



Snatched

Mandasue Heller

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It begins on a winter afternoon, when schoolgirl Nicky Day runs from a gang of bullies. Then her little brother starts the fire. But the nightmare that is engulfing Sue and Terry Day is only beginning ...A single mother who left a six-year-old on his own while she went clubbing on a Friday night. An absent father with a hot teenaged girlfriend who didn't seem to care who was minding his former family. The police, the neighbours, the friends, the lovers turn accusing eyes on them both. Suspicious voices ask whether Nicky has run away; whether the fire is really an accident. And meanwhile, time is running out for Nicky.

Snatched Details

Date : Published March 1st 2009 by Hodder & Stoughton

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Author : Mandasue Heller

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Genre : Mystery, Crime, Thriller, Fiction

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From Reader Review Snatched for online ebook

Claire Denton says

Good

Sat up reading till midnight could not put it down, Good read well worth reading hope to read more off her books.

Marilyn McKnight says

Snatched

This book moved along at a cracking pace, really well written and thought out story. I guessed who the baddie was pretty early but that didn't spoil it for me. Some horrible characters and some lovely ones. I felt sorry for Sue, who seemed to be very easily taken in by all and sundry but she did come good in the end. Looking forward to reading the next in the series now - I just hope it's as good!

Grace says

This was another great book by Mandasue Heller. I do love her books and the characters she writes. They all feel so real that it feels like you could almost imagine knowing some of them. I like the way she builds both the characters and the story making you want to get to the end just to know the outcome.

June Jones says

A brilliant read, could not put down, would recommend.

Amy Willson says

Absolutely loved this book! Couldn't wait for the kids to get to bed so I could read another chapter. The ending wasn't fantastic, could have been better.

Tracey Carnell says

Brilliant book

Really enjoyed this book

Loved the characters who seemed so real
Great storyline and believable ending
Look forward to the next book

Marie Johnson says

What a brilliant read! Not something I would necessarily have picked up. The front cover didn't grab me. But it was recommended by a friend so I thought i'd give it a go. And i'm so glad I did. The characters were brilliant & believable & the book has been so well written. I can't praise it enough. I will be looking for more books by this author.

linda edwards says

Thriller

This is the second book I,be read by this author and it,s as good a story as the first ,a very believable plot very well written. A thriller at its best .

Tracy Mckie Peart says

This book has the Charmer, The Chancer & The other women: excellent read

What a cracking storyline! I loved the characters, especially Terry & Pauline, who would have behaved as badly & meddling as portrayed! Leanne was never going to keep her man and Sue was a wreck from the off. I lived the twists and the dreaded anticipation when the garden in the big house comes into play and how sweet of Daves old man to keep the boys secret. I won't spoil it for others, I really enjoyed this book and some of Carole's antics were hilarious as this is exactly the kind of estate mentality you witness when brought on a council estate. The ending came to fast for me and I'd wanted the book to last just a tad longer but it was a terrific read. Mandasue is a unique & lovely author. Thanks. Tracy Mckie Peart x

miss chanine lowe says

Excellent

Excellent read. Brilliant storyline with a magnificent twist. A must read. Couldn't put this down. I would definitely recommend this book.

Marc Clegg says

Another blinding story by mandasue

I've read all but 1 of Mandasue's and loved every one. Seriously a brilliant author and she's blown it out the bag again with this one!!!

Best Crime Books & More says

After reading previous MH books, I would go as far as to say she was a lot better than Martina Cole and each of her books I have loved. However after reading this new book I am unsure what to say about it. The story is of Sue and Terry Day, an estranged couple whose youngest child has been caught in a fire in Sue's home and their elder daughter has subsequently gone missing. The husband Terry has run off with a younger lover Leanne, and when Sue gets involved with Leanne's father Dave, things go terribly wrong. Although the writing was good and I enjoyed the book, I thought it lacked substance and the ending felt slightly rushed. I'm hoping this is just a blip in her career and the book is a "bump in the road" in her otherwise flawless writing and I will wait to read her next book before deciding if she is worth reading again.

Lainy says

Time taken to read - 5 days

Publisher - Hodder & Stoughton

Blurb from Goodreads

It begins on a winter afternoon, when schoolgirl Nicky Day runs from a gang of bullies. Then her little brother starts the fire. But the nightmare that is engulfing Sue and Terry Day is only beginning ...A single mother who left a six-year-old on his own while she went clubbing on a Friday night. An absent father with a hot teenaged girlfriend who didn't seem to care who was minding his former family. The police, the neighbours, the friends, the lovers turn accusing eyes on them both. Suspicious voices ask whether Nicky has run away; whether the fire is really an accident. And meanwhile, time is running out for Nicky.

My review

I love when I'm having a reader's block and you need something to get you over it, Mandasue Heller does that for me (so far every time). The book kick starts with 15 year old Nicky running from bullies and then the first hit. We flip to her mum and friend wanting to get out for the night and her 6 year old younger brother being left alone. Her mum Sue knows Nicky is reliable and will be home soon and gives in to her friend for a night on the town. A fire starts, Nicky is missing, her brother in a hospital bed, her mother is MIA and her father is at the hospital looking for answers and his estranged wife.

There is drama in this story from the get go, you quickly get the insight of poor Nicky's life. Looking after her brother whilst mum copes with dad's desertion for a younger girl, gossip around the scheme, everyone fighting, bullies, there is always something on the go. After the fire, Sue has a lot of explaining to do, Connor (the little brother) is petrified the truth will come out about the fire and is worried about his sister. Sue has her hands full with no home, Connor's after effects from the fire and a known face taking interest in her and the possible repercussions from that.

Nicky is at the start of the story and then always in the background as in where is she, what happened but you don't find out til later what the score is with that which I found a tad annoying as I like to know what is happening. There is a lot happening throughout, family arguments, lies, secrets and betrayal. The chapters are fairly short which results in just one more before bed, next thing you know it is 1am as you can't put it down. Council estate crime and drama, you really can't beat it, 4/5 for me.

KawasakiBabe says

It's a while since I read this, and I was gripped from the start.

I can't remember much detail (sadly that's happening a lot to me, these days) but I do remember that somehow this book gets right under the skin in the deep, dark buried places we hate to admit exist!

My first reading of one of her books - won't be the last!

Stargazer says

'if he thinks blah blah then he's got another think coming' seems to appear in every heller book - four in this one which had me (as everyone seems to do in each book) sucking my teeth...

Still the books are easy to fall into and there's often a good baddy in there or at least one relatable character.
