ADVANCED INFORMATION





A French Life #1

A STRANGER IN PARIS

Karen Webb

The first in a three-part memoir exposing the darker side of French culture, a brilliantly funny and poignant study of French life that begins when a young graduate makes a spontaneous decision to follow the man she loves to Paris. He is, however, nowhere to be found . . . now a penniless singleton she must work in order to survive. With only a smattering of French she begins a new life. A Stranger in Paris follows Karen in her formative years as she searches for friends, family, and love. A portrayal of French life 'from the inside' by a narrator who has seen the various echelons of French society from rich to poor, from the capital city to the rural South West.

Born in Cheshire, Karen graduated with an English Literature degree from Aberystwyth University, moving to Paris in 1989 for what was intended to be a six-week course in French. She stayed on first as an English Language teacher working for schools and then setting up her own training centre teaching English in companies across the city. In 2005 she moved with her two children to the South West of France where she spent the next couple of years renovating dilapidated French farmhouses. Since then she has qualified as a real estate agent, gained an MA in Creative Writing from Lancaster University, and started a programme of literary retreats in France, inviting authors and publishers from all over the world to come and teach to aspiring writers. A Stranger in Paris is her first book, and the first in a three-part memoir covering her life in France, and integration into French culture.

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