



# The Memory Stones

By Caroline Brothers

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## The Memory Stones By Caroline Brothers

**The compelling story of a young woman's disappearance in 1970s Argentina, a story of family tragedy--and national tragedy--with consequences echoing through generations**

Buenos Aires, 1976. In the heat of summer, the Ferrero family escapes to the lush expanse of Tigre. Osvaldo, a distinguished doctor, and his wife Yolanda gather with their daughters, sensible Julieta who lives with her husband in Miami, and willful Graciela--nineteen, radiant, and madly in love with her fiancé, José. It will be the last time they are all together.

On their return, the military Junta stages a coup, and Osvaldo is forced to flee to Europe as friends and colleagues disappear overnight. When José is abducted, Graciela goes into hiding; when she and her friends are dragged from an apartment by plainclothes policemen, the devastating reality of the Junta is no longer remote. Osvaldo can only witness the disintegration of his family from afar, while Yolanda fights on the ground to find and reclaim their beloved daughter. Soon they realize they may be fighting for an unknown grandchild as well.

*The Memory Stones* commemorates the thousands of Argentinians--the Disappeared--who fell victim to the brutality of the period, the effects of which are still being felt today. Following one family seeking to rebuild itself after unimaginable loss, it is the story--both heartbreaking and inspiring--of a country striving to survive even in the face of terror.

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## Editorial Review

### Review

"The story honors the heroism of the mothers and grandmothers of the missing . . . The first half is tense and dramatic, yet the story becomes truly remarkable later on . . . Evocative scenes at a Greek archaeological site emphasize the challenge of uncovering the past, whether it be more than two millennia ago or just two decades earlier." - *Booklist*

"Beautiful yet heartbreaking prose . . . Even Brothers' imagery is dark and haunting . . . Yet within that darkness there is the beauty that can only be found in love and hope." - *Washington Independent Review of Books*

"Brothers adeptly synthesizes stories gathered as a reporter in France into a forceful account of two prototypical lost boys as they hazard 'the great lottery' of a journey across Europe. Brothers has the seasoned journalist's eye for idiosyncratic detail and a sense for the riveting turnabouts that keep readers as off balance as her characters." ?*New York Times Book Review on HINTERLAND*

"A compassionate and vigorous tale." ?*Publishers Weekly on HINTERLAND*

"A moving account . . . Brothers' elegant prose holds sentimentality at bay, complimenting some impressive reportage." ?*Financial Times on HINTERLAND*

"An illuminating and timely story . . . a book that haunts and shames in equal measure." ?*The Guardian on HINTERLAND*

"Brothers shines a powerful light on the shadowy world of cross-boarder refugees in this compelling and empathetic account of two children seeking a chance at life a long way from home." ?*Library Journal on HINTERLAND*

"A debut that personalizes a humanitarian crisis." ?*Kirkus Reviews on HINTERLAND*

### About the Author

**Caroline Brothers** was born in Australia. She has a PhD in history from University College London and has worked as a foreign correspondent in Europe and Latin America, and as a journalist at the *International New York Times*. She is the author of *War and Photography*, and the novel *Hinterland*. She divides her time between London and Paris.

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