# The Pocket Wife: A Novel



By Susan Crawford



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A stylish psychological thriller with the compelling intrigue of *The Silent Wife* and *Turn of Mind* and the white-knuckle pacing of *Before I Go to Sleep*—in which a woman suffering from bipolar disorder cannot remember if she murdered her friend.

Dana Catrell is shocked when her neighbor Celia is brutally murdered. To Dana's horror, she was the last person to see Celia alive. Suffering from mania, the result of her bipolar disorder, she has troubling holes in her memory, including what happened on the afternoon of Celia's death.

Her husband's odd behavior and the probing of Detective Jack Moss create further complications as she searches for answers. The closer she comes to piecing together the shards of her broken memory, the more Dana falls apart. Is there a murderer lurking inside her . . . or is there one out there in the shadows of reality, waiting to strike again?

A story of marriage, murder, and madness, *The Pocket Wife* explores the world through the foggy lens of a woman on the edge.

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## **Editorial Review**

#### Review

"Not a word is wasted in Susan Crawford's fast-paced, thrilling debut. As Crawford explores the boundaries of memory and sanity, the suspense steadily gathers, and in her skilled hands, readers will be left guessing until the very end." (Lori Roy, Edgar Award winning author of BENT ROAD and LET ME DIE IN HIS FOOTSTEPS)

"The Pocket Wife is an exceptional literary thriller debut that sensitively portrays a woman struggling with Bipolar Disorder, and the horrific possibility that she's a murderer. Engrossing, thrilling, and page turning all the way through, this is one you won't want to miss!" (Chevy Stevens, New York Times bestselling author)

"The Pocket Wife is haunting, gripping, and lyrical--a book you won't want to put down. Susan Crawford is a bright new star." (Deborah Crombie, New York Times bestselling author)

"Because the tale is told primarily from Dana's sharp but manic perspective, suspense develops around her possibly unreliable interpretation of events. This is a gripping, character-driven mystery that would pair well with Sophie Hannah's The Truth-Teller's Lie." (Booklist)

"This intriguing thriller will leave readers guessing till the last minute. Dana Cantrell is a dynamic, wellwritten character whose bipolar disorder makes her both maddening and endearing. Tightly moving, fastpaced and suspenseful, Crawford's debut novel puts her on the map of writers to watch." (RT Book Reviews (4 1/2 STARS))

"Descriptive, lyrical prose creates an intimate and visceral read that is both a solid mystery and a fast-paced psychological thriller. Try this first novel as a read-alike for Alice LaPlante's Turn of Mind." (Library Journal)

"Great premise, and characters, and a wonderfully evocative setting, heavy with heat and suburban boredom, and the uneasy threat of not quite knowing what is going on. Really great." (Sabine Durrant, author of Under Your Skin)

#### From the Back Cover

It isn't the big things Peter does that make Dana want to leave him; it's more the smaller things, like sticking her inside his pocket in the middle of a thought—these demeaning, shrinking things he does that make her feel as trivial as a sneeze." Dana Catrell leads a quiet life in a suburb a stone's throw from Manhattan. She spends her days tidying, reading, missing her son who's away at college, and wondering what went wrong in her marriage to her husband, Peter, who comes home late most nights and makes her feel as unimportant as a pocketful of loose change.

Then on one horrific day, Celia—Dana's friend and neighbor—is found murdered . . . and Dana's life suddenly begins to spiral out of control as she feels herself sliding toward the brink of insanity. Dana suffers from bipolar disorder, and she can't account for the troubling gaps in her memory on the afternoon of Celia's death. Even more terrifying, Dana was the last person to see her friend alive on that deadly day when Celia revealed a disturbing secret.

Is murder on Dana's mind—or is it all in her head? And is there a killer lurking inside her . . . or is there one out there in the shadows of reality, waiting to strike again? "Exceptional."—Chevy Stevens, New York Times bestselling author

#### About the Author

Susan Crawford grew up in Miami, Florida, and graduated from the University of Miami with a BA in English and a minor in psychology. She later moved to New York City and then Boston before settling in Atlanta to raise three daughters and work in the field of adult education. A member of the Atlanta Writers Club and the Village Writers, Susan teaches at Georgia Piedmont Technical College and dabbles in local politics. She lives with her husband and a trio of rescue cats in Atlanta, where she enjoys reading books, writing books, rainy days, and spending time with the people she loves.

#### **Users Review**

#### From reader reviews:

#### **Marvin Perdue:**

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#### **Antoinette Hagen:**

Reading a book to get new life style in this calendar year; every people loves to go through a book. When you learn a book you can get a large amount of benefit. When you read textbooks, you can improve your knowledge, simply because book has a lot of information onto it. The information that you will get depend on what types of book that you have read. If you would like get information about your research, you can read education books, but if you want to entertain yourself you can read a fiction books, such us novel, comics, and also soon. The The Pocket Wife: A Novel provide you with a new experience in examining a book.

#### **Robin Curtin:**

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#### **Dominick Tran:**

What is your hobby? Have you heard in which question when you got learners? We believe that that concern was given by teacher with their students. Many kinds of hobby, All people has different hobby. And you also know that little person similar to reading or as studying become their hobby. You need to understand that reading is very important in addition to book as to be the thing. Book is important thing to increase you knowledge, except your teacher or lecturer. You get good news or update about something by book. Many kinds of books that can you choose to adopt be your object. One of them are these claims The Pocket Wife: A Novel.

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