



Ordinary Secrets

Olivia Newport

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Hidden Falls – An Exciting New 13-Part Serial Novel from Shiloh Run Studios

Thirty years of small-town secrets—now the key to the mystery is gone. The small town of Hidden Falls is abuzz. Former students, friends, and loved ones are prepping for tonight's big event to honor Ted Quinn's many years of compassionate service. Quinn is reluctant about a night in the spotlight--but is tenderly prodded by Sylvia, mayor of Hidden Falls and Quinn's dearest friend and confidante.

Ethan and Nicole won't let the shadows of their pasts stop them from returning to Hidden Falls--but only for Quinn--no matter how much it hurts. Liam, a former student, and Jack, a town newcomer, are both hoping the night works toward their own gain--or, if they'll admit it, their chance for redemption. Like Quinn, Dani and Lauren are mainstays in Hidden Falls. They keep close to home--and have secrets to keep close, too.

Now it's time. The guests are seated, introductions are made, the spotlight shines on center stage...and the unthinkable leaves the entire town scrambling for the truth.

A new must-read episode releases every week starting January 24!

Ordinary Secrets Details

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Author : Olivia Newport

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From Reader Review Ordinary Secrets for online ebook

Storm Reads says

Hidden Falls is a new story written in 13 episodes. Ordinary Secrets is the first episode.

Hidden Falls follows the lives of several people so it has a lot of things to try and keep track of but over all it wasn't real hard sort them out. Ted Quinn has been a teacher for thirty years and he has done a lot for the people in Hidden Falls. He has touched the lives of many people and they are wanting to honor him with a banquet.

Ted Quinn doesn't see the need for them to do such a thing for him and fusses about it at ever turn with his old friend Sylvia. I get the impression that Sylvia has been in love with Quinn for a long time, but nothing ever came of it. Not sure why but he does say sorry I could never give you what you wanted. She is the mayor of the town now and wants him to be honored.

Several of the older students that went through Quinn's class are showing up. Quinn is excited to see a lot of these faces that he use to teach. Ethan and Nicole use to be high school sweethearts, but parted ways in college. Ethan is a medical doctor and Nicole is a investigative reporter. They don't get along much anymore after Ethan brushed Nicole off instead of just breaking up with her he just quit talking to her.

Liam is hoping to redeem himself some how as he has gotten himself into some sort of trouble with his business. Not sure yet what that is but he is hoping to get Quinn to invest and get him out of hot water.

Dani is the tomboy of the town and feels like she doesn't fit in with anyone. She is sort of the fix it person for the town and does a lot of odd jobs to make money. She was on her way to the lake but Quinn convinces her to come to the banquet.

There a few more characters but these are some of the main ones or at least I think they are. We are set up in episode one with the fact that Quinn really doesn't want to go to this banquet, but we don't really know why. Then the end of the episode leaves us at the banquet and a surprise that really makes you want to get the next episode. It really leaves you wondering what sort of secrets are they hiding in Hidden Falls.

Honestly I am not sure if I am a fan of them spreading a book over thirteen different episodes because if the reader is buying the episodes it could get costly. The first episode is free but the others are \$1.99, if they were .99 it would be a bit more reasonable to me as that would be about the price of a paperback. To be honest if I wasn't getting these episodes from Netgalley I probably wouldn't be reading them.

Jo Windle says

Easy read. Curious enough to read the next book in the series.

Denisa Howe says

Hidden Secrets was actually a very good read. I love the plot and the characters that have their own rich personality. I actually read this in one sitting and it did keep me turning the pages to uncover the all of the town and its people. There seemed to be several characters, which is fine with me. I do not have any trouble keeping them straight or their little quirks. A celebration to honor a special long time resident that everyone seems to love. Several pages about which character was going and why or who wasn't and the reason.. a few on the fence about it and then.... There is a disappearance.... "Hmmm" The mystery remains until the next book.

My only problem with this book is the fact that it is sooooooooooooooooooooo short. I don't mind series..I enjoy them but I like the first book to be at least 400 to 500 pages before it breaks off into the shorter ones.. Give us a real start to the characters and their lives; make us want to know more. The decision to buy another and continue on, I'm not sure. If they are all this short, for the money spent.. Maybe not.. I believe there was only about 58 to 60 pages...

The rating was a three because of the length.

Brandi (Rambles of a SAHM) says

If you are a fan of weekly TV dramas that have an ongoing story line that continues to build into a suspenseful climax, I think you will enjoy this new release from Olivia Newport. The tale begins with episode one and will continue for thirteen weeks with a new episode releasing each week.

This first episode or pilot if you will, starts by laying the ground work of individuals and settings. Quinn seems to be the central character and he is introduced to us not only through the lens of himself but also those around him. He is loved by the town and is about to be honored at a big banquet.

While the town is preparing for this celebration we get a sneak peek into many of their lives. Some appear ordinary but have hidden secrets and desires that lie below the surface. This party has drawn people from the past to come back just to honor their beloved Quinn.

When we arrive at the banquet it is easy to feel the tensions beginning to rise. Just when it looks like the festivities are going to go off without a hitch a shocking twist appears and then of course the episode is over! Just like with your favorite TV drama you are left anxiously anticipating the next installment.

I received a copy of this book to facilitate my review.

Jo says

CLIFF HANGER.....but good story. i expected the ending to not be an ending, so I wasn't upset. i want to read the next book, so that says it all.

Lisa says

I am hooked can not wait for episode 2 to be released on Jan 24th. Once I had started just getting comfortable with all the characters, it ended.
a Series of e.downloads released in 13 parts over the months till April this year.

Paula Shreckhise says

Great start to an exciting serial series. On the big night of his recognition banquet, beloved teacher, Quinn disappeared. Several townspeople and former students are introduced along with some intriguing information about each of them. Looks to be an interesting concept for a series. Well written.

Joy says

Maybe if I read the book vs listening to I would have enjoyed more

Paula Phillips says

I'm always in two minds about Serials as it makes me wonder if A) the author being greedy and wanting to make more money by writing it separately and B) why would an author have it as a serial and not a full book? . The thing though I do love my books and more often than not I have brought serials as I want to read the story and they are quick reads. From Christian author Olivia Newport, she has released a serial called Hidden Falls which eventually will have 13 episodes but currently she has only released 5 episodes.

Ordinary Secrets is the start of the serial and is Episode One. This is where we get to know the characters of the story and the setting and backstory. Hidden Falls is a small community and they have all gathered in town for a banquet hosted by the Mayor Sandy for one of the communities pillars - History Teacher Ted Quinn who has touched many a-lives. In Ordinary Secrets we meet a few of tonight's guests and how their lives have intertwined with Quinn's and how he has or will help influence their lives and are the people they are today or will be.

This episode finishes on a cliffhanger with an explosion in the school hall where they are gathering and of course when the explosion clears - the guest of honour cannot be found. Where is Ted Quinn and why was the explosion planned for this special occasion ???

Find out in this quick introductory to the serials with Episode One: Ordinary Secrets by Olivia Newport and stay tuned as later on, The Phantom Paragrapher will read and review the other books in the serial.

Sunshine says

It was hard to get into this book. As I was just starting to get to know the characters the book ends. Then you have to buy the next book to see what happens next. It was very frustrating.

Debra Jo Burnette says

This was the introduction so it was a lot of back story and a lot of names (so many characters). It didn't wow me, but it has peaked my interest enough to read on to the next book.

Rachel Brand says

I was about sceptical about this "episode", but I ended up enjoying it. It's was an easy listen, and compelling in places, but there were so many different characters to keep track of that I found my mind drifting at times-which doesn't happen very often when I'm listening to audiobooks.

The idea of book serials made up of short episodes has never particularly appealed to me, so I wouldn't have picked this one up if it hadn't been free on Audible and by an author I enjoy. But even if I did like this little introduction to Hidden Falls, I can't see myself purchasing each instalment in the serial. The audiobooks are £2.27 each, and the ebooks £1.23, which isn't overly expensive, but it works out at £27 or £15 for the entire series (since the first volume is free), which is far more than I'd pay for a standard book. It does look like the entire series will be released in a single volume later this year, so I'd consider getting that. Otherwise, I can't justify spending that much money on each short episode.

Maureen Timerman says

The first book in Olivia Newport's series Hidden Falls begins by introducing us to all the characters. Some of these folks become very endearing in quick order, others I was waiting for the other shoe to drop. Most haven't seen each other for several years, and are in town to honor a favorite and beloved teacher Mr. Quinn, or Quinn.

It doesn't take long and you will be quickly finished with this book, and ready for the next. These are chapters that end in a cliff hanging. Now I'm ready to find out what happened.

I received this book through Net Galley and Barbour Publishing and was not required to give a positive review.

Becky Brown says

It didn't really catch my attention until right before the end. I'll wait to continue the series until I find it at the library or a free edition in Kindle Unlimited.

Brooke (i blog 4 books) says

Review originally published on i blog 4 books: <http://iblog4books.blogspot.com/2014/...>

Episode 1: Ordinary Secrets

The first episode introduces a ton of characters and jumps quickly between different scenes and character pairings. Thankfully, while I wanted more of the story (and right away, please!), I knew that more was coming. I just had to be patient and wait for the next episode. :) This is a great start, and I'm interested to see how the serial format works. [3 stars]

Overall Thoughts So Far (Episodes 1-5)

I'm definitely intrigued by this series. While there are a lot of characters to keep up with and the episodes jump quickly between "scenes," I'm interested to find out what happened to Quinn and am hoping for a few romances to develop too! I'm not sure the serial format is my favorite, but it hasn't deterred me from continuing to read!

At this point, I'm still a little wary of the high price tag. The publisher recently lowered the price to \$1.99 per episode (with the first one still a free download), but that's still \$24 for the complete book when all is said and done. A little pricey for me, but some may not object.

Kudos to Olivia Newport for a great new story. I look forward to reading the rest of it!

I received a free copy of this book from Barbour Publishing through Net Galley in exchange for my fair and honest review.
