



**Elizabeth Towles** and her husband live in North Carolina. She is a freelance writer who writes every day. Several of her short stories and poems have been published in local area magazines. In 2003, she won a Bronze National Merit Award for an essay: Here's Memories.

Some of her contributions to anthology series include: In *Sickness and in Muck*, (2005) in a "Cup of Comfort" series for Adams Media, and several contributions to the anthology, "Retired" (2006) by A. Borough Books. *The Long Night Moon* is her first novel.

**Blog:** <http://elizabeth-elizabethwillietowles.blogspot.com>

**Twitter:** <http://twitter.com/ElizabethET>

by Elizabeth Towles

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## Long Night Moon

April, 20, 1974. Inside the imposing antebellum family home on Queens Road in Charlotte, North Carolina, the elite crowd gathers to offer condolences to Darcie and Ian on the sudden death of their socially prominent parents.

Darcie, a determined seventeen-year-old, has lived to excess in her young life, not just from wealth, but also in her sexual encounters. Now, those excesses are about to catch up with her. Ian, her older brother, takes on the difficult task of looking after her. While he is no match for her, he has one thing going for him—Darcie's strong devotion, since he has been her only confidant in the past. Shortly after the accident, Ian insists on relocating Darcie to the remote Nantahala Mountain region of the state. Immediately upon arriving at the mountain retreat, she meets and becomes intrigued with Wa'si, a handsome Indian in his mid-twenties who clings to his own code of behavior.

"Are you Cherokee?" she asks, her eyes tracking the man's every move.

"Yes," he says.

"Does Wa'si translate into English?"

"It means Moses in your language," he answers, finally looking at her.

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