

APPENDIX I

SYNOPSIS OF “BREATH OF SCANDAL”

New Yorker, Jade Sperry is returning to her hometown of Palmetto, South Carolina bent on revenge. Now a successful businesswoman, Jade is determined to avenge herself for an ugly incident in her past. Fourteen years earlier Jade was raped by three hometown boys: Hutch Jolly, Neal Patchett, and Lamar Griffith. At the time of the rape, Jade is madly in love with her high school sweetheart, Gary, who she intends to attend college with and marry. Due to the fact that Neal's father Ivan Patchett is a wealthy factory owner in town and Hutch's father is the town sheriff, Jade decides not to go to trial. More than anything Jade wants to spare her boyfriend Gary from the turmoil of what happened to her and a long, drawn-out trial. When rumors start buzzing around town that Jade cheated on Gary with Neal Patchett, Jade breaks up with Gary rather than subject him to the vicious gossip. Tragically, Gary kills himself a few days later and Jade is wracked with guilt. Jade, who has found herself pregnant after the rape, leaves Palmetto to raise her baby and attend college. Jade gives birth to Graham and pursues her degree while living with an elderly couple that helps her raise her son. Jade has become a successful businesswoman, thereby ruining the Patchett family and their finances. Jade knows that Patchett Industries is the town's major business and she has a vested interest in destroying all of the people in Palmetto who victimized her. Dillon Burke is Jade's new employee who she has hired to oversee the project in Palmetto. Dillon has been jaded by the tragic deaths of his wife Debra and son Charlie. Jade and Dillon share a sizzling attraction, one that forces both of them to realize that they may have a future with each other. As Jade's return to Palmetto sets the town on its ear, she is forced to make a decision between moving forward with her life and wreaking vengeance

APPENDIX II

THE BIOGRAPHY OF SANDRA BROWN

Sandra Brown is the author of over sixty New York Times bestsellers, including most recently *Low Pressure*; *Lethal*; *Rainwater*; *Tough Customer*; *Smash Cut*; *Smoke Screen*; *Play Dirty*; *Ricochet*; *Chill Factor*; *White Hot*; *Hello, Darkness*; *The Crush*; *Envy*; *The Switch*; *The Alibi*; *Unspeakable*; and *Fat Tuesday*, all of which jumped onto the New York Times list in the numbers one to five spots. There are over eighty million copies of Sandra Brown's books in print worldwide and her work has been translated into thirty-four languages. In 2008, Brown was named Thriller Master by the International Thriller Writers Association, the organization's top honor. She currently lives in Texas.