



## A Long Way from the Creek

**Howard E. Blank**

Pikesville (August 1998)

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After his charismatic, wealthy industrialist father is killed in a botched kidnapping, young Mike Frost seeks to heal his pain - and his irrational feeling that his father Charley is still alive -by tracing his father's roots back to the North Carolina orphanage where he grew up. Told in a cinematic series of flashbacks and forward clips, the intricately woven thriller/suspense tale involves a U.S. senator making a bid for the presidency, a mysterious young man from Charley's orphanage days, and a subtly felt, strange power to foresee the future, which propels Mike toward a fateful confrontation with the ghosts of his father's past.

Despite sometimes heavy-handed, conventional prose and awkward phraseology by first-time author Blank, the likeable young hero grabs the attention and sympathy of the reader, and other characters are drawn with depth and loving attention to detail by the author. The hardbound edition is cleanly detailed, handsome and well-crafted.

JOSEPHINE ARROWOOD (July / August 1998)

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