



The Lost

Mari Hannah

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The gripping first novel in the exciting new Stone and Oliver series by award-winning author, Mari Hannah.

'Nobody understands the many faces of cops better than Mari Hannah.' Val McDermid

Alex should never have agreed to the spur-of-the-moment holiday with her sister. Seven days felt like a year without Daniel, her ten-year-old son. This was the first time they had been apart since he was born and her husband had convinced her it was a good idea.

It was a bad idea.

Daniel has gone missing.

As local CID officers, David Stone and Frankie Oliver have been assigned their first case together. A small boy's fate lies in their hands and the pressure is on.

And when someone close to Daniel is found dead, they begin to feel the heat.

The Lost Details

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Author : Mari Hannah

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From Reader Review The Lost for online ebook

Mandy White says

Alex Parker returns home from holidays with her sister Kat to discover that her son Daniel is missing. Recently arrived home after 15 years with the Met David Stone and partner Frankie Oliver are called to investigate. The more the pair delve into the lives of this family the more secrets and lies they find.

This is the first in a few series featuring Stone and Oliver. I look forward to reading more from these 2, a great team who seek the truth. Thanks to Orion Publishing and NetGalley for a copy of this book to read in exchange for my honest opinions

Richard says

This book was ignored on my current reads for some 3 weeks. "Discarded on my bedside table." After 37% all I'd read was a extended family drama where the characters clearly knew more than they were willing to share. It is setting story and plot for the action to follow in the last two thirds but I hope other readers will sustain their interest better than I did initially. In the process we were introduced to the extended family, nanny and wider business partners. None filled me with any enthusiasm to read more about them as the whole episode seemed a waste of police time. However, the Police officers were interesting; Oliver a third generation copper and Stone her boss recently returned home to Northumberland and his roots in the NE, but losing a rank, so 'under a cloud'. Their issues seem an interruption when a lad is missing but add to the general mystery which although left me wanting to read on did not excite me greatly. When I picked up the book after my hiatus I was rewarded with the intrigue of a rather nasty murder. Now all the preparation could unravel with each character who to a person had something they were not being completely honest about. Having finished the book I realise not one line or sentence was wasted as the rest of the novel grew out of this pedestrian start. I think that was brave and perhaps shows the emerging confidence of this talented author. I love Mari's writing and joining a series at book one a good deal of background character building is necessary so I was always going to finish the book. I hope others will crack on too as the overall piece is a wonderful police procedural set in a beautiful part of the country. In Stone and Oliver we have a fresh couple of detectives who have a brilliant relationship which is tested to its maximum here. A reader will want to share their journey into the areas MIT Murder Investigation Team. Stone as the senior investigator SIO and Oliver as his loyal, faithful and determined DS. Happily book 2 is due out, I for one can't wait for it - The Insider is published on 1st November 2018.

Tripfiction says

Crime thriller set in NORTHUMBERLAND (lost... and found... with secrets...)

I am a big fan of Mari Hannah and have read all of her books. So, I eagerly awaited The Lost and wondered whether Mari could pull it off again with another two new characters, Stone and Oliver.

I think she does. Once again we are transported to beautiful Northumberland where the reader is introduced to Frankie Oliver, the daughter and granddaughter of well respected and now retired police officers; and to Detective Inspector David Stone, recently returned from the London Met. They are a new partnership and are feeling their way with each other.

A ten year old boy has gone missing, not usually a job for CID, but DS Frankie Oliver has an inbuilt intuition and feels that all is not as it first seems. This signals the start of building her relationship with Stone. She persuades him to take a look at the case.

Here begins a complex story with inter-related connections and complex relationships. The boy returns home the next day, safe and sound. There are many questions. Who is telling the truth about who sent which message? The alibi witness stories do not match up. What is the marriage like between the boys parents Alex and Tim? Where does Kat the sister come in? Is the personality and lifestyle of the nanny, Justine, as it first seems?

I was gripped by this book and if you read it I suggest you free up a day, you will not want to put it down. Who is lost? Not just the boy. There are secrets that are eventually revealed.

I really like the new characters, Stone and Oliver, they are a good foil for each other. One methodical and careful, the other intuitive who follows her nose and who is not always liked by the 'bosses'

I know Northumberland quite well, as does Mari Hannah who lives in the county. She uses the rural locations of lonely forest lanes and small hamlets to good effect in this fast paced crime fiction.

I enjoy reading books about the place where I live, it really brings a story alive for me. I don't have to imagine the places, I know them, I drive through the villages, I go to the restaurants. Despite this I always find out something new and have a great deal of sense of place. But, if you are not familiar with Northumberland, Mari Hannah superbly describes the places, both rural and urban to add character to her fiction. However, the places are real.

When you start to read this novel, who is lost seems quite apparent, but there are several lost characters for me; running from something, trying to forget something and personal secrets.

I'm looking forward to Stone & Oliver 2.

Jean says

4.5* for me, I really enjoyed this one and am looking forward to reading the next in the series !

Sarah Dunsbee says

oh my this is a good read ,no a great one if you enjoy thrillers,detective novels etc...

Many thanks to the publisher's for an advance copy from the divine system of Goodreads giveaways...

To tell the truth when I got this volume I was just not in the mood for murder and death at all, but in a few pages I was hooked and wanted to know why Daniel had gone missingThere are many twists and turns, you are never bored and often surprised, I did not know in the least who had started to kill....

Perhaps the best thing is that the pair of detectives are very real and likable ,with a little mystery in both their

pasts to puzzle over....I was sorry to leave them at the end ,but happy to know this is the start of a series...I am almost certain that these books will be made into a tv series, I think it would be far better in material and characters than many such we have had in the past...

Elaine Tomasso says

I would like to thank Netgalley and Orion for an advance copy of The Lost, the first book in a new series featuring Northumbrian detectives DI David Stone and DS Frankie Oliver.

David Stone has recently returned to the North East after 15 years with the Met. He has struck up a good working relationship with DS Frankie Oliver, a third generation local officer but is unsure when she urges him to take the disappearance of 10 year old Daniel Scott seriously, after all he has only been missing for a few hours and there is little evidence of foul play. What follows takes a much darker turn than a simple missing child case.

I thoroughly enjoyed The Lost which is a very absorbing police procedural that kept me up way too late in full "just another chapter" mode. I couldn't put it down and read it in one sitting. The plotting is superb with plenty of unexpected and audacious twists and turns which drew me in and didn't let go. It might push the boundaries of credibility by the end but the readability will easily allow you to overlook it. I'm already looking forward to the sequel although I'm not sure Ms Hannah can top The Lost.

I like the characterisation. David and Frankie are very likeable people, both dedicated and smart but the spark in their relationship comes from their differences. David is the steady, measured one while Frankie is more impulsive and fiery. They both have tragedies in their lives which are hinted at in this novel but will be gradually be revealed over the course of the series I imagine. It adds a certain anticipation to the series.

The Lost is a great start to a new series which I have no hesitation in recommending.

Julie Lacey says

This is a great start to a new series and the relationship between Stone and Oliver is one to watch. Stone left London and moved up North and despite hints about what happened we don't find out why. Frankie is desperate to know but respects Stone's wishes not to discuss it. But I wanted to know and will now have to wait for at least the next book to find out!

This book starts off with a young boy going missing and the father calls into the station desperate for help. The family are all under suspicion but the father comes off worse as it seems he's been lying.

The disappearance is soon followed by a murder and Stone and Oliver are convinced it's linked to the family of the boy.

There's lots of suspicion and this book will keep you guessing right until the end.

This is a gripping story and one which will have you on the edge of your seat during the final chapters.

I'm really looking forward to the next book in this series.

Thanks to Orion and NetGalley for the opportunity to read this book.

Katie N says

Admittedly I bought this book because I love police/ crime thrillers and Mari Hannah is a local author. I loved every mention of Northumberland and all the places I've been to and driven past. However I also loved the story and could seriously not put the book down. There was as many twists and turns as there are on the beautiful Northumberland coastal roads! Bring on Stone and Oliver part 2 in November.

Liz Barnsley says

I'm a huge fan of Mari Hannah so was very excited to get to read the first novel in her new series and I THOROUGHLY enjoyed it.

Nobody writes police drama quite like this author and she just confirms that here with the start to her new series – character driven and multi-layered with a cleverly intriguing mystery at the heart of it, The Lost is an almost perfect lead in to what is sure to become a popular duo in crime world – Stone and Oliver.

It is a brilliant mix in plotting of character building and mystery elements – plenty of twists and turns, some heart stopping moments and an unpredictable sense to the outcome – making it an addictive and immersive read that just makes you want to read more immediately.

I loved how we saw what was going on external to the police investigation – and as for that I fell immediately for both our main protagonists who have plenty of compelling background that engages but without being cliched – all done with that little flair that I've come to know from Mari Hannah.

Overall an excellent read. Bring on more Stone and Oliver I say – as soon as possible.

Recommended.

Thebooktrail says

A bit different to previous Mari Hannah books - slightly less police driven and more character based - but what an exciting series this is going to be! First book published with Orion too so a change in many ways.

Very Mari and very much set in the North East with all the charm and Geordie warmth you've come to expect. A case of a missing child which starts as one thing but soon escalates in something else entirely! The twists and turns were neatly done and the insight into characters minds and motivations of the very high Mari standard.

Full review to follow but another exciting series to look forward to crime fans!

Dale Harcombe says

When Alex arrives home from a short holiday with her sister Kat, it is to the news that her ten year old son is missing. He had been in the care of his stepfather, Tim. The newly formed pairing of David Stone and

Frankie Oliver from Northumbria CID start to investigate. Stone has had fifteen years' experience in the Met before returning to his roots. Frankie is following in the footsteps of her father and grandfather. She has a lot to live up to and a lot to prove. She also has a secret. As David and Frankie investigate, suspicion falls on Tim. But soon the case is no longer that of a missing child but that of a web of lies and of murder. And that murderer may just try to kill again.

The main characters are interesting and the plot kept my interest, although I did have one quibble with Daniel and the plot which I won't reveal as it gives away too much about the story. The pacing of the story is well done, even though I did pinpoint the murderer fairly early on but I'm used to doing that so it didn't matter. There was enough happening that I was happy to keep reading to see how it played out and if I was right. There is a fair amount of the f word which, sadly, seems to be a given in many books these days. Even though she has written a number of other books with different main characters, the author was new to me. This is the first in a new series with these two police officers and I'd be keen enough to read another as the characters were interesting enough to command attention and details will, no doubt be developed in later books. Those who like police procedurals and character based stories with a good setting should enjoy this one. I'd recommend it as a good involving read.

Amanda says

I have been a fan of Mari's now for quite a while and I eagerly devour each and every book that she releases. I love her series featuring DI Kate Daniels and her other series featuring Matthew Ryan. So imagine my excitement and delight when I heard that she had written the first book in another new series. The excited dance wasn't pretty. Anyway back to the review I do go. The first book in the new series featuring DI David Stone and DS Frankie Oliver is called 'The Lost' and it was due for release on Thursday 22nd March 2018. I flipping well loved reading 'The Lost' but more about that in a bit.

I took to DI Stone and DS Oliver from the start. Both are dedicated police officers. Stone transferred to the Metropolitan Police where he stayed for 15 years. I got the impression that he was homesick and he longed to go home. I totally understood where he was coming from there because for a while I lived away from 'home' and in the end I simply had to move back because I was missing home so much. It was the best decision I made and I think that it was the right decision for DI Stone too. He loves being back in the area and working for Northumbria Police. DI Stone is very much a typical man from the North East in that he hides his feelings, he finds it difficult to talk about some elements of his past and he keeps certain things hidden. I really felt for Stone as he has certainly suffered in the past and those events still affect him to this day. DS Oliver is another character that I immediately took to. She is one feisty, determined and strong woman. I got the impression that DS Oliver felt that she has something to prove and somebody else's legend to live up to as she is the third generation of police officers in her family as her father and grandfather were in the force too. Oliver doesn't seem to let the pressure get to her though. Oliver does seem to be hiding a secret from her past. She and Stone work well together as a team, although Oliver's mouth can sometimes get her into trouble. Their different skill sets compliment each other. DS Oliver also has the ability to convince her partner DI Stone to investigate matters when perhaps he wouldn't if he was on his own. This is certainly the case when 10 year old Daniel goes missing as Stone is reluctant to become involved and Oliver convinces him otherwise. This is one of those cases that seems relatively straightforward but proves to be anything but. Who has taken Daniel? What is the connection with a fatal RTC (road traffic collision)? What is the truth? Well for the answers to those questions and more you are just going to have to read the book for yourselves to find out as I am not going to tell you.

In my opinion 'The Lost' is brilliantly written. The quality of the writing and the story just blew me away. The writing style is such that you can't fail to be drawn into the story and before you know what is happening you are addicted to the book and the investigation. When I started reading I got the distinct impression that all was not as it should be and I was curious to find out if I was going to be proven right or

not. 'The Lost' kept me guessing all the way through and I so didn't see the twist coming at the end. I thought that I had figured out who was the guilty party only to be sent down another road entirely. The story in 'The Lost' hits the ground running and maintains the pace throughout. I binge read 'The Lost' over the course of a couple of days, which really worked in this case because it gave me a sense of how intense a police investigation could be and how the pressures of time affected the investigation team. I simply had to read on and on and on because I needed to see how the investigation concluded and who the guilty party was. I absolutely loved the fact that the book is set in the North East of England, which is where I am from and live to this day. I certainly recognised some of the place names.

My favourite genre of book at the moment is the police procedural. I seem to be obsessed with reading anything to do with the police and watching police programmes such as 'Police Interceptors' (featuring Durham Constabulary and Cleveland's finest officers), 'The Force North East' (featuring Northumbria Police), 'Traffic Cops' (featuring North Yorkshire police) and that's without mentioning all the police programmes from the USA that I am absolutely addicted to. Well now I have a new obsession and that is reading all about DI Stone and DS Oliver. I literally can't wait for a new book in the series to be released. Here's hoping that there isn't going to be too long a wait. In fact I have just found out that the next book in the series featuring DI Stone and DS Oliver is called 'The Insider' and it is due for release on 1st November 2018. Hurry up November.

In short, I absolutely loved reading 'The Lost' and I can't wait to read 'The Insider'. Mari Hannah is one of those authors that you just can't afford to miss. When you pick up a book written by Mari Hannah, you are guaranteed one heck of a rollercoaster read. Mari Hannah is right up there on my list of all time and must read authors. I would wholeheartedly recommend this author, this book and her other series' to anybody and everybody. The score on the Ginger Book Geek board is a well deserved 5* out of 5*. I would have awarded it more stars if I could have because I really did enjoy 'The Lost' that much.

Wendy Greenberg says

I do so love Mari Hannah...and the beginning of a new chapter with 2 new detectives (and their backstories) certainly rocks my boat.

Crime novels are so difficult to rate..is it the writing, the red herrings, the sense of place, the pace or the denouement?

For me, this had it all, I loved it.

Christine says

It is always a delight to read a new Mari Hannah novel. I have followed her development as a writer, with pleasure. Her Kate Daniels and more recent Matthew Ryan series have been outstanding. Now we get a brand new series starring two murder squad detectives based in Northumbria, David Stone and Frankie Oliver. This series has a real northern taste to it, as would be expected with a Mari Hannah novel. The Lost is a wonderful start, to what I know will be, a strong and quality detective series.

We meet DS Frankie Oliver; strong minded and quirky, from a family of multi-generational law enforcers. Frankie is teamed up with her boss, the enigmatic DI David Stone. There is mutual respect and a growing friendship being established. Stone has moved back up north to his roots, after an incident in London. He seems to be in some way lost, dealing with demons from his past. In The Lost, we start to get to know them and see their unique chemistry in action.

The story involves a gorgeous small cast of characters; the distraught mother, her secretive husband, the golden child, the mother's wealthy sister and the French nanny. It all starts with a woman and her sister taking a much needed vacation to Spain. Then we get the shock of a ten year old boy going missing. Stone and Oliver are soon on the case, investigating one very peculiar family. The case develops in unexpected ways, that is impossible to predict. Murder seems to surround this family. The question is why?

As usual with Mari Hannah, you get stunning writing and fast paced drama. I cannot fault a thing, even though I guessed whodunnit. It was a fabulous journey, getting to know Stone and Oliver and following the clues. Read everything by Mari Hannah. This is quality crime.

Highly recommended

Raven says

And now to the first instalment of another new series from the wonderfully prolific Mari Hannah, introducing the crime detecting duo of seasoned copper David Stone, and keen as mustard sidekick Frankie Oliver. Hannah's trademark is the sheer believability of her characters, and how quickly she envelops her reader's interest in the world they inhabit, and she does this with her usual flair and empathy. I loved both characters, and although there is the necessary concealment of certain darker aspects of their lives that needs to be gradually teased out, unlike other pure police procedurals this never felt hackneyed or trite in its deliverance. They are both genuinely likeable, dedicated, refreshingly human protagonists, and the way they interact with and challenge each other throughout this investigation, leads to some brilliantly realised moments of confrontation, and the growth of a greater understanding of, and empathy with each other. The plot itself is probably the closest I've come to reading my bete noir of domestic drama, with a family on the brink of destruction leading to some very uncomfortable revelations for all, not to mention murder. As always Hannah's timing and pace in *The Lost* is assured and compelling, and there's some nice dramatic reveals, and emotive scenes, adding to the overall feel of an authentic, and hugely engaging police procedural. I also appreciated the title of the book itself, and how closely it represents and reflects most of the characters within the story. Once again, highly recommended
