



# Taken

*Thomas H. Cook*

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**Three people know the truth.**

**Three families will be changed forever.**

In the last days of World War II, a strange phenomenon saves a doomed Air Force pilot named Russell Keys--and plunges him into torment. In a place called Roswell, New Mexico, a man named Owen Crawford is drawn to a bizarre crash site in the desert, and into a government cover-up. And in a remote Texas town, a lonely woman named Sally Clarke finds a stranger hiding in her barn, and reaches out to touch him...

This epic novel, based on the gripping ten-part *SCI FI Channel® miniseries* from *DreamWorks Television*, spans sixty years of American history...as the lives of three people are changed in an instant--and the consequences are played out over three generations of harrowing encounters and unexplained events. While the government lies, and a nation doubts, three families know they have been touched, know that something has been taken from them...something that will change their lives forever.

## Taken Details

Date : Published October 29th 2002 by Dell (first published October 1st 2002)

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Author : Thomas H. Cook

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## From Reader Review Taken for online ebook

### **Jake Painter says**

Well, I read 1/4th of it, and mostly the chapters were focusing on the obvious antagonist and sleeze-bag bad guy. He was the main character of most of what I read. I hated him, I'd much rather have read about any one of the other characters. But the author seemed to like to focus on the asshole.

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### **Chelsea says**

I felt that this book was hard to follow. I goes through 3-4 generations of multiple families in a few hundred pages. I felt that the book had an incredibly fast pace and I could not always keep up with what was going on. To add to the confusion, there were not many 'big' plot points that I could focus on. I wish this book had more action and the plot was spread out into a trilogy or series.

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### **Prashanth Kanichar says**

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### **Melvyn Foo says**

The story is not written in a very captivating manner, although the events in the story are very interesting. This genre of science-fiction is vividly imaginable, as the story is backed by countless number of rumors and other unexplained mysteries such as that of the crop circles, and the lights in the sky. Personally, I found it rather eerie as I read through the book and was sometimes rather spooked when reading it alone. This kind of fiction is generally not my type, and has definitely brought a fresh view of novel-writing, despite the fact that I did not really enjoy reading this book all that much.

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### **Maura says**

I saw the mini-series and then remember picking his up, assuming the movie was based off the book instead of the other way around. So I wasn't quite expecting the book to follow the miniseries so faithfully, but it did. The only advantage of the book is that it provides insight into the minds of the characters and the motivations

of the characters are much clearer. Other than that, if you see the movie you've read the book. Still, it's good and believe it or not, for me at least, faster than watching the miniseries.

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### **Amanda says**

I really enjoyed 'Taken'. This book is an extremely easy read. It takes you on a journey through 3-4 generations of families who have either had experiences with UFO abductions or are searching for answers. It's filled with action, murder and twists that will leave you wanting more.

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### **innae says**

Finished this book while in Mexico. It is a quick read, and jumps quite a lot (to get 50 years or so into 355 pages it had to) -- I tried watching the television show, but got bored/lost, the book didn't lose me. I don't know how I feel about the end, it was eh. I liked the idea behind the abductions though.

Something that DID bother me...the back of the book (see picture) lists the three characters that start the book as Randall Keys, Owen Jones, and Sally Marsh -- inside the book, they are RUSSELL Keys, Owen CRAWFORD, and Sally CLARK -- how did this happen? I mean really??

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### **lily darling says**

This book took me on quite an adventure, and I really liked it. For having picked it up with no prior knowledge of the premise, it was pretty good. I got turned around on occasion, having to remember who was whose daughter and all that but it was still a good read. I'd recommend to anyone who likes a classic alien invasion/conspiracy theory story.

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### **Indigo says**

Overall an excellent book. A warning to survivors of extreme abuse: there is a lot of content in here that may be triggering. Deals with decades of a covert secret government agency and the lives effected.

This may be fiction, and about an alien cover-up conspiracy, but enough is on the mark to seriously affect certain survivors.

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### **Crystal says**

It was interesting, then less interesting, then kinda suspenseful, then it ended.

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## **Carol says**

**TAKEN:** tinfoil hat not required to enjoy this book, just an open mind (or not!) to consider the possibilities of alien visitations/abductions. Have always thought it's the absolute height of arrogance to believe that Earth is the only planet with intelligent life in this vast universe. (lol, perhaps some planets have tadpole "people" while others are populated with green Einsteins.... not beyond the realm of reality, methinks.... [and are water/air necessary for *their* types of existence?]) Considering the millions of various life forms here on Earth, both living and extinct, the galaxy offers potential googolplexian brilliance. Government cover-ups have existed since the beginnings of governing... and will continue ad infinitum. (Will citizens ever become privy to the Roswell incident facts, for instance.) OK, the above ramblings are just my opinions. The book itself supplies a good cross-section of character personalities....some "Booo!"-able, some cheer-worthy. Some plausible scenarios, some credulity-breakers.

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## **Eden says**

*Taken* by Thomas Cook is based on the 2002 TV miniseries of the same name. It spans five decades and four generations. The story centers on three families. The Keys, who have been taken by aliens. The Crawfords, who are trying to cover up the truth about aliens. And finally, the Clarkes, who took in one of the survivors from the crash.

I read this simply because I loved the miniseries. I watched it for the first time almost two years ago and it was just simply amazing. The story, the acting, all just great. The book, too, has the same great story, but it moves at a very fast pace. The book is only 355 pages and it has to cover from 1945 to 2002, so it's no surprise how quickly the book moves along.

I think it might have worked better if instead of one book, there would have been more. The descriptions could have been longer and it wouldn't have had to move so quickly. However, the book is still good. Still enjoyable and it makes me want to watch the miniseries again.

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## **Taksysa says**

Quando la serie tv "Taken" arrivò sugli schermi nostrani resistetti fino alla terza, forse quarta puntata. Anche durante le varie repliche (non molte a dire il vero) non sono mai riuscita ad andare oltre.

Storia noiosa, personaggi non in grado di fidelizzare, forse poco interesse riguardo i rapimenti alieni... non saprei dire quale fattore non ha fatto scattare la scintilla.

Oggi posso dire che anche la novellizzazione lascia molto a desiderare.

La storia, fin dove la ricordavo, viene riproposta fedelmente. Una carrelletta di scene e di dialoghi, un effetto simile ad una visione di diapositive ma senza troppi collegamenti tra loro.

Non ci sono descrizioni, i personaggi sono piatti e bidimensionali, non passa nessun coinvolgimento e nessun pathos. Se non si è vista la serie non si riesce neppure a visualizzarli, non c'è una descrizione fisica che sia una.

Una delle peggiori novellizzazioni lette, con l'aggravante di una storia che, all'origine, non era proprio un granché.

Un fallimento su tutta la linea.

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**P.S. Winn says**

This is a great book based on the mini-series of the same name which I also enjoyed. I love stories that take what happened in Roswell to new levels, What was hidden and what does that mean to people living years after the aliens visited and out government tried to prevent anyone from believing?

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**Michael Thurnell says**

I really enjoyed "Taken". I know that this was a TV mini-series but I never got the chance to watch it, so this was a real treat. I couldn't put the book down. I found it intriguing. Well written and fast moving. I highly recommend it.

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