



## The Abduction

*Mark Gimenez*

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When hotshot lawyer Elizabeth Brice turns up to collect her daughter Grace from football practice, the coach tells her she needn't have bothered, as Grace's uncle has already picked her up.

The only problem is - Grace has no uncles.

And so begins a furious race against time to save Grace from unknown kidnappers. Grace's internet geek father John leads the search, forced to unite with his terrifying wife and even more terrifying father Ben, a battle-hardened Vietnam veteran. Somehow they must find Grace before it is too late. But secrets from the past make the little girl's survival more uncertain with every passing minute...

A riveting, action-packed thriller, The Abduction will have you on the edge of your seat from the first page to the last.

## **The Abduction Details**

Date : Published (first published 2007)

ISBN :

Author : Mark Gimenez

Format : Kindle Edition 529 pages

Genre : Thriller, Fiction, Mystery, Suspense

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## From Reader Review The Abduction for online ebook

### Christian says

The Abduction by Mark Gimenez was an enjoyable book to read. It was very action packed, but I thought it took too long for the action to really take off. There was action in the beginning, which made me hopeful that the whole book would be filled with action, but none more really came until the end. However, when the action took off, it REALLY got me hooked. The book was filled with action, but I think Mark Gimenez tried too hard to put a good love scene in it. Those scenes just seemed awkward to read, and there were a few of them too. Finally, I really did not like the mother in this book. There's a difference between mad and insane, and I think the mother jumped this line into insanity, which made me not want to read about her anymore. But the grandfather was an awesome character to read about. There were flashback scenes to his time as a Green Beret in Vietnam, and it made me wonder if the U.S.A. really was that cruel to the people in Vietnam. The Abduction by Mark Gimenez was an excellent book to read, but I would suggest this book to advanced readers. The book seemed long, even though it was roughly 400 pages, and there were some scenes which would not be suitable for children. But if you are an advanced reader who likes long books, then The Abduction is for you.

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### John says

I thought it would be hard for Mark Gimenez to match his debut novel "Color of Law" but IMHO he has done that with his second novel "The Abduction". I expected that this would follow the pattern of Gimenez's other books which are mainly legal thrillers, but this is a no holds barred complex thriller which puts him at the top of my favourite author list.

Gracie Brice is an active, highly intelligent and mature ten year old daughter of an IT genius, John Brice, who is about to float his company and become an instant billionaire. Her mother, Elizabeth, is a top tough defense lawyer who will stop at nothing to win her cases but is haunted by nightmares of evil that prevent her fully connecting with her husband and family.

Gracie is tops at soccer and has just won the match for her school, watched occasionally by her father who spends most of his time on his cell phone managing the float. When he goes to collect Gracie after the match the Coach tells him she has been collected by her uncle to take her to hospital because her grandmother has had a stroke. But Gracie doesn't have an Uncle and her grandmother lives in New York, not Texas!!

Colonel Ben Brice is a Vietnam hero who conducted bloody cross-border operations in Laos, Cambodia and North Vietnam and was a POW. He is now a drunk living in isolation suffering from post traumatic stress from his experiences. Despite this Gracie visits her Grandfather and they have a very close and loving relationship. As soon as Ben hears that Gracie is missing he springs into action and revisits the family he has not seen for years.

Most cases of child abduction normally involve a sex offender and the chances of survival are slim. In this case because the family are mega-rich the police and the FBI believe that ransom may be involved. But then Ben sees something that turns his blood cold and sets him off on the trail of the kidnappers.

This is a thriller that has everything with an adventurous fast moving plot involving complex and troubled characters, kidnapping, the Police and FBI searching for child molesters, and conspiracies going back to the days of the Vietnam war. While some may think the final plot line is a little far fetched Gimenez has used

this author's licence to to write an unforgettable, page-turning, adrenaline-packed, edge of your seat thriller that you won't want to put down.

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### **Anushka says**

**4.5 Stars** is more like it.

This book was absolutely smashing. The story had so many angles popping out from everywhere but in the end everything connected so well with each other. The pace and writing used to dangle a little bit in-between but the great plot made up for most of it.

I really liked the way Giminez had planned out the story, giving flashes of the gruesome past in the beginning of every chapter.

Also, I really appreciate the way life of a retired Army colonel was shown. War only destroys, killing someone never brings you peace and the guilt of it hangs heavy on your head forever..it was very wonderfully channeled through Ben Brice's character.

I think I have found my next favorite author, no wonder this guy is called the 'upcoming John Grisham'. I will definitely read his first and much more acclaimed book *The Color of The Law* now.

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### **Jo says**

3.5 stars

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### **Anie says**

Too bad "0" isn't an option. What a piece of junk. I understand that this author has another, successful, book. I suspect he wrote this one at the age of 12 and then dusted off and had it published in order to ride on the coattails of that success. The plot is juvenile, predictable, and completely unbelievable. The characters are so stereotypical as to be laughable, and the cliches are just plain annoying. The only reason I finished this book is that I was stuck in a situation where no other reading material was available. There's 4 hours of my life I'll never get back.

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### **E. says**

This is the first of the author's books I have read, and after this I plan to read more. It is fast-paced from the start and hooked me right away. I read this in 2 days. I found the flashbacks interesting and relevant, and it intrigued me enough to now be interested in reading more about the Vietnam war. The plot had exciting twists and turns. If thrillers are a genre you like, I highly recommend this book.

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## Marca says

I am a little weary of books about crimes that start as something local, but soon balloon into something that could “change the fate of the world”. So when I read the description of this book about a kidnapping that could “change the course of American history” I was leery. I had not read this author before, but read some reviews and thought I would give it a try. I must say the author pulled it off; I bought the premise. Ten-year old Gracie Brice is taken from her soccer game by an uncle, except she does not have an uncle. Is the kidnapper after money? Gracie’s father’s tech company’s IPO will make him a multi-billionaire in a few days. Or is it about something in Gracie’s grandfather’s Vietnam vet past? Lots of twists and turns and unexpected revelations. BTW, kids usually annoy me in books, but Gracie kicked ass! Glad I gave it a try. I’ll add this author to my stable.

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## Jodi says

This was an outstanding story. Last year I read his Color of Law and thought it was great. It was different. It was a lawyer story but it was really about redemption. So is The Abduction. Ben Brice served in Vietnam. A Colonel by the time he was done. But the war destroyed him. He saw things and had to do things that shattered him. He lives in isolation, drinking himself to death. The only light in his life is his 10 year old granddaughter, Gracie. They have a bond that is inexplicable as it is deep. Unlike his son with whom he has no relationship. Gracie's father is a nerd, a geek of epic proportions, and his company is about to make him a billionaire. Until Gracie is kidnapped during one of her soccer games. Stranger abduction typically doesn't end well. The clues indicate a pedophile but Ben's experience gives him the ability to see beyond the obvious. He knows Gracie is alive and he will use all the skills at his disposal to get her back. This is a complex story. There are other characters who play major roles. Or they play minor but critical roles. You never know how you will react in a crisis until you are faced with it and many people don't behave as they expected. Every time you think the story is heading into predictable territory, it shifts gears and heads down an un-paved road.

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## Wayne says

This was a page turner. Read while on holiday and couldn't put it down. Will definitely want to read more of Mark Gimenez.

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## Gary says

Just what I needed after a few less than inspiring reads. A very enjoyable book to read that hits the ground running and keeps you gripped. This is the second Mark Gimenez book I have read and I am very impressed. I do wish people would get away from comparing his work with John Grisham who I also like. You do not have to pick between them, enjoy them both as I certainly have. After reading about his other work at the end of the book I feel persuaded to start another one.

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## Judi says

After reading the reviews, I was so ready to get into this book. Disappointingly, I found the characters were too cliched to hold my interest from the start, much less make me care about them. The story centers on the abduction of 10 year old Grace, whose character is an super-doooper good soccer player, executing moves on the soccer field that would make Mia Hamm jealous. Naturally, Grace is also spunky, tough, smart, cute, and blonde. Not much of what she says or how she acts sounds like any 10 year old I ever knew. The parents include the requisite ineffectual dad, a nerdy Silicon Valley-type genius, with an IQ off the charts, but so preoccupied on his cell phone talking business he couldn't keep track of his own daughter after the soccer match where she was abducted. The character's thoughts are annoyingly littered with goofy computer speak, just to make sure, I guess, that the reader is aware that this guy really knows his computer stuff-another Bill Gates in the making. Mommy is the typical overbearing power mom-a tough attorney representing dubious white collar defendants, and didn't come across to me with many redeeming qualities. Grandpa (the nerd's father) is a 60 year old blonde (?) "deeply tanned" Vietnam vet, Green Beret-again, quietly living in New Mexico and dealing with his war-induced demons and subsequent nightmares, and he is as well, the all too familiar, handsome, rugged, quiet, silent type. An alcoholic, due, of course, to all he had seen in the war, special Ops guy, trained killer, deep government secret stuff, blah, blah, blah. His wife, the love of his life had to leave him because she just couldn't take his drinking himself to death, even though she still loves him, yadda, yadda, yadda. Toss in the token black FBI head investigator and the likewise token female FBI newbie, and well, you get the picture. The book has actually gotten some very good reviews from other readers. I guess it's just that I've met these characters all too often in other novels, and found them tiring.

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## Labijose says

It could have been much better.

This is the third book that I read from the author, and for me, it was the less interesting. So many coincidences made the reading quite unbelievable. Nothing to do with Grisham, for whom I still feel great admiration. This one has more in common with Lee Child, but not in a positive way. Too much superhero stuff from a Vietnam veteran. "The colour of law" was a much more interesting novel. Still, I am not yet finished with Mr Gimenez. I know he can do better.

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## Mark says

This book was so good I almost feel guilty about only paying 99 cents for it.

Action from the get go & it doesn't stop.

I like the way it was written so when it jumped from the past to present day story line you knew it right away. I guess you could say maybe the timeline was outlined, I don't know I was just so impressed with this book it is going on my favorites shelf & I am going to go buy another of this authors book.

Less than a buck for awesome entertainment, where can you find that today.

Thank you Mark Gimenez you have a new fan.

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## Becky says

This was my first time reading anything by Mark Gimenez. I very much enjoyed reading this book. As a mom of a 9 year old daughter, I thought this book might be a really tough book for me to read. Gracie, a 10 year old girl, is abducted after her soccer game. Although, the subject is tough, I really like Gimenez's writing style and how he used such colorful characters to make the story more readable. Gimenez did a great job infusing interesting characters with complex stories, as well as the government. The characters were all dealing with their own personal battles and through this horrible event of Grace's abduction, they learn what really matters and work through their battles. I had a love/hate relationship with Elizabeth, Grace's mom. She was a career driven lawyer who was focusing too much on her job and not enough on her family. She was tough, but selfish and not nice. As you get further into the book, you find out why she is this way. It's a very complex story that develops throughout the book. By the end of the book, Elizabeth grew on me, as she changed, and became a character that stuck with me. This book will keep you wondering until the end as more and more of the story unravels.

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## Ineke van Mackelenbergh says

My first book by this author and I was spell-bound from the first page. This is a very taut thriller about a 10 year old girl's abduction, how it affects the various members of her family and those closest to her. Therein too lies an intriguing twist. Generally, the twists in the main theme and plot of the story are excellently pulled together, not forgetting insights into the various character traits of its main protagonists. At first I was somewhat dubious at how the story would evolve when the Vietnam War came into, but this was well woven into the plot.

I enjoyed the author's writing style and he certainly has a ten-year-old's language down pat. One can picture the girl: very likeable, not too cocky, a strong personality. Somebody you do not want to see harmed or come to harm.

I found it fortuitous that the 10-year-old is also an excellent soccer/ football player - and I should pick this book to read just as the World Cup 2014 is being played out. :-)

All loose ends are tied up though not annoyingly so, albeit towards the very, very end I thought the details became a bit mushy = personal point of view.

If you are a fan of thrillers, I definitely recommend this book as a good and thrilling read.

That said, I intend to read another book written by this author to find out whether he handles different subjects in his writing, keeping the different thrillers well separate and just as spell-binding, well researched and logically thought through.

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