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# Shattered: A Daughter's Regret (Secrets)



## Synopsis

Cleo Neilson is the only one who knows why her mother was in a seedy part of town that one night, but she's determined to keep the secret that's breaking her heart. Walk through this teen fiction novel of grief, guilt, faith, and forgiveness. You won't forget the journey.

## Book Information

Series: Secrets (Book 2)

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## Customer Reviews

Even though it is the second book in the "Secrets" series, *Shattered: A Daughter's Regret* by prolific author Melody Carlson, reads very much like a stand-alone novel. It centers around Cleo, a high school senior who makes one seemingly innocent rebellion, the consequences of which change her life forever. As a reaction to her mother's overprotective nature, only-child Cleo deceives her mom and deliberately disobeys by going into the city to a concert with her best friend. The next day her best friend, Lola, moves away and Cleo is visited by the police. Her mother's body was found murdered just blocks from where the concert was held. When Cleo checks her cell phone messages, her suspicions are confirmed. Her mother was in the wrong place at the wrong time because of her. Grief and guilt combine to send Cleo into a downward spiral. Seeking to dull the pain, she takes some of her mother's old prescription medications. It dulls the ache and so she takes more. Slowly her habit becomes an addiction and soon she finds herself at the park spending her college savings to get a baggie of unknown, colorful pills from a shady drug dealer. In the meantime, Cleo's aunt Kellie moves in to help her and her dad manage. Cleo struggles to balance

that new arrangement with her secret self-medication, maintaining the lead role in her ballet recital and a budding relationship with her long-time crush at school. All while knowing she can never reveal to anyone -- not even Lola -- what role she played in her mother's death. How long can she keep her drug habit a secret? Will she be able to quit on her own? And what role does God play in all of this? Will her father ever forgive her? Will she ever forgive herself?

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