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The Keeper: A Novel (Stoney Ridge Seasons Series)



Synopsis

Life on Windmill Farm hasn't been the same since Julia Lapp's father has had trouble with his heart. But that doesn't stop Julia from hoping for a bright future. She has planned on marrying Paul Fisher since she was a girl. Now twenty-one, she looks forward to their wedding with giddy anticipation. But when Paul tells her he wants to postpone the wedding again she is determined to change his mind. She knows who is to blame for Paul's sudden reluctance to wed: the Bee Man. Roman Troyer, the Bee Man, travels through the Amish communities of Ohio and Pennsylvania with his hives full of bees, renting them out to farmers in need of pollinators. A mysterious man who relishes his nomadic life, Roman especially enjoys bringing his bees to Stoney Ridge each year. But with Julia seriously at odds with him, Windmill Farm is looking decidedly less appealing. Can Julia secure the future she's always dreamed of? Or does God have something else in mind? *The Keeper* is a keeper. From a fabric of likable and original characters, Suzanne has crafted a moving story of faith and loyalty, a story of hope shining out of the darkest places. A captivating read. • Dale Cramer, bestselling author, *Levi's Will*

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

A family. A farm. A heart. All in need of repair. Life on Windmill Farm hasn't been the same since Julia Lapp's father has had trouble with his heart. But that doesn't stop Julia from hoping for a bright future. She has planned on marrying Paul Fisher since she was a girl. Now twenty-one, she looks forward to their wedding with giddy anticipation. But when Paul tells her he wants to postpone the

wedding--again--she is determined to change his mind. She knows who is to blame for Paul's sudden reluctance to wed: the Bee Man.Roman Troyer, the Bee Man, travels through the Amish communities of Ohio and Pennsylvania with his hives full of bees, renting them out to farmers in need of pollinators. A mysterious man who relishes his nomadic life, Roman especially enjoys bringing his bees to Stoney Ridge each year. But with Julia seriously at odds with him, Windmill Farm is looking decidedly less appealing.Can Julia secure the future she's always dreamed of? Or does God have something else in mind?"The Keeper is a keeper. From a fabric of likable and original characters, Suzanne has crafted a moving story of faith and loyalty, a story of hope shining out of the darkest places. A captivating read."--Dale Cramer, bestselling author, *Levi's Will*Suzanne Woods Fisher is the bestselling author of *The Choice*, *The Waiting*, *The Search*, and *A Lancaster County Christmas*, as well as nonfiction books about the Amish, including *Amish Peace*. Her interest in the Anabaptist cultures can be directly traced to her grandfather, W. D. Benedict, who was raised in the Old Order German Baptist Brethren Church in Franklin County, Pennsylvania. Benedict eventually became publisher of *Christianity Today* magazine. Suzanne is the host of *Amish Wisdom*, a weekly radio program, and a columnist for *Christian Post*. She lives in California. --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

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Excellent Story, well written that I could connect and relate with the characters. The storyline flowed nicely with each character, even with a little mystery of what some were up to, kept intrigue peaked. Julie was the oldest of the children, and was looking out for the fields, orchard, the garden as well as the roadside stand, and looking out for the younger ones, as her mother had passed away a year ago. Now she was also looking out for her father, who had suffered a heart attach, to his surprise along with everyone else. Amos, the father, in his fifties, fit, trim, healthy for the most part and a hard worker and quick to play with his young ones. He had a heart problem that took him out of the field and everywhere else, as his heart was slowly giving out and he needed a heart transplant, but thought that it was maybe his time to go too. Having went through some of the issues that were

addressed in this story, it brought back a lot of what we went through and it was very uplifting and encouraging how this family went through some very hard choices they had to make and to see how it effected each one. It's a story that you chuckle, cry and filled with compassion and encouragement. One of the best reads I thoroughly felt uplifted and enjoyed.

I've read a lot of Suzanne Woods Fisher's novels, but this one blew them all out of the water! I liked the way the story was told from multiple viewpoints, and how that made us able to get to know a greater number of the characters. I think that helped me feel connected to them faster than I might have otherwise felt. Though the characters were wonderful, what really brought the story up to that elusive 5 star rating from me was the way it portrayed the theme of sacrificial love. Without giving away any spoilers, I will just say that the connections drawn between our Saviour's sacrifice for us and things that happened in the story were poignant and powerful and had me in tears!

The Keeper was more than fantastic! I don't know what to say. I stumbled onto this author Suzanne Woods Fisher in an ad. I looked up the three books in this series and bought the first one. I will buy the next two when done with this review. I don't like to tell about the story and ruin it for other readers. The storyline and all the characters are well developed. As I was reading this book my sister-in-law unexpectedly died of a bad heart so this really became a tear jerker for me. The book is so full of Christian faith, love and understanding. It is a must read of all those who enjoy family love and for those who need to learn about family love. A book can teach you so much and this one teaches love, forgiveness, and strength in the Lord. Please read and enjoy!

I started this book awhile back and got busy with Thanksgiving and I finally had the time to finish it and write up a review! Suzanne Woods Fisher is a fairly new author to me but I am very impressed so far. I have a few more books of hers to pick up and after reading this one I'm really looking forward to it! Few authors bring me to tears with a book and my kindle really got a workout with all the highlighting of quotes I found. You can tell the author knows her Bible and her characters possess such a strong and admirable faith in Christ. If you're a fan of Christian Fiction/Amish Fiction and you don't mind a tear jerker I definitely suggest this book! About the Story: Julia Lapp is looking forward to marrying Paul Fisher but when he breaks their engagement for a second time the blame falls onto Roman Troyer. Good ole Roamin' Roman has messed things up for Julia and she's determined to have a few words with him! Roman is intrigued by Julia she doesn't swoon over him the way

most women do and she speaks her mind which piques his interest. Between the pages of this book we find ourselves completely immersed into the lives of the Lapp family: Amos— a loving father who is suffering from a heart condition. Julia— Headstrong and not afraid to speak her mind but at the same time she is letting the words of others direct her path. Sadie— a dear sweet girl who listens to others and tries to mend their pain, very motherly but also still a young girl trying to find her way. Menno— A very special boy, though different than other children his age, he brings such joy and love to his family. I wasn't able to pinpoint with a certainty his disability but in my mind I pictured him as slightly autistic. Regardless, there was something precious about Menno and he touched my heart! M.K. A spunky little lady that gets into all sorts of mischief! She seriously made me laugh! There wouldn't have been much of a story without the antics of M.K. These characters were so real— so likable. I truly got to know this family and fell in love with each one of them. It was as if they had come to life to me. I truly did not pick up this book expecting to find myself in tears or to feel so much emotion upon finishing the story. The author hit it out of the park with this book and truly has a grasp of how to reach out and touch a reader through emotional attachment. The only thing I didn't really enjoy about this book was the fuss over Sadie—'s weight. I thought Fern was extremely hateful about it but then as I read the story and got to know the characters more I saw that Sadie—'s best interests were always in mind and that the initial impression I had of Fern was a little— off. So, all in all I am completely satisfied with this book and I can't wait to pick up the next book!

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