



Vanished

Lynn Gardner

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There is a saying that everyone has a double. In Maggie McKenzie's case, the saying is not only true, but the starting point for a troubling--and deadly--mystery.

Maggie has just begun her first job as a full-fledged newspaper reporter. It's a dream come true. But soon the young journalist finds she is captivated by what should be old news – a girl who vanished years ago – who looks amazingly like her. Intrigued by what she has heard about the missing girl, Maggie takes advantage of her travels for another assignment to try to solve the mystery of Alyssa Lawson's disappearance. While on her cross-country quest, Maggie meets psychologist Dr. Flynn Ford, who is interested in helping her solve the puzzle--and in getting to know Maggie better. But as the pair inches closer to the truth, witnessed begin turning dead. And it appears Maggie and Flynn could be next. Could the woman Maggie thinks might be her sister be trying to kill her?

Vanished Details

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From Reader Review Vanished for online ebook

Ann says

I LOVED this book, it was exciting, heartbreaking, funny. I really liked the historic tidbits woven into the story, it was really fun to learn about Lewis and Clark. I really couldn't put this book down. The typos were a bit distracting (one of my pet peeves) but still a good story that made me want to scream NOOOOOO when it left me hanging at the end. I guess I will have to dive into the next one to get the rest of the story.

Hollie Robb says

I guess it was mystery. Well a lot of it was just a little too out their for me. The whole mind projection thing was too radical for me to believe that could happen; but again I am not a twin, so maybe it could happen??? A twin taking over the other twin's mind, or communicating with the mind??? That is the thing you see in Xmen, other kind of cartoons, and things.

All in all I did thought that the story was a little slow, maybe because I had a hard time believing some the content.

Aapree says

This is a good winter mystery. I finished on a day that was incredibly snowy and wintery ... very fitting for the book. It takes place in the winter and she makes reference to the biting wind and cold often, so it helps when you can relate. :)

Anyway, back to the book. It was a really good mystery. I would have given it four stars, but I felt at times that it was a little slow, and towards the end it seemed as if the author was dragging the ending out a little bit. But it did leave you wanting more. So because I didn't give it four stars I think it merits a little longer review. I think this is a new series for this author, but I have yet to hear of a sequel. Which I am anxious for. The author leaves the ending completely open ended.

It's about a girl, Maggie Mckenzie, who just gets out of college and gets her dream job of being a newspaper journalist. She has a passion for Lewis and Clark and investigative reporting. She suddenly finds herself in the middle of mystery, trying to uncover the truth about the disappearance of her boss' daughter seven years previous, who happens to be a dead ringer of a look alike to Maggie. As she starts unraveling clues, thoughts and ideas pop into her head that aren't hers. The author taps into the realm of mental connectivity with medical facts and evidence as well as sound LDS doctrine. An interesting twist I wasn't quite expecting, but it added an element of intrigue to the story. Also you romance lovers, there is a little romance entwined in the story satiating your thirst for a little love. But be warned, like I said, the ending is resolved but it leaves you wanting more.

The hook for the book ... "There is a saying that everyone has a double. In Maggie McKenzie's case, the saying is not only true, but the starting point for a troubling—and deadly—mystery."

Nathalie S says

Whew! I was surprised how intense this book got! It had me guessing the whole way which is why I was, once again, disappointed by the ending. I like a clear resolution apparently and this one could go different ways. Spoiler alert--I must say I have a hard time believing someone would sell their child to a total stranger in a hospital (though the nasty guy doing the selling would sell his own mother in the bargain) and that someone would buy a child, particularly an LDS father, no matter what his good motives. And that a nurse would forge the papers risking her job and jail time probably.

Jenny says

Even though I rated this a "2" I did stay up until 2 am, just so I could finish it and not have it take up any more time. (Really, the logic makes sense!)
It was a quick, fun, not terribly predictable mystery.

Marsha says

To be fair, I have a difficult time with LDS fiction and this book was no exception. I did think the characters were fine, even though Maggie (the main character) is a little too perfect as is her family. The biggest problem with this book, however, was not the LDS angle, it was the story. Maggie solves a mystery that neither the police nor private detectives could figure out. Not that it was very surprising that Maggie could figure it out...she just had to follow very obvious clues. What was surprising and completely unbelievable for me was that the private detectives, the missing girl's dad, the police, even the neighbor down the street couldn't figure it out. All they had to do was visit the places that a missing girl was last sighted and talk to the people who saw her. I thought that was basic 101 detective work.

Sep says

I loved the mystery of this book. Maggie, a reporter on her first assignment, is looking for a missing girl who looks just like her. The clues are delightful and Maggie's energy and enthusiasm kept me turning pages.

I did not like the romance. Flynn started off kind of creepy because he secretly follows her for miles. Maggie won't sleep with him because of her religious beliefs and he turns around and "tests" her convictions. (Sort of like a 1950's screwball comedy where the hero marries the girl who DOESN'T let him catch her because he then "knows" she'll make a virtuous wife.) I think she should have dumped him at that point - just saying.

He does improve a tiny bit and I approved of the open-ended ending.

Swhe641200 says

OTHSB Good Book. 12/2010 i cannot find this book So I checked it out of the library. It is about a girl Maggie who goes for her dream job in California and Lila thinks she is someone else. Alysa her bosses daughter who was kidnapped seven years earlier. Shse is given assignemnt to go and right articles on the Lewis and Clark adventures and goes looking for Alysa. She goes where they have recieved letter from people that though they had seen Alysa. They think maggie is here but call her Katie. She mets a physitrist and falls in love with him. I could not remember most of the story but there was some I could remember. Good book. I wish I could find the book it is Darlene and she has been looking for it also so we can read the next book.

Amy says

Well, that was different. Mormon psychic is kind of an oxymoron in the culture and was off-putting for me. Reminded me very much of Stranger with My Face by Lois Duncan, but with a stronger Christian/Mormon overtone. Also there was a whole bunch of Lewis and Clark trail travelogue that sort of filled in the story but also felt kind of forced to fit into the gaps. What was up with leaving the scenes of violent tragic deaths with a 'you'ge-got-to-try-the-seafood-at-the-next-stop' attitude? Grab the dog, we're moving on. Most of the mystery is solved by the end. I guess the next book in the series solves the pieces left open and maybe goes somewhere with the flirtation/romance.

Violence including a gory death scene, no sex, no swearing, psychic mind control/possession-y stuff

Bettyjo says

It was a great story, but a bit preachy.

Colleen says

I really wanted to like this book, but the premise seemed really far fetched. I don't really believe twins can get in to each others minds like that.

Casey says

I enjoyed this book for the most part. There were a couple of times I felt like the story kinda dragged on and some of the plots in the story bugged me. Like when the "true mother" of the girls is revealed. I just thought it was a little weird that the mother gave her daughter to a rich couple to raise, but then stayed on with them

as their nanny, and no one ever tells the girl the big secret. Even after her adoptive mother dies. I can kinda understand it, but not really. The mystery was solved a little too easily too. Funny how the professional detectives missed all the obvious clues and weren't able to solve the case as quickly as Allison.

Jennifer says

I would call this a chic book, but I loved it. It was exciting, and it took me away from the everyday. It has a little bit of romance, a lot of suspense, and the main character is LDS so I loved it. It is a little bit educational as well. There are a few facts on Lewis and Clark and some information about psychology and twin studies which I found interesting. I wished the ending was a bit different because it kind of leaves you to decide for yourself what happens, but it isn't like a huge cliffhanger or anything.

Joni says

Lynn Gardner is one of my guilty pleasures. Action, adventure, gratuitous information about Stockholm Syndrome...who could pass that up? She has a captivating writing style that sucks you in. And I feel it has been an educational experience - now I know exactly what to do if my previously-unknown identical twin sister, from whom I was separated at birth, begins controlling my mind so I will rescue from the man who has held her hostage for years.

Ranee says

Really liked this - the twin telepathy was a little bizarre & that Maggie went so fast from her assignment on Lewis & Clark to not even on their path with it was a little out there but I liked the exciting story.
