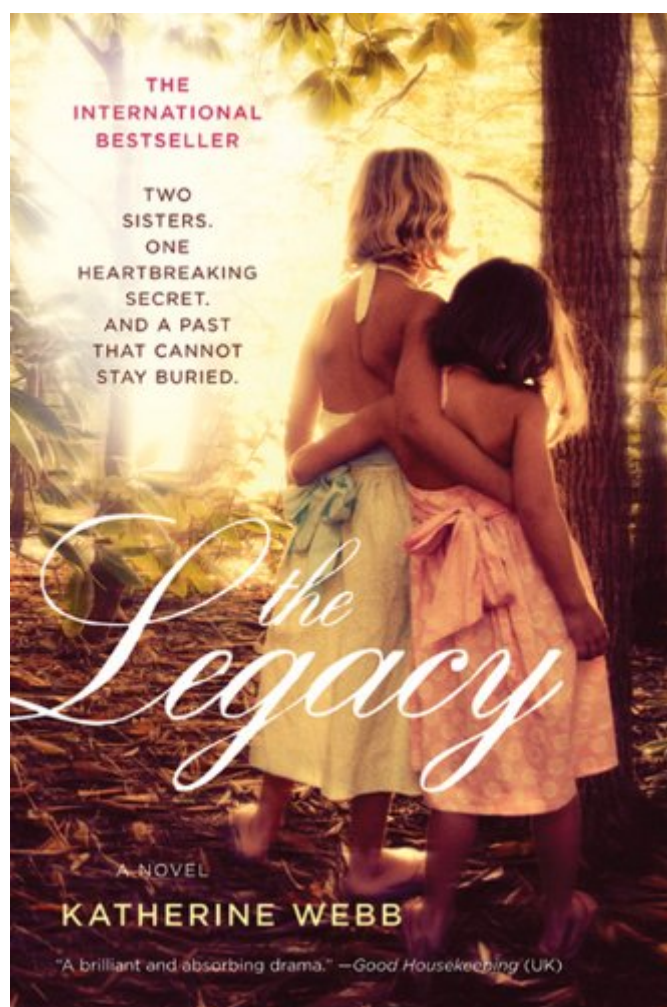


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# The Legacy: A Novel



## Synopsis

“A brilliant and absorbing drama.” —Good Housekeeping (UK) A fresh and exciting new voice in contemporary fiction, Katherine Webb debuts with a haunting novel about a secret family history. Already a sensation in the United Kingdom, Webb’s *The Legacy* is a treat for every fan of upmarket women’s fiction and literary suspense in the vein of bestselling authors Kate Morton, Sarah Waters, and Diane Setterfield. Taut, affecting, and surprising—a story that ranges from present-day England back to the American West in the early twentieth century—*The Legacy* embroils two sisters in an investigation into the strange, never solved disappearance of their cousin, a dark mystery that opened deep family wounds that never healed.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

The prologue in 1905 sets the scene on this totally absorbing journey of how the past can send ripples along time in a family to affect the present. It hooks you in straight away with intrigue, leaving you wanting to find out why this is happening and what bearing it has on the story of four generations of Calcott women. Erica and sister Beth return to Storton Manor in the winter after the death of their grandmother Meredith. Meredith has set terms for their inheritance of the Manor - they

have to live there to inherit. We find out straight away that there are memories that Erica can not recall surrounding the disappearance of their cousin, Henry. We find out that Beth is mentally unwell and had been hospitalised. It is the first time they've stayed at the Manor without their parents and everything is in a state of disrepair and neglect. We then return to 1902 in New York City, following Caroline (who is great grandmother to Erica and Beth) as she starts her journey of being presented to society as a debutante. The story is told by alternating chapters. The present time is written in the first person from Beth's perspective where we read about the triggers she experiences that takes her back twenty three years ago to Henry's disappearance. Erica also stumbles on a photograph of Caroline taken before she came to London and married Henry Calcott and leads to her searching through the Calcott family history to try to solve an enigma. Caroline's story is written in the third person and charts her life from New York City to the frontier land of Woodward County and prairie life and finally to England. I enjoyed this balance of one era being told forwards in time while the other is narrated with flashbacks and reflection of the past.

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