

WHITE LIGHT PARALLEL – 8 STORIES OF LOVE By Maura Burd © 2004 ISBN#978-1-4140-6286-0

THE DRAGON CLAW INN

Sample 'Prologue' and 'Chapter One' Excerpt

Prologue

It's not as if I can easily erase her from my thoughts. For how can I? Laura haunts my thoughts with such exasperating persistence it's as if she were feasting upon my living spirit until soon my beating heart will become as still as the blanket of barren snow that now covers her lonely grave.

A few months have passed since Laura's murder yet still her presence with me is just as intense if not more as when I last held her warm body in my arms.

I know what I must do, what she is encouraging me to do. Her tortured spirit will never rest, nor mine until I return to the place I have tried desperately to forget. I must go back to The Dragon Claw Inn. God help me...

Chapter One

Dave turned on the windshield wipers on his truck as the snow started to fall. It was coming down so heavily that he could barely see the road before him in the bright reflection of the headlights.

He'd been driving three hours and was becoming tired. He soon felt his eyelids grow heavy and his mind begin to convince himself to doze off for a few moments.

“Dave...” her soft voice whispered. “Dave.”

Hearing the haunting sound of Laura's voice all around him, Dave opened his eyes then swerved his truck back onto the road just in time before hitting one of the trees along the road.

As his truck straightened out from a skid his heart pounded quickly. He wondered if she would speak to him again. He deliberately listened for Laura's voice, but all he heard was the repetitious sound of the windshield wipers scraping back and forth against the glass.

It had been that way since her death. Laura spoke to him through his dreams or in times of desperation but never when he was alert or when he pleaded for her to speak to him. And for that reason Dave knew Laura was trying to let him know she was not at peace.

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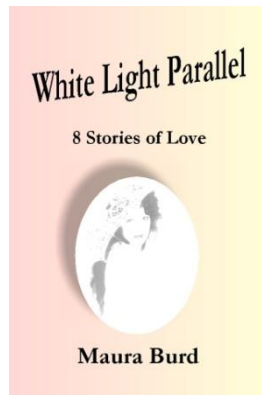
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