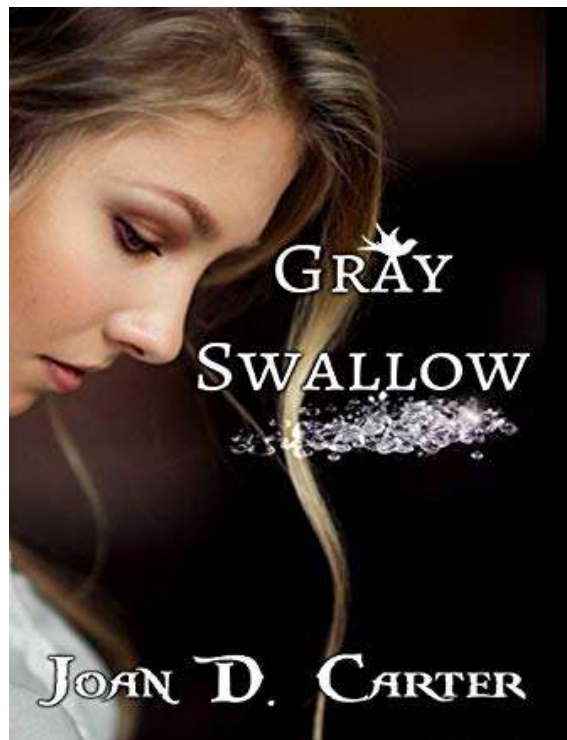


Gray Swallow



By Joan D.Carter

Reviewed by Esther J. Hildahl

Gray Swallow tells the story of two brothers, one adopted, who at the advice of their dying mother leave France and travel to Canada to get some worldly experience before they settle down. They communicate with their father, Stephan, by letter and when they mention lemons or lemonade, it means that there is a secret message to be revealed by the use of a match.

David, the oldest son, meets and falls in love with a fellow doctor named Marsha, who had been raised in an orphanage in Russia. After they are married they decide to go to Russia to be doctors for a while. Soon they are blessed with a daughter. Then the unthinkable happens—David is murdered. And Marsha and her daughter disappear for years. David's family is heart-broken.

Meanwhile, Joe becomes a Mountie and after a failed relationship with a Native Canadian woman, he takes a job as an undercover agent who tracks stolen and smuggled diamonds across the world.

Carter has written an exciting mystery with well-defined characters and lots of twists and turns as Marsha searches for her daughter and Joe and Stephan search for them. It's fast paced and has an exciting ending. A good read.



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