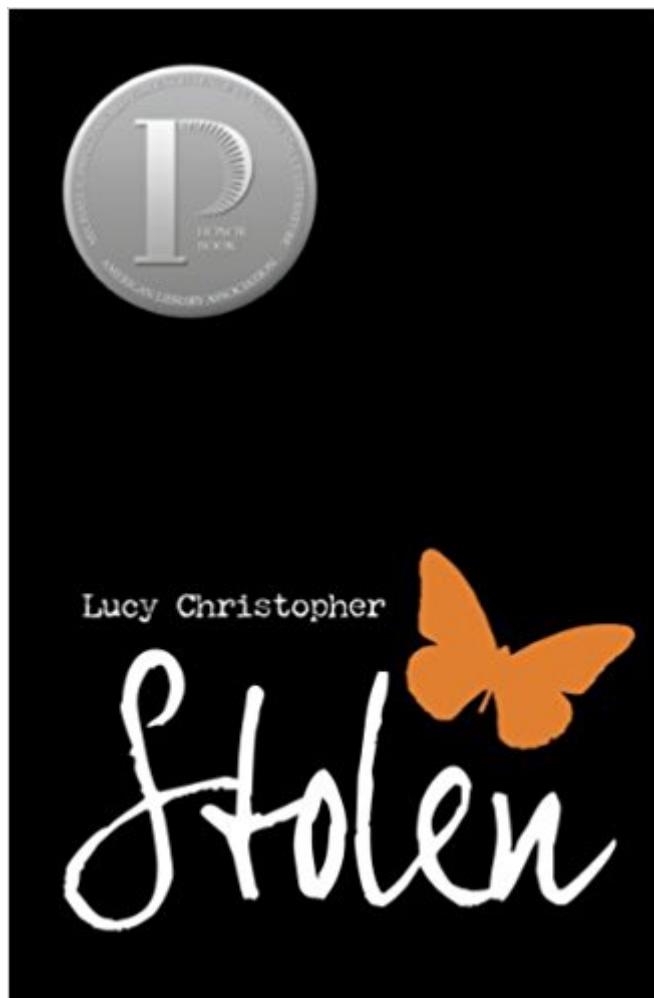


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Stolen



Synopsis

A stunning debut novel with an intriguing literary hook: written in part as a letter from a victim to her abductor. Sensitive, sharp, captivating! Gemma, 16, is on layover at Bangkok Airport, en route with her parents to a vacation in Vietnam. She steps away for just a second, to get a cup of coffee. Ty--rugged, tan, too old, oddly familiar--pays for Gemma's drink. And drugs it. They talk. Their hands touch. And before Gemma knows what's happening, Ty takes her. Steals her away. The unknowing object of a long obsession, Gemma has been kidnapped by her stalker and brought to the desolate Australian Outback. *STOLEN* is her gripping story of survival, of how she has to come to terms with her living nightmare--or die trying to fight it.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 570L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 304 pages

Publisher: Chicken House; 1 edition (May 1, 2010)

Language: English

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ISBN-13: 978-0545170932

Product Dimensions: 1.2 x 5.5 x 8.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars 471 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #445,857 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #68 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Dysfunctional Relationships #70 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Australia & Oceania #148 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Abuse

Age Range: 12 - 17 years

Grade Level: 7 and up

Customer Reviews

Grade 9 Up While 16-year-old Gemma is en route to Vietnam from England with her parents, she is drugged and kidnapped from the Bangkok airport. She regains full consciousness in a rustic house deep in the Australian Outback with a 25-year-old man who is going to keep her forever. Ty never sexually abuses her, but she is truly a captive. Little by little, Ty wears down her defenses as Gemma realizes that escape is impossible. Soon she discovers the stark power and vibrancy of the wilderness and becomes absorbed in it. She also learns that Ty has been stalking her for years,

devising a crafty plan to steal her away to make her love him which she ultimately believes she does. Ty's capture, taming, and release of a female camel effectively parallels Gemma's ordeal. Her unique first-person narrative is written to Ty after her release. Both characters are as vivid as the desert setting in which they are immersed. Despite the fact that Ty is a kidnapper, the revelations about his difficult youth and his usually caring behavior allow readers, like Gemma, to eventually care about him. Disturbing, heartbreaking, and beautiful all at once, this book is the antithesis of the situational horror in Elizabeth Scott's *Living Dead Girl* (S & S, 2008). Diane P. Tuccillo, Poudre River Public Library District, Fort Collins, CO Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

Drugged and kidnapped from her parents at the Bangkok airport, English teen Gemma wakes to find herself in the weirdly beautiful but desolate Australian outback. Her only company is her captor, a handsome young Australian named Ty, who is obsessed with her. Indeed, he tells her that he has been watching her since she was a child and now plans to keep her with him forever. Told in the form of a letter Gemma is writing to Ty, Christopher's first novel is a complex psychological study that is also a tribute to the hypnotic beauty of the outback, which Ty passionately loves and feels has been "stolen" by those who would exploit it for gain. Though Gemma at first hates both her kidnapper and the landscape, she gradually begins to warm toward both. Some readers may feel the novel is weighted down by too much symbolism (if the outback is Edenic, watch out for a serpent!) and find Ty to be too sympathetic a character, but at the same time these potential drawbacks offer ample opportunity for thought and discussion. Grades 9-12. --Michael Cart

I have been wanting to read this for the longest time! I first heard about this book from ABookAffair or Alita Joy on Youtube and after I have seen it multiple times on but just had not gotten around to purchasing/reading it. I am not sure what lead me to read it this time around but I am glad I did. *Stolen* written by Lucy Christopher is a compelling story written in the point of view of Gemma, a sixteen-year-old girl who was kidnapped in Bangkok Airport on her way to Vietnam with her parents, in the form of a letter. At first, she kind of recognizes Ty, her kidnapper, as he approaches her while she is ordering coffee at a nearby coffee shop. Ty waits for an opportune time to first make his approach, and looking back it all seems to fit well with his timing (to kidnap Gemma). He makes smalltalk as he is waiting for his moment and then the action begins. Gemma, isn't just a stranger that Ty decides to kidnap. There is a bit of history between the two and throughout the 'letter', you begin to see when and how they met. For most of the story, Gemma dislikes Ty and believes he will

kill her and is just waiting for the day he will actually kill her. When a few days have passed and he hasn't yet killed her, she begins to wonder and find ways to escape. There have been multiple occasions where Gemma finds herself in a situation and Ty is the one to save her. There have also been moments where she finds herself contemplating her emotions/feelings towards Ty. I loved the camel and how Gemma and the camel find solace through each other. Even though Ty has kidnapped Gemma and it's an automatic feeling to hate him for that, I loved that Gemma has started to look beyond that and try to get to know him better through their conversations. Yes kidnapping someone against their will is bad but I kind of found it endearing that Ty always wanted the best for Gemma, even though it means he will eventually lose her (and himself). I strongly believe that if Gemma hadn't been bitten by the snake, the four months would have passed and she would have stayed there with Ty. I kind of wanted to see that come to light. But, at the same time, I thought what Ty did for her in the end made him a better person. No one can know for sure, what became of Ty but I believe that action made him better. Lucy Christopher has written a beautiful story through *Stolen* and loved every bit of the story. It's very captivating and I wanted to read every word. ~Though I loved the way Lucy Christopher wrote *Stolen*, I would have loved to hear Ty's point of view (even though we see bits of his past throughout the story). But since *Stolen* is entirely in Gemma's point of view, maybe Lucy would consider a sequel to write about Ty's point of view and history. (That way we can have a whole book full of Ty!) Love!

This story was incredibly gripping and compelling and I almost couldn't put it down (until I had to oblige to other responsibilities in my life). Gemma, a high school girl who is on vacation with her parents, gets kidnapped by Ty, a handsomely tan and older man, who takes her from the Bangkok Airport and to the Australian Outback. Uncertain exactly why Ty has kidnapped her, Gemma is surprised to learn that it is more than just to fulfill a stalker obsession. Yet, Gemma still fights to stay alive in the deserted landscape full of poisonous spiders and dangerous snakes. The plot did not quite go where I thought it was going to go and I had a lot of mixed feelings about the characters and the ending. Although I wasn't as fond of the romance aspect of this novel (because I felt it downplayed the novel as a young adult romance from the initial psychological young adult thriller that I anticipated it being, the characters and the setting of the story were quite captivating. There was so much more to Gemma's life than meets the eye, Ty isn't as much of a psychopath as he is played up to be, and the description of the Australian Outback is both incredibly beautiful and powerful, at times almost feeling as if I could in fact be in that hot and exotic environment. Overall, the novel was compelling in several ways despite the exaggeration of romance in it and I would

recommend it to anyone that loves a good young adult novel that gives readers a wonderful sense of a beautiful Australian landscape.

I give this books 4 stars I really loved how is different in terms of writing and how the story is told. Since the beginning you know that she make is out (escapes/rescued) but you don't know what happened and how it happened so this makes the reader keep reading to find out. I do think that in the middle of the book, before the climax it gets a bit slow and difficult to read. Difficult because you start to meet Ty and the reader start to feel that maybe Gemma's feeling aren't necessarily misplaced. Of course, the authors makes the Stockholm syndrome pretty obvious, but Gemma's actions make you feel that there's something going on. The only thing that was a bit of a bummer its the fact that I didn't feel such a character development at the end of the story for Gemma. I thought her feelings will be clearer, but I understand its hard for her to figure everything out. I love the story and yes, it had some surprises along the way. I recommend this book.

Gemma is a normal young girl goes to school, struggles to fit well with her peers, and doubting her parent's love. Soon her entire life is turned upside down and finds herself abducted from the Bangkok airport by a man she knows, but can't remember why. He is young and striking, coercing her into drinking a coffee he purchased and spiked for her. She wakes up and finds herself in the middle of nowhere, in a dry, hot desert with her capture. As she struggles through trying to understand who he is and why he chose her, she also finds more about herself along the journey. Gemma's story is told through her eyes in a letter to her abductor, experiencing the moments of confused emotions, fear, and hope. This was a great read, that only took a short time to get through. A great rainy day book. I give this a four star review for the readability and the author's skill at enticing our minds to live with her capture for those weeks.

I don't have a problem with the POV or even the subject matter. I've read Stockholm Syndrome books before, so I can handle the subject matter. The issue I have is the story drags so much! I'm so bored with both of them that I don't even have the energy to finish this. I realize Gemma is probably in shock but her narration is so flat and emotionless that I feel NOTHING! At this point I don't even care what happens to Gemma. Such an incredible disappointment...

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