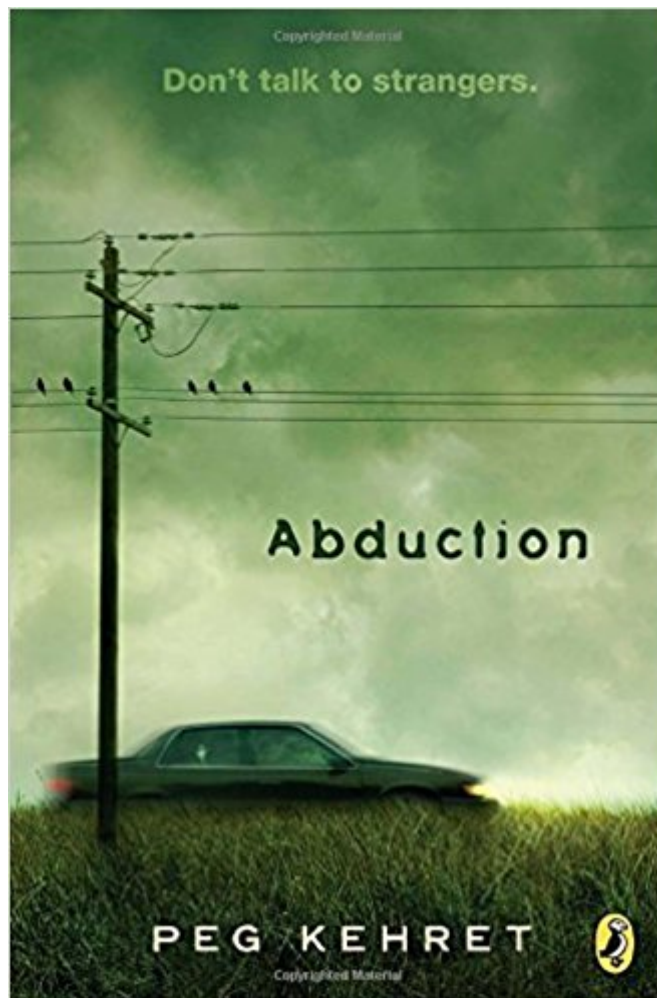


The book was found

Abduction!



Synopsis

Matt is missing. Bonnie's brother left his classroom to use the bathroom and disappeared. A police dog traces his scent to the curb, where he apparently got into a vehicle. But why would Matt go anywhere with a stranger? Overwhelmed with fear, Bonnie discovers that her dog is gone, too. Was Pookie used as a lure for Matt? Bonnie makes one big mistake in her attempt to find her brother. In a chilling climax on a Washington State ferry, Bonnie and Matt must outsmart their abductor or pay with their lives.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 0760 (What's this?)

Paperback: 224 pages

Publisher: Puffin Books; Reprint edition (April 20, 2006)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0142406171

ISBN-13: 978-0142406175

Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 0.6 x 7.7 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars See all reviews (72 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #72,253 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #16 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Dysfunctional Relationships #44 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Abuse #505 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Siblings

Age Range: 10 and up

Grade Level: 5 and up

Customer Reviews

ABDUCTION is an excellent suspense novel with a lot of good information about what families go through and can do in the event of an abduction. Peg Kehret combines a tremendous amount of facts throughout the tense narrative, such as the fact that most kidnapped children are taken by non-custodial parents and how an Amber alert works. But the story is the real draw here. Matt, a kindergartener, goes missing from his school. His kidnapper is his biological father, a man he's never laid eyes on. Denny Thurman, Matt's dad, is a gambling addict whose latest scheme involves "borrowing" money from his sister and brother-in-law to raise his son. Thirteen-year-old Bonnie, Matt's sister, gets caught up in the search for her little brother. Kehret pulls the reader into Bonnie's

world, sharing her helplessness and frustration as well as the sharp fear that fills her. The pacing is frantic as the reader flips back and forth between the scenes involving Bonnie, Matt, the kidnapper, and a few extra characters (like the elderly couple that finds the abandoned family dog, Pookie, and decides to take him home). The climax of the book is exciting and uses a lot of the Seattle setting shown in the novel. Bonnie is a true heroine, but she's not of the Wonder Woman variety. She uses her wits and her heart, and stands her ground with the kidnapper to protect her little brother. ABDUCTION is a great read to share with a pre-teen or even to be read to an aggressive third- or fourth-grader who likes being read to. My son and I enjoyed this book a lot, but some of the tense scenes made him nervous. He couldn't stop thinking about Matt and his situation until we turned the last page. More than that, he knows more about Stranger Danger and that there are a lot of agencies that look for missing children.

I read this book to my class of 5th grade students, and we loved it. When it came time to stop reading each day, my students would beg me to continue reading. We did not want to put the book down. Almost all of my students voted Abduction their favorite book at the end of the year. Not only is this a wonderful story to get kids excited about reading, it also naturally brings up some issues that children are thinking about. We talked about safety issues related to being abducted and making decisions and how they impact our lives. There was a scene that also stimulated a discussion on alcohol and kids. For students living in Washington State, it was fun to read about the Mariners and Safeco field and other landmarks in our area. We could picture everything so clearly from the descriptive writing. Peg Kehret's books are always appropriate for the classroom, and the children love her stories.

In this day and age...no matter how you drill into your kids the stranger danger phrase, you just never know. As a mom, I was introduced to this book by our library who did a book discussion group for grades 6-8. What an EXCELLENT choice! It's a fiction title that can educate your child as to the dangers of child abduction, and how easily a child can be tricked. I used it as an in-depth topic of discussion across the dinner table with my 10 + 11yr old boys....and that sparked the 6yr old's attention as well. Buy this book for your kids...discuss what's going on in the book as they read. Use the topic to educate them - I know that by just reading this book my kids are now safer than they were before...thanks to the author for writing a suspenseful and timely book that kids will enjoy reading!

The Amber Alert goes off. You turn on your T.V. faster than a man running across hot coals.

Someone has been reported missing. Abduction is a scary thought, especially when you are very young. Most of us have been told to never to talk to strangers. Unfortunately, an eight-year-old boy named Matt encounters this situation in *Abduction!* Matt was excused to go to the bathroom one day at school. On the way, he met a stranger. The stranger lied to him and told him his dog Pookie was hurt. He said Pookie was in the car, and Matt went into the car. He doesn't realize his father kidnapped him. The eight-year-old struggles through many hard times while he was a hostage to his dad, who also was his mom's ex-husband. Matt realizes his father gambles often, and because of that, he loses money frequently. His dad tells another lie, saying his mom and sister were in a car accident and died. In *Abduction!*, the author shows the importance of family and not talking to strangers. This book is filled with adventure, sadness, and happiness. It teaches a valuable lesson to go along with the twists and turns of the exciting plot.

I can see where this book would be a conversation starter with your young child about "stranger danger" or even "not-stranger danger" abduction. But don't read this book if you're looking for a good read. The writing is mediocre at best. Ok, it's a Young Adult novel and written from the point of view of a teenager. But the mother of the abducted child is referred to as "Mrs. Sch...(?)". Any child of any age will pick up on that. The mother is distant in the story and not involved in the plot line at all. And why refer to the Mom so distantly when she's Bonnie's mother too? It's distracting and makes it a very impersonal story. The plot is laughable at times. Example: When talking to teen boys in a car, Bonnie tries to convince them to drive her to safety. Instead of saying the reasonable (and what anyone would say during a 1 minute conversation with someone who can help,) "I'm being abducted! A man is kidnapping me and my brother! He has a gun! Help me and drive me to a police station!" She says everything BUT that!! "Take me with you. Let me get in your car." Ugh. Please. Make some effort to make it a plausible story. A final nit-picking detail that really bothers me and exemplifies the lack of writing skill in this book: At one point Bonnie is exhausted as if she "ran a 20 mile marathon." A marathon is 26.2 miles so it's either "ran 20 miles" or "ran a marathon." Minor detail, but it shows the lack of writing effort in this book.

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