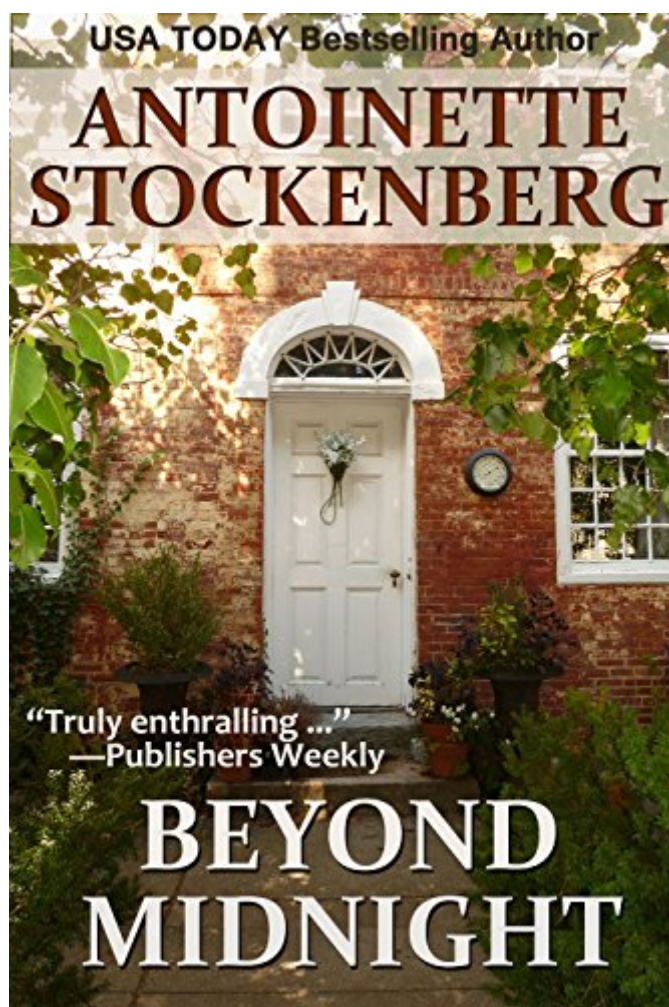


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# Beyond Midnight



## Synopsis

Salem. Will history repeat itself? In 1692, Salem, Massachusetts was the setting for the infamous persecution of innocents accused of witchcraft. Three centuries later, little has changed. Helen Evett, widowed mother of two and owner of a prestigious preschool in town, finds her family, her fortunes, and her life's work threatened -- all because she feels driven to protect the sweet three-year-old daughter of a man who knows everything about finance but not so much about fathering. Helen's feelings toward little Katie's handsome father are decidedly mixed, and it will take more than knocks in the night, perfumed air, and bone-chilling cold to convince her otherwise. Nathaniel Byrne is willing to consider Helen's advice and help. But he does it grudgingly, because the woman is by far the most determined, pushy force he's ever encountered. Recently widowed, tormented by the circumstances, and at sea about being a single parent, Nat is not inclined to hand over his daughter to just any preschool -- not when he has an accomplished, London-trained nanny who's more than willing to make those decisions for him. And the nanny herself? Peaches Bartholemew is as clever as she is beautiful, as efficient as she is soothing. Peaches can do anything. The trick, for Nat's dead wife, will be to keep her from doing it.

Reviews

"BEYOND MIDNIGHT has a terrific plot, a wicked villain, and a sexy hero. But the novel ventures beyond sheer entertainment, and it is easy to see why Stockenberg's work has won such acclaim. The theme and setting create a terrifying scenario, even without the supernatural elements: a chilling correspondence between the events of Salem's witch-hunting hysteria and contemporary allegations of ritualistic abuse in preschools. A good read that makes you think. Comes awfully close to âdare I say it?â literature." â Katherine Hennessey Wikoff, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

"Entertaining and fun. BEYOND MIDNIGHT'S shining strengths are its insights into parenting and relationship issues, its brazen humor, its writing style, its to-die-for hero, its cunning villain, and its intriguing supernatural overtones." â Kristi Lyn Glass, editor, Gothic Journal

âWhen it comes to unique, eerie and engrossing tales of supernatural suspense, author Antoinette Stockenberg is in a league of her own. BEYOND MIDNIGHT is a gripping and chilling page-turner outlining two families' courageous battle against an insidious evil with a charming face. Outstanding reading!â

â Romantic Times

"Antoinette Stockenberg creates another winner with this fast-paced and lively contemporary romance with a touch of the supernatural thrown in to make an interesting storyline even more exciting. Contemporary romance at its best. Five stars." â Harriet Klausner, *Affaire de Coeur*

"Ms. Stockenberg is a marvelous story teller who writes with humor, wit, and real experiences that we can relate to. Totally absorbing ... a superior tale with just the right combination of greed, hysteria, obsession and romantic passion. Spectacular! A terrific story that

had me anxiously turning the well-written pages."â "Literary Times"BEYOND MIDNIGHT is typical of Stockenberg's excellent paranormal romances, with extremely strong characters, and an intriguing and original plot."â "Melinda Hughes, Gothic Journal"Helen Evett, owner of a thriving pre-school in Salem, becomes the object of a modern witch hunt that endangers her family, her business, and her enchanting newfound love. This is the sort of paranormal romance that draws you inâ "a believable, emotionally involving ghost story, with an appealing story of love."â "B. Dalton's Heart to Heart"Metaculously researched and detailed, BEYOND MIDNIGHT brings Salem and its history to striking life. Antoinette Stockenberg, a premiere voice in paranormal, gives us yet another keeper."â "Linda Opdyke, New Reality Reviews

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I absolutely LOVED this book. I sat down to read it expecting a good story, but it just grabbed me and made me finish it that very night. I just couldn't put it down. Helen's character was so real to me I could relate to her throughout the story. The father was so clueless about his daughter I was ready to hit him over the head myself, and the obvious scheming of the nanny reminded me of 'Hand That Rocks the Cradle'. Even though I knew how the story was going to end, I was so wrapped up in the

characters I couldn't wait to find out how they would get there. A very satisfying, wonderful story!

I was gripped from beginning to end. This author is a favorite of mine due to her intriguing story lines and unforgettable characters. Helen Evert has many weird obstacles to surmount in her home town of Salem, in order to find happiness for her and her two kids with newly widowed Nathaniel and his preschooler Katie. But this time...will the obstacles cost her devastating personal loss?

This book is very close to reality with a twist of what can really happen. A widow with two teens struggling to raise her children alone, look after a dear elderly aunt, and try to run a successful pre-school business. She has given up on love after already having had a wonderful love in her life now gone. Until a man walks in with his 3 year old little girl that can touch anyone's heart. But along with those two, her mother (who died not too long ago) is playing match maker and pushing to have her death explained. Was it murder or just an accident from overwhelming migraines? Want to read a wonderful book that I didn't think would capture even my interest? This is your book!

I have read many of this author's books, and although I like her writing style, this book was not my favorite. Is it a ghost story or a murder story? To me, the flow of the story at times did not make sense. The adult's behavior did not make sense i.e. with a child asleep in the car, having unprotected sex in the woods? But, it made the point of saying they could still watch the car, while having sex against a tree? The book had some good moments but not a favorite.

The thing I liked most about this book was the synopsis that made me download it. Glad it was free. It alluded to paranormal activity and being in Salem, MA..witches both of which sounded good to me. Well I barely noticed the few words written about "activity" and no witch angle either. A concentration on one of these would have made it better as she seemed to have too much of nothing going on.

this is a romance novel with a twist. one of those where you know the two main characters are going to end up together. Still, I greatly enjoyed the ride. the characters are well written people you want to cheer for with the exception of the nanny who I could not wait to see get what was coming to her. this book was written in 1996 so its a modern world but without ipods and smartphones which I find to be refreshing. looking forward to catching up on all the books this author has written.

It's not often that I sit down with a book and a hot steamy cup of coffee and get so engrossed in the story that I completely forget the coffee. That is exactly what happened with this story. Not once...but several times. The story of Helen and her preschool will bring you laughter. Her loss will bring you tears. Little Katie is a treasure. I expected a nanny wants the rich guy scenario, expecting the usual storyline, and was so completely overwhelmed at the direction this book took. It takes an awful lot to make me forget my coffee. I paid for this book, and I can't think of money better spent. A not to be missed attention getting story that defies explanation. READ IT.

I couldn't put this book down! Even though this book was written 20 years ago, it is still a fantastic read. Ms. Stockenberg is a terrific author and really knows how to keep the interest of the reader. The paranormal aspect of the book is not overdone and really enhances the plot. The villainess (is that a word?) actually caused a few goosebumps. Although there is a murder and another death in the book, they are not described in gruesome details. I have recommended this book to a friend. It is a keeper. Sexual situations (especially the first one) may offend some readers

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