

An engrossing novel about growing up, finding your voice,
and forgiving your family

TRICIA DOWER

Stony River

Stony River, New Jersey, 1955. On a sweltering June afternoon, Linda Wise and Tereza Dobra witness a disturbing scene. A pale, pretty girl who looks about their age is taken from Crazy Haggerty's house by two uniformed policemen. Everyone in Stony River thought Crazy Haggerty lived alone. The pale, pretty girl is about to enter an alien world—and as Linda and Tereza try to make sense of what they've seen, they're unaware that their own lives will soon be shattered as well.

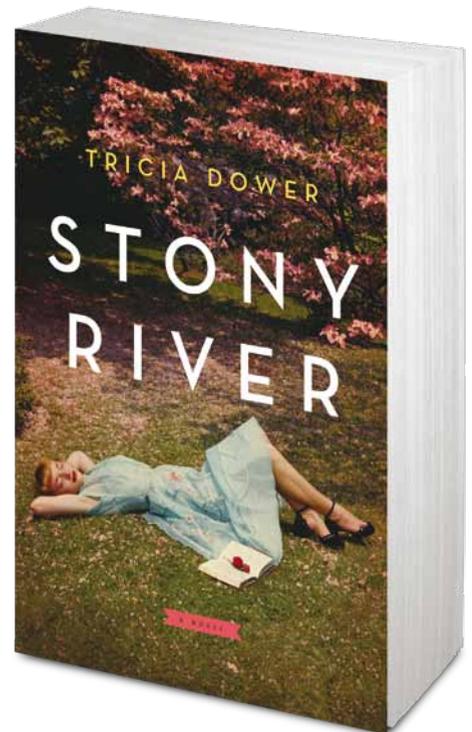
Set in a decade we tend to think of as a more innocent time, *Stony River* shows in dramatic and unexpected ways how perilous it was to come of age in the fifties. Here are absent mothers, controlling fathers, biblical injunctions, teenaged longing, and small-town pretence. The threat of violence is all around: angry fathers at home, dirty boys in the neighbourhood, strange men in strange cars, one dead girl, and another gone missing.

Stony River is a brilliant, evocative story from a remarkable new Canadian voice.



TRICIA DOWER was born in Rahway, New Jersey, and educated at Gettysburg College. She moved to Canada in 1981. Her short fiction has appeared in *Room of One's Own*, *The New Quarterly*, *The Malahat Review*, *Hemispheres*, *Cicada*, *Big Muddy*, and *NEO*, as well as in her collection, *Silent Girl*. She lives in Brentwood Bay, British Columbia. *Stony River* is her debut novel.

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SALES

Stony River, like *Empire Falls*, is a small-town novel with a big-story feel

Its evocative 1950s setting will appeal to both boomers and book clubs

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