



# The Back Door of Midnight

*Elizabeth Chandler*

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## **The Back Door of Midnight** Elizabeth Chandler

Psychic...or psychotic?

Anna knows her family is crazy. But when she goes to visit her aunt and uncle for the summer and learns that her uncle's charred body has been found, her life reaches a new level of insanity. Her erratic aunt's "psychic" abilities are exaggerated by her grief, and have become borderline violent. Alone in an unfamiliar town, Anna struggles to pick up the pieces and establish any sense of normalcy. She desperately wants to trust Zack, the cute boy next door, but even he might know more about the incident than he is letting on.

But when Anna starts feeling an inexplicable pull to the site of her uncle's murder, she begins to believe that her family's supernatural gifts are real after all. Torn between loyalty and suspicion, Anna is certain of only one thing: she must discover who killed her uncle or she could be next....

## **The Back Door of Midnight Details**

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Author : Elizabeth Chandler

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# **From Reader Review The Back Door of Midnight for online ebook**

## **Bonnie Ferrante says**

A mystery involving a crazy aunt and a murdered uncle with a closet full of family skeletons. Highly suspenseful with a likeable main character. However, the explanations of "out of body" experiences were out of place. I think it could have been an even better book with one more edit to tighten up the plot.

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## **Casey Macdonald says**

Anna O'Neill Kirkpatrick is a teenaged girl about to enter college; She lost her mother in a robbery at their home when she was very young. She now is adopted by a family and lives in Baltimore and she is 18 years old. When school is just getting out she gets a letter from her uncle Will saying "Dear Anna, Would you visit us this summer? The sooner the better. Aunt Iris is doing poorly, and there are things I must tell you about your mother and our family. I want to do so while I am still clear-minded. –Uncle Will"(pg 3). When she arrives she soon finds that her family is well known around town to be crazy psychics and people are a little afraid of them. When she gets there she learns from her crazy Aunt Iris that her uncle Will had died a few nights before in a fire. The weird thing is the night of the fire Anna had a dream she was at a fire with her uncle and there was a lot of police men and firetrucks. She soon meets the boy next door and doesn't know whether or not she can trust him so she is very hesitant around him. Anna learns a lot of new information just by talking to people and looking around the house at her uncles old papers and articles. She gets a bad feeling that all of the unfortunate events that have happened in the past years in the small town of Wisteria were not accidents. She goes snooping around and tries to figure out what is actually going on but she may be getting herself into danger that she does not know about.

I would say that my favorite character throughout the whole book is Anna. Anna is the main character and narrator of the story and she is the girl trying to solve the mystery. The character did evolve throughout the story in the beginning of the story she believed many things like that her Aunt Iris was crazy and that she could trust certain people but she was all wrong. I think it was intended for you to like Anna because she is just a very level headed calm person who kept at things even though her life was in danger. Also, she was very cautious around some people she was careful who she put her trust in. In conclusion, I think it was intended for you to like Anna as a character and I think she is a very good role model.

Overall, I thought this book was amazing I could not put it down and enjoyed every word of it. I loved everything the author did I especially liked how she made some people seem so innocent throughout the book and then in the end they were actually the bad guys. There was nothing I didn't like about this book. I would recommend this book to anybody who like mystery/crime books and likes to be left in suspense because this book is very suspenseful. Overall, this is one of my favorite books that I have read so far.

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## **Sabine Francois says**

Read this in a day, I couldn't put it down!

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## Louise says

Good story, interesting and quiet spooky :P

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## Kathryn says

I've read every Dark Secrets book and loved them. This one was no exception. The plot, the characters, the details, everything was perfect. I was riveted from the very beginning. And I never guessed who the killer was until it was right in front of my face! Such a good book.

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## Kae Villar says

I love reading Dark Secrets because it makes you really think and guess who the killer is. And it ends up as somebody totally unexpected that you wouldn't even guess. if you did, good for you. lol but that's what suspense is all about right?

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## Nina {????s ??? ?????} says

### Reread June 3rd 2015!

I loved this one as much as I loved the previous two Dark Secrets collections.

Anna O'Neill Kirkpatrick has come to Wisteria to visit her great Uncle at his request, on the grounds that he wished to tell her something about the O'Neill family, only to find that he had died several days before. Instead she finds herself in the company of her crazy great Aunt Iris, who according to the O'Neill family is either psychic or psychotic. Anna doesn't yet believe she's psychic. However the circumstances around her Uncle's death are strange enough for her to want to hang around. But the longer she stays and the more she delves into her families secrets, the more she discovers. And if she isn't careful, she'll end up the same way as her mother and uncle Will. Dead.

Chandler has once again plotted a believably twisted plot that has so many turns and bends, that the ending will surprise you. As for the romance, it really is quite refreshing. There's none of that oh I love you, no I love you, no I'm sorry I left but I still love you crap or the whole love triangle thing. It's just simple and plain, even though you can't tell for 88% of the novel whether he is using her or not. But it's still good. The best part of Chandler's series is that she never *entirely* focuses on the 'relationship' part. She aims her focus to solving whatever dark secrets that the protagonists family has to hide. I think that is what makes the series so brilliant. And as the series is generally mystery aimed at young adults who are female, not that males can't read this too! But that is the general idea, that little bit of romance or love, since it's not over the top and painful to read, is just in enough doses to keep the reader interested, particularly if the reader is not a normal fan of mystery.

Sooooo....if you loved **Dark Secrets 1** and **Dark Secrets 2**, then you'll love this one too. I certainly did!

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### **Ashley says**

I've read a majority of Elizabeth Chandler's work, and I truly love her writing style and her characters. So I was very, very excited to read this installment in the Dark Secrets series. But to be honest, it wasn't anything extraordinary. I feel as though it was a rehash of the previous Dark Secrets novels. I knew who the killer was long before it was revealed, and that ruined the ending of the story for me.

Elizabeth Chandler still has her distinct writing style, and her unique way of building characters and setting up a plot. But *The Back Door of Midnight* fell flat for me. There were some plot twists that I didn't see coming, and those took me quite by surprise, though.

If you've read the first few books in the Dark Secrets series, then I do recommend reading *The Back Door of Midnight*. It's not a bad book by any means, just a little predictable. I give this novel 3.5 out of 5 stars.

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### **Catherine says**

If I could I would give this book another 1/2 star. I wasn't too sure if I was going to like this book until about chapter six, but I ended up really liking it.

Chandler weaves a story with interesting characters. Right up until the end, I did not know what all the secrets were. I can usually figure out what is going to happen at the end of the book, but Chandler doesn't give away her secrets until she is ready to.

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### **Mandy says**

When I read this book during my freshman year in high school, I was confused about people being psychic or psychotic. After I just finished it today, I was somewhat satisfied. I just don't like Elizabeth Chandler's writing style. I don't know how to describe it, but she has a certain "way" with words. Plus, the books isn't good to read before you go to bed if you know what's good for you!

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### **Josette Bonilla says**

Love her work.....Can't wait for the next *Kissed By an Angel* book.....

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### **Christine says**

I saw this book at our school book fair and it looked interesting. i bought it and fell in love with Elizabeth Chandlers work. after that i went to books a million and got her *Kissed by an Angel* trilogy (1-4). However

after reading *The Back Door of Mindnight* i discovered it was the 3rd book in the series :(... hope you enjoy her books too!!

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### **Emily Messer says**

This book was crazy. There were so many secrets and it was mysterious and suspenseful. Such a thriller. It was just as good as the other Elizabeth Chandler books.

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### **Sadia says**

There are different reasons for reading books, sometimes to simply appreciate the beauty of the writing, sometimes to learn something, sometimes to open your mind to new ideas... there are tons of reasons. My reason for reading this one was pretty simple, I needed an escape, all I was doing for weeks was revising and needed a book that I could read for a couple of minutes a day and feel relief, escape.

I wanted fluff. Complete and utter fluff. Nothing that would make me think too hard but also, nothing stupid, sexist or damn annoying which would make me very, very angry. *The Back Door of Mindnight* ticked all the boxes, Chandler is a great Young Adult author and I would definitely recommend this book if you're in dire need of escape or if you just enjoy a cute book because... that's just it: *The Back Door of Mindnight* is a cute mystery with a slightly dark feel and a touch of romance thrown in for good measure.

Anna is a likeable protagonist who goes through a lot but is still able to work through her problems with a clear head. It was a little strange how little the death of Anna's uncle affected her but if Anna was a real person, I would totally be okay with talking to her and being friends (I have now decided I'm putting female protagonists into one of two categories when I read a book, either yes, we could be friends or no, she should just remain a fictional character forever). The romance is a little underdeveloped and the love interest, Zack, is a bit of a douche if I'm being perfectly honest.

However, the plot makes up for the slightly disappointing love story, it was fun to guess who the murderer was and how all the characters were connected. It was shocking when the killer was revealed! This could be because I really wasn't thinking too much when reading *The Back Door of Mindnight* or because I haven't had much experience in reading mysteries but whatever the reasoning behind why I was shocked, I was shocked all the same.

If I had read this book at a different time I probably would've automatically disliked *The Back Door of Mindnight* for the lack of character development and disappointing romance however not being completely invested in the characters made putting down the book more easy to do when I really needed to revise. You would think that it would be hard to pick up the book again for the same reason but I thoroughly enjoyed the plot and the overall feel of the book is pretty original; both fluffy and dark at the same time.

In one sentence? *The Back Door of Mindnight* is an entertaining read.

**More reviews and my music choice for *The Back Door of Mindnight* can be found on my blog, Lyrics. :)**

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## **Maria Gallo says**

I absolutely love the romance in this book. I love how you don't know it Zack is using Anna or actually trying to help her up until the end. I thought it was interesting how instead of Anna's crazy aunt decided to help Anna instead of her daughter that ended up being even more crazy than her. This book had a lot of thought in the after world and in spirits people supposedly leave behind when they die. Aunt Iris had this ability to talk with dead people. But since it was a small town she lived in, people just thought she was crazy. With sudden mood swings when she can't stop the voices in her head, they thought that that violence was what made her kill Uncle Will. It wasn't until the end that Anna found out all the truth about her wicked family and how broken they all really were.

I didn't like Zack's Girlfriend/friend was using Zack so Zack could use Anna. She didn't respect how much pain Anna has been all her life and even more when she found out the only family member she still trusted was murdered. I thought it was extremely creepy when Erik's (Zack's girlfriend/friend) dad was walking towards Anna's house in the middle of the night because he never really got over Anna's mom, Joanna. To be honest i thought he was either going to kidnap Anna or try to rape her. But it was really breathe taking when I read that Zack was outside her house protecting her. That's when i knew that Zack really did care about Anna.

At the end when they ended up together, it just warmed my heart at how Zack told her he was in love with her.

Right now Elizabeth Chandler is one of my favorite author's I really hope she keeps on writing her amazing breathe taking novels.

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