



Stranger in Town

Cheryl Bradshaw

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From New York Times and USA Today bestselling author Cheryl Bradshaw

He only needed her to look away for a few seconds...

Six-year-old Olivia Hathaway tiptoes down the center aisle of Maybelle's Market, stopping once to glance over her shoulder and make sure her mother isn't watching. But Mrs. Hathaway is too preoccupied to notice her daughter has slipped away. Moments later, a frantic Mrs. Hathaway runs up and down the aisles, desperately searching for her missing daughter. But little Olivia is already in the arms of a stranger. Will PI Sloane Monroe find Olivia before it's too late?

Stranger in Town Details

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From Reader Review Stranger in Town for online ebook

Lorne Oliver says

This is the perfect book for a one of those great evenings when you get to sit in your favorite spot with your favorite drink. I'm a slow reader and this one went smooth with the story flowing nicely.

Stranger in Town is the fourth novel starring private investigator, Sloane Monroe. This time she is hired to find a child who was taken from the daycare play area and may be connected to another child abduction 2 years earlier in a different city in Wyoming.

I didn't read the other Sloane Monroe stories, and maybe I should have. I felt there was a lack of description of the main character. I'm a fan of the reader using their own imagination, but some description can lead your mind in the right direction. Also I was not a big fan of the ending of the mystery.

All that aside it was an excellent read that I would happily recommend and would gladly read again. Now I have to go back and read Cheryl Bradshaw's other books.

Teri says

First novel I've read by this author and I really liked it. Sloan, the female main character is a blend of tough girl and softie. I'll read more

Donna Bell says

Very disappointing

I never give up on a book. Never. If an author can spend months or years or their life writing a novel, I can devote a few hours of mine to reading it.

I finished this one, but it left a very bad taste behind. Sloane, the female PI of the plot, is about as incompetent, disagreeable, just plain dumb character I've ever met. That's ok, I don't have to like the main character. I don't have to like any of them, but none of the characters in this book are believable.

I guess I should have given up when Sloane's assistant and friend joined her on a trip to interview a witness wearing nothing but a bikini and sheer coverup. Or maybe when Sloane stole a critical piece of evidence, leaving fingerprints all over it, or maybe when the police detective barged into her hotel room while she was taking a shower, cuffed her to the towel rod and demanded she turn over the evidence. Whatever happened to the procedures, the chain of evidence required to make it admissible in court?

Breaking into houses, leaving a trail of destruction behind her, bumbling around like Columbo on crack, Sloane is a joke. Especially when the police start begging for her help because she's never failed to solve a case. Whatever.

And of course in the end, Sloane is a hero, uhhhh... I won't say any more just in case you still want to read this one... I won't spoil the ending. Whatever.

I hate to low rate any book, I truly do because I realize how much effort goes into any novel, but please. Get real!!

Rosy says

The first half of the book had me hooked, but the second half and the ending, seemed rushed. The way Sloane got information no one had gotten before in two years, just like that and so easy, was a little unreal, too.

But it was an interesting story and a quick read.

C.M. Truxler says

Stranger in Town Holds Readers Captive

This the fourth installment of the Sloane Monroe mysteries, by Cheryl Bradshaw is just as gripping as the first three, but will pull some readers in more thoroughly than others simply by the experiences unfolding within its pages. It is no surprise that Bradshaw's Mysteries are so palatable, even to readers who prefer other genres as a mainstay.

The characters are vivid and full of life without drowning in detail. The main character, Sloane Monroe, is a warm constant to followers of the series, and will quickly endear herself to new readers with her blatant humanness. She still holds onto a case like a dog chasing its quarry, not giving up until matters are solved.

Stranger in Town does introduce readers, and Sloane to something that is missing in the other storylines, and Sloane's life; but rest assured, both will be pleasantly surprised. The plot capably maneuvers its twists and turns toward the climactic end, and delivers. Readers are sure to be embroiled in this gut wrenching storyline and come back to Bradshaw wanting to read more of her work.

Robin Loves Reading says

All this stranger needs is for little six-year-old Olivia Hathaway's mother to take her eyes off of her little girl. She does for just a second and he easily kidnaps the little girl. It is now two years later and a man calls Sloane Monroe, P.I., to investigate the kidnapping of his own daughter six months ago. He has evidence that proves that the two kidnappings are related. Of course, Sloane takes the case.

Are the girls still alive? If so, will Sloane be able to find them in time? In this nail-biting entry of Cheryl Bradshaw's Stranger in Town, Sloane Monroe #4, my heart bled for these two families. Don't let this book

slip through your fingers.

Ben Campbell says

There are too many strangers in every town, in your neighborhood, in your school and even a few in your family. Who do you trust? What do you trust about them? Why are they there? What harm or what benefits do they bring to your town, neighborhood, school and family? Don't worry about any of it because you can't control any of it. Just be cognizant, because if you worry it will drive you crazy.

The main plot of Stranger in Town is more prolific than anyone would believe and more dangerous than what is corralled in the main plot. This story had a positive ending, most in real life don't. As I read the story I looked forward to at least a couple of contemptuous twists, I actually wanted a few fascinating, complicated twists, and what I was hoping for didn't happen. I won't tell you what twists I thought were needed because the story ended nicely.

Read Stranger in Town, you won't be disappointed with the writing style or the characters.

Jodi Wiese says

I picked up this book as a free kindle and it was super! i was worried since it was book #4 but i didn't feel lost at all. this book grabbed me from the start and i couldnt put it down

Toni Osborne says

Book 4, in the Sloane Monroe mysteries

Although this book is the 4th in a series it can easily be enjoyed as a standalone. So no worry if you start here you will warm up to the lead character from the get-go and you will want to know what makes her tick.

When I first read the synopsis, the fiction premise based on real events picked my curiosity and at first glance the story of abducted children intrigued me so much I needed to see how the author would spin her tale and deliver it to her audience. Being my first experience with the author I didn't know what to expect and I can now say I enjoyed this well-turned out mystery and I will keep an eye on Ms. Bradshaw from now on.

The premise in a nutshell:

Private eye (Sloane Monroe) with basic grammar skills looks for two kidnapped girls in small town, and gets cozy with the Sheriff's son.

This is a smooth and gripping storyline that keeps a steady tempo from the opening phrases and gradually pulls one in with its vivid characters and its gut wrenching plot. The first person narrative makes the experience lively and realistic. There are no twists to talk about and one can easily see how the drama will

develop and that our protagonist will save the day.....Mrs. Bradshaw made a light story out of a terrible topic so we can digest the touching subject of kidnapping, human trafficking, illegal adoption, selling of children and body parts for profit.

stephanie says

I enjoyed this book. This was introduced to me by a member, and at first it was leary for me to read a book thats really in a series, and I was told that I could read this as a stand-alone. So I decided to give it a try, and I am really glad I did. This has to do with a female P.I. by the name of Sloane, and she was approached by a male that recently had his daughter kidnapped, and he was going crazy about it, but in the meantime, there was another kid 2 years prior that was taken, and he really needed help, so Sloane took on the case, and come to find out that she was not the only one on this, there was a guy named Cade who is a son of the soon to retire police commander, and he needs Sloanes assistance, so they get together to solve these 2 cases, and bring those 2 little girls home. This was more of a Thriller/Mystery type pf read, I didn't see so much of the PSY in it, but it was a fast pace book, and it jumped right on in to the first chapter where someone gets stabbed in broad daylight in the parking lot, so those are the books I like to read. very good read...very good.

Jennifer Ricketts (Donnie Darko Girl) says

Quick read. I like Sloane quite a bit and will be reading more of her adventures in sleuthing. Full review to come soon.

Henry says

Another good Sloane Monroe mystery.

Linda Strong says

A parent's worst nightmare a mother takes her eyes off her 6-year-old daughter for just a moment. That's all it took for a stranger to take her hand and lead her out of the store, stopping long enough to kill an elderly woman in the parking lot.

Six months ago, another little girl went missing. The mother is almost bedridden with grief and her father is fed up with the police who can find no clues at all. He, at this point in time, contacts PI Sloane Monroe. He has proof that the two little girls were taken by the same man ... proof he has not shared with the police.

Sloane has a unique interest in these cases, as her sister had been taken when they were kids. Unfortunately her sister was then killed by a serial killer. Sloane will work her fingers to the bone, go without eating or sleeping, if it will save just one child.

Sloane finds a witness that the police did not locate. She gets a description of the car that the police did not have. She gets a clue where the girls are possibly being kept .. information the police did not find.

Does it surprise anyone that a detective is following her every move? Cade is the son of the original investigating detective and Cade is scheduled to take over for his father when he retires. Normally police and private investigators do not agree to work together ... but they know the Feds are closing in and will take the case away from both of them.

Although 4th in the series, this one is easily read as a stand alone. There are no references to past books nor is there a cliff hanger at the end of this one.

This is a well crafted crime fiction featuring a female Private Investigator who is a rather unique character. What you see is what you get. She's smart, she's feisty, she's dedicated and you don't ever want to talk to her like she's gum on the bottom of your shoe. Cade comes across originally as a little bit of arrogance with a splash of anger. It doesn't take long for him to figure out that Sloane is not your typical female.

There's plenty of suspense to keep the reader engaged. The ending was a bit of surprise. There's also just a hint of a budding romance between Sloane and Cade. They do make an interesting couple.

Many thanks to the author / Kobo Writing Life / Netgalley for the digital copy of this crime fiction. Opinions expressed here are unbiased and entirely my own.

Lise says

I don't normally write a review nor do I normally rate a book as being only worth one star - especially when it comes from an author whose works I really enjoy. This book was well-written so it's painful to do so but I want to reflect on the one scene in the book that made me so angry I came close to doing the one thing I never do which is to leave a book unfinished.

This isn't really the spoiler, but I'll hide what I write because it is a plot point. I found the shower scene so incredibly hard to take that rage welled up inside me and threatened to spill out - tears, fists, not sure...but something. The man laughing at the previously capable and strong woman now rendered defenceless was vile. And worst was how she reacted to him later in the book. Even before this particular scene unfolded there were foreshadowings that were difficult to take.

Now to the spoiler: the complete turnaround (he's an ok guy, really (OH COME ON)) and Sloane's current boyfriend leaves her with anxiety that she had previously set aside. She ditches responsibility in order to comfort the new guy instead of assisting her current boyfriend with the issues that he is facing - a massive degree of flakiness not previously in her character. The latter part of the book felt derailed and uncoordinated.

I finished the book and I will continue with the series but I don't admire Sloan as much as I once did - there's a tarnish there now that will never fully regain its lustre.

Cheryl Goldyn says

Reminiscent of Tess Gerritsen's Rizzoli and Isles characters, Cheryl Bradshaw creates a memorable story of child abductions and a race against time to link a recent crime to a cold case. Why, two years after the first disappearance and six months after the second, do two families receive a coloring book page done in each girl's favorite colors, and containing their fingerprints? *Stranger in Town* is a fast read with a good plot. Unfortunately, the ending leaves "I don't believe it" echoing through the reader's mind. The characters are quite likable, but easily left behind because they are a bit flat.
