A SISTER TO HONOR (Berkley/Penguin 2015)

Synopsis

Afia Satar is studious, modest, and devout. The young daughter of a landholding family in northern Pakistan, Afia has enrolled in an American college with the dream of returning to her country as a doctor. But when a photo surfaces online of Afia holding hands with an American boy, she is suddenly no longer safe—even from the family that cherishes her.

An ambitious athlete, Shahid Satar has been entrusted by his family to watch over Afia in this strange New England landscape. Having convinced their parents to allow his sister to come to the U.S., Shahid wants only to focus, right now, on the win over Harvard that could clinch a job for him in the United States. He never imagined he'd be ordered, instead, to cleanse family honor with his sister's blood.

What people are saying

Ferriss fills one family's story with the elements of a political thriller. The well-drawn characters and believable settings lead readers to some understanding of how these young people are torn between tradition and modern life. --Booklist

Ferriss's book is breathtakingly pertinent.

--RT Reviews

Vivid, compelling, as ineluctable as a Greek tragedy, *A Sister to Honor* illuminates the complexity of globalism's cultural disjunctions. Lucy Ferriss's nuanced insight enables us to see this story from all sides -- a rare achievement.

--Claire Messud, author of *The Woman Upstairs*

A young woman touches a man's hand, and her family decides she will die. This brave novel makes sense of honor killings, a custom so horrific that it's hard to contemplate in the West. Though uncompromising in her vision, Lucy Ferriss is also generous, large-hearted. *A Sister to Honor* is not just about hate and violence, but also about love in its many forms.

--Lisa Zeidner, author of *Love Bomb*

A Sister to Honor reveals that the walls between distant cultures and our own are porous. This lyrical novel wrestles marvelously with the basics--love, death, guilt, shame, strength. An urgent and ultimately political work of literary fiction that is also a brilliantly paced page-turner. --Amitava Kumar, author of A Matter of Rats

A powerful exploration of faith, family, and the deep cultural divides that threaten to destroy these in our modern world. Ferriss has written a remarkable novel that strikes the perfect balance between the global and the personal.

—Ivy Pochoda, author of Visitation Street

A collision of cultures between star-crossed lovers redefines the meaning of honor in this modern-day literary thriller.

—A. Manette Ansay, author of *Good Things I Wish You*