



Stolen Children

Peg Kehret

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Amy learned a lot in her babysitting course, but not what to do if two thugs show up, intent on kidnapping. Armed with misinformation and a weapon, the men take Amy and little Kendra to a remote cabin in the woods. There they make videos of the girls and mail them to Kendra's wealthy parents in an effort to get ransom money. After several of her escape attempts fail, Amy is forced to make one last, desperate move. Award winner Peg Kehret crafts a suspenseful thriller with a spunky heroine who uses her wits to save herself and the toddler.

Stolen Children Details

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Author : Peg Kehret

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From Reader Review Stolen Children for online ebook

Rose Ann says

My daughter has this on her list to read, and I thought it sounded a little overwhelming of a topic for 8-12 yr. olds, so I wanted to read it before her.

It was definitely a page turner, and well written. I don't know that it should be for 8-9 yr olds. I was relieved that there was no physical violence or inappropriate language or content, although I think this could be quite a scary topic for a child.

I loved how Amy used clues in the DVDs, and got frustrated with all the missed opportunities from different characters who ran into the girls or saw them. I felt that the kidnappers were a little too dumb at times.

So my decision....my daughter is 10....I think she'll be okay with it. It's just such a scary topic that is such a reality. Maybe reading about the things Amy did to save them would be a good thing.

Brittany says

I gave this book four stars. This rating because they gave away the ending at the beginning of the book. I liked that they got away. I didn't like that Amy and Kendra got away in the beginning of the book. They are in the woods when they get away. This is about Amy babysitting. Her and Kendra get kidnapped when she was babysitting one after noon.

Maddie Boerman says

This is one of my favorite books because it was about two girls that got taken away by two kidnappers and they would send videos to the parents and Amy one of the girls that was kidnapped would send clues on where they were or how they were doing.

^Silvia^ says

There was always something happening and you were eager to read the next part.

George says

My fifth grade son recommended this book to me, and you have to know him to comprehend what a major milestone this is. Cade, you see, is what Donalyn Miller (teacher and author of the Book Whisperer) calls a dormant reader. He certainly passes all his reading "tests" but he is not a reader. He doesn't think reading is fun, and he wonders if there was some mix-up at the hospital, because his mother does nothing else but read.

So, you can imagine my excitement when he told me this was a good book, and I should read it. Of course I jumped at the chance to be able to talk to him about something else besides his current video game level.

While it wasn't the best book I've ever read, it wasn't bad. It definitely isn't a deep, thought-provoking book, but it had its moments. For example, I thought Cade would be most interested in the "big escape", but he surprised me with his insights about Amy and her dad, and we had an interesting conversation about how fragile life can be.

Cade gives Peg Kehret mixed reviews, but I give her a big thumbs up for writing something that sparked his interest and got him talking about books.

Becca hunt says

i love this book so far it is AWESOME

Jo Sorrell says

A fast and enjoyable read!

Fourteen-year-old Amy Nordlund desperately regrets that morning she spent with her father. Because of a stupid, completely avoidable mistake she made, her dad postpones leaving for work to lecture her on responsibilities. Not only do they have an argument, but it also turns out to be the last thing she says to him, as he dies in a car accident on his way to work.

Somehow, Amy and her mother wade through the grief and guilt, and try to go on with their lives. Amy is determined to make up for her mistakes and prove to her father that she can be responsible. She signs up for a babysitting class in hopes of earning a bit of money to help with some of the bills. Then she lucks out and her babysitting class teacher recommends her for a new job. Three-year-old Kendra's parents are rich; they even keep the expensive kind of ice cream in the freezer. And Kendra is a complete doll, easy to take care of, very sweet and even goes down for her nap without any fuss. But that's when the simple part of the job ends.

Two strangers burst into the scene and kidnap Amy and Kendra. Originally, Amy hadn't been part of the plan, but the kidnappers decide to take advantage of another ransom. They take the girls out to a remote cabin without any electricity or running water. Amy tries her best to keep Kendra clean, fed, entertained and relaxed while struggling to remain calm herself. The abductors plan to use a series of videos to increase the parents' fear and anxiety, leading up to demanding the ransom.

Desperate to do something, Amy cleverly designs some clues to slip into the videos, hoping her mom and best friend will figure them out and pass them on to the police. But what if her clues don't work? Amy has no doubt that Kendra's parents will pay the ransom and Kendra will be returned. But what about Amy? Her mom has no money.

Mom2triplets04 says

I really enjoyed this story. It was fast paced. It's about a 3 year old who gets kidnapped along with her 15 year old babysitter. The babysitter was very smart and she had some great ideas on how to escape her kidnappers. The story takes place in only 6 days. It made me think about how people don't help others. I certainly will be looking for more books by this author.

Fluxbrarian says

Amy's first babysitting job is taking care of Kendra, a well behaved 4-year-old from a wealthy family. When two thugs come to the house to kidnap Kendra for ransom, their plan doesn't go as smoothly as they planned. Kendra's nanny, who was in on the plan, is away on vacation, and Amy is determined to protect the little girl. Forced to kidnap the teenage girl as well, the two men take them to a remote cabin in the woods. The men send daily DVDs of the girls to their parents in an attempt to make them feel desperate before asking for the ransom money. Amy remains quick-thinking and cool-headed throughout the ordeal, scheming ways to save herself and Kendra and still playing the role of the girl's caregiver. Amy's clever plans include sending coded messages in the videos and seizing opportunities to escape. Although Kehret keeps the focus on the kidnapped victims, she also gives readers brief insights into the other characters, including some coincidental bystanders who choose not to intervene. The book is free of physical violence but doesn't sacrifice any drama or excitement. This suspenseful thriller that will have kids turning pages until the very end.

Shianne says

This is a summary not a review...draft

Somebody: Amy, a teenage girl who just finished her babysitting course

Wanted: to get money for babysitting because she needed money for school items

But: two kidnappers show up and kidnap Amy and little Kendra because they know Kendra's parents are rich and will do anything for Kendra to get back home

So: Amy has to find a way to get herself and Kendra back home safely

Do they escape safely? You'll have to read it to find out!

revision 1

Amy is a teenage girl who just finished her babysitting course.

She needed to get money for babysitting because she needed money for school items. Then, two kidnappers show up and kidnap Amy and little Kendra because, they know Kendra's parents are rich and will do anything for Kendra to get back home. So Amy has to find a way to get herself and Kendra back home safely

Do they escape safely? You'll have to read it to find out!

Spoiler*

This book is all about responsibility. When Amy sees Kendra isn't in the house she starts to panic. Amy was so tired from watching Kendra and so she took a nap a little too long. She should've locked the door or something, but it was her responsibility to watch over Kendra so it was somehow her fault. I don't think Amy was ready to babysit.

Danger was a big idea in this book, no questions needed to ask about that. When people kidnap they usually want something important and so Amy should have been more careful about watching over Kendra.

Carter Gray says

"Stolen Children," by Peg Kehret, was a fantastic book! It's about this girl named Amy who has taken babysitting classes and has to babysit this little girl named Kendra. So the first time she is babysitting Kendra she puts her to bed and goes out on the deck. Well apparently she forgets to lock the front door when she hears a big bang that came from inside. She goes in the house and looks outside and sees a car drive away. She looks for Kendra and can't find her. She goes outside and sees Kendra's stuffed cat, that's when Amy also gets kidnapped.

I really liked this book because of the thrill! Like when she was looking for Kendra and she goes outside and sees her stuffed cat, because Kendra goes everywhere with her cat. Also when she gets kidnapped because she goes into the house to call 911 and one of the guys points a gun at her. I didn't like it though because it was really sad. Because in the beginning of the book something terrible happens to her dad and she has to deal with it. Also just the whole thing of her and Kendra getting kidnapped, because the kidnapper would take videos of them and send it to their parents to show them that they have been kidnapped. This book was interesting. Because you find out a dark secret about Kendra's nanny that's on vacation, that's why Amy was babysitting. Bravery, is the theme for this book because Amy and Kendra have tried to make many escapes. The kidnappers said that if they tried to make one more escape that they would kill Amy and Kendra. So Amy has one last attempt to make. So overall I really liked this book and would read it again. But like I said it's a little sad sometimes but I liked the ending.

Camryn says

This book was amazing. The book is at a reading level of a 3rd grader but contains details that might frighten them at points. I give it a A+.

A girl gets a phone call asking if she can babysit a mother's children cause their regular babysitter was out of town. She agrees when she hears the amount of money they are offering. The mom goes off to work and the baby goes to sleep. When the girl realizes it is dinner time she goes to wake the baby up and she is not there. The girl sees the door is unlocked and the baby's favorite animal, The Cat Tubby, she knows the baby has been kidnapped. Before she can call the police a van pulls up the driveway. She runs out a man steps out and

she tries to tell him what happens. But before she can say anything she sees Kendra, the baby, in the back seat and he grabs her. The girl is terrified and when she finds out the 2 men are out for Kendra's parents' money and not for the kids she thinks that everything will be okay. NOT! The men have a gun and she knows one wrong move and she and Kendra's life could be GONE! This book is amazing and I recommend it to anybody that likes suspense and horror books.

Ariana says

The first time babysitting Kendra is the first time she will be kidnapped. Amy has all the knowledge she needs to babysit but doesn't know what to do if she gets kidnapped. Amy and Kendra try to escape but have to be very careful. Kendra at 3 is very hard to keep quiet and to make sure she doesn't cry when trying to escape. Amy has tried many many times to escape, but just hasn't had the right time or luck. So she gets in trouble whenever she gets caught and has a death threat. Kendra has a little stuffed animal named Tubby. She can't live without Tubby I think it's cute.

I really liked this book because it was very exciting and suspenseful. I really liked how she was very brave and didn't stop. It was so cool how she put hints in the videos that they sent to their mom. I think I would be as brave because I'm not exactly the brave type. I will try to defend myself. But I didn't think that she would be kind of friendly to the kidnappers. But I think that she was just trying to play it safe with them.

I would recommend this book to people who love suspenseful books and love exciting stories. I really think that lots of people will like this book.

Logan says

(Plot) Amy is a teenage girl that was asked to babysit Kendra. While babysitting someone came into the house with a gun and forced Amy to go with him. They took both Kendra and Amy to a cabin and were going to make videos of the children and send it to the parents of them and later ask for a ransom to get their back. Amy was smart enough to hide clues in each of the tapes for the cops to figure out.

(Character Analysis) Amy's mother was at home and doing nothing and then she got a phone call. The call was from Mrs. Edgerton (the mother of Kendra) and she told Amy's mom that she thought their kids had been kidnapped. Amy's mom then got extremely sad she even thought to herself, "If anything happened to Amy, [I don't think I'd] be able to go on," (Kehret 28). Amy's mom has already lost her husband to a car accident and really did not want to have to say goodbye to her daughter also.

(Theme) In life we often make many mistakes, but there is always a way to make up for the mistake. In the book it says, "You can't just be sorry for your mistakes; you have to take action and make amends," (Kehret 10). You have to make up for your mistake and make it better than what happened. Often times people say sorry and think that it is the end of it and the mistake is forgiven but, "Saying your sorry is not enough," (Kehret 8). You have to not make that mistake ever again.

(Opinion) I thought that it was a pretty good book with enough intensity and it made me keep wanting to read it. It had a lot of times that you thought it was going to be over and have a happy ending but then something bad happened. The book spends a lot of time describing irrelevant things though and gets boring from that. The book is pretty good all the way through and had me guessing the whole time.

Jules Heberer says

Peg Kehret is a very well known book author or writer. Most of her books are horror or suspense. So, if you like horror and suspense, I suggest you read EVERY Peg Kehret book out there. One of my favorites of her books is the novel, "Stolen Children". The main two characters are Amy and Kendra. Amy is Kendra's new babysitter and after about 30 minutes of babysitting Kendra, she and Amy are kidnapped. To find out more information about who kidnapped Amy and Kendra, go look in your library now for the author Peg Kehret's amazing, fantasizing novel, "Stolen Children". I give this book a 5 star rating because I greatly agree you read this novel or horror and suspense filled with fantasizing events.
