

Author Study: M.E. Kerr

By:
Justin Hunt

Gentle Hands
Gentle Hands

Night Kites

I Stay Near You

Linger

M.E.

Kerr

Fell

Hello, I Lied

Dinky Hocker Shoots Smack

Background

- Born in Auburn, New York
- Attended the University of Missouri
- Now lives in East Hampton, New York

Awards and Accomplishments

- Winner of the 1993 Margaret A. Edwards Award for lifetime achievement in young adult literature
- Cited by ALA young adult library services association for being "one of the pioneers in realistic fiction."

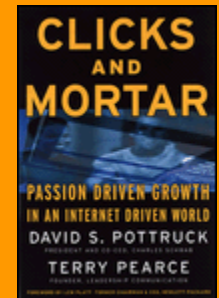
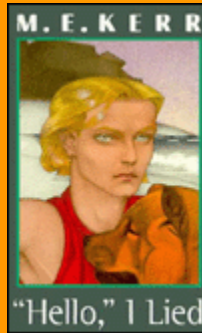
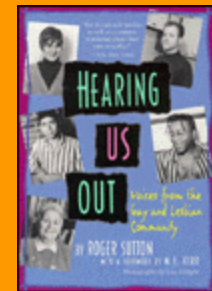
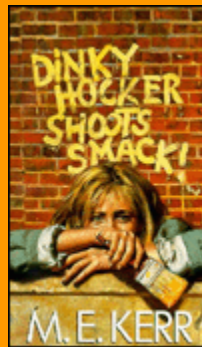
Commons

- All books are set in Seaville, New York
- All deal with opposite sex relationships
- Someone is always being pursued
- The person being pursued is always rich
- Mention characters from her other novels
- All characters deal with growing up

Commons Conf'd

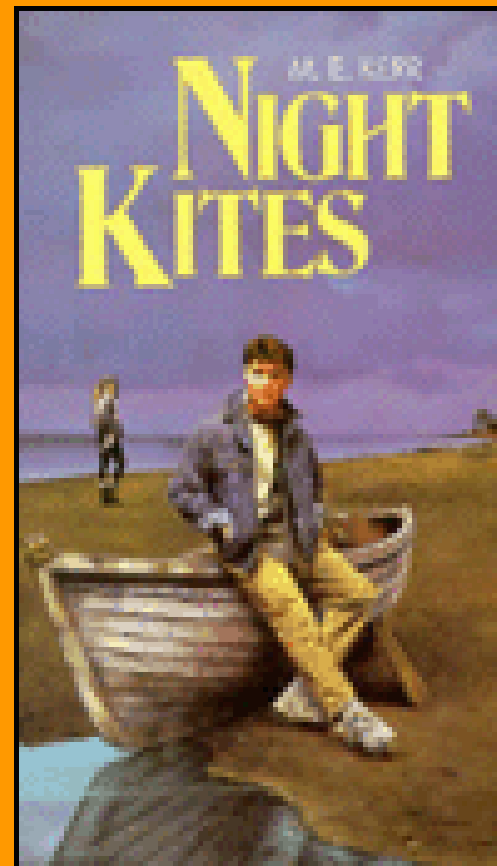
- Realism with characters
 - Growing up
 - Dealing with social problems
 - Being a friend
 - Putting up with stress
 - Lending a hand

Books

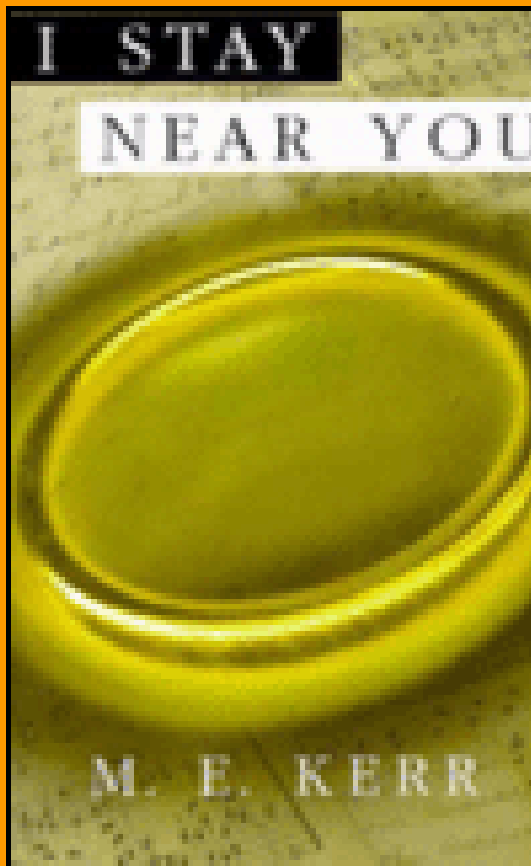


Night Kites

- Erick falls for his best friend's girl
- Breaks his heart
- Brother has AIDS
- Loses everyone



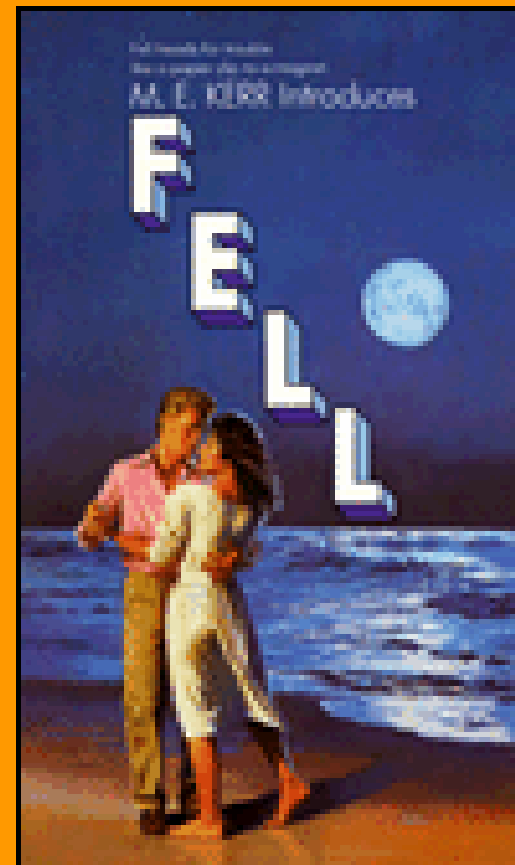
I Stay Near You



- 3 stories in one spanning 3 generations
- Mildred, Vincent, Powell Storm
- Ring with inscription "I stay near you" in other language

Fell

- Identity change
- Fell agrees to be a rich man's son at a prep school
 - Receives \$20 thousand
- Bad move
 - Rich man is arrested for selling nuclear secrets



Endings

- Always wanting more
- Makes you think
 - Real or imaginative?
- New story or conclusion?

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