



Good As Gone

Douglas Corleone

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Former U.S. Marshal Simon Fisk works as a private contractor, tracking down and recovering children who were kidnapped by their own estranged parents. He only has one rule: he won't touch stranger abduction cases. He's still haunted by the disappearance of his own daughter when she was just a child, still unsolved, and stranger kidnappings hit too close to home.

Until, that is, six-year-old Lindsay Sorkin disappears from her parents' hotel room in Paris, and the French police deliver Simon an ultimatum: he can spend years in a French jail, or he can take the case and recover the missing girl. Simon sets out in pursuit of Lindsay and the truth behind her disappearance. But Lindsay's captors did not leave an easy trail, and following it will take Simon across the continent, through the ritziest nightclubs and the seediest back alleys, into a terrifying world of international intrigue and dark corners of his past he'd rather leave well alone.

<http://us.macmillan.com/goodasgone/Do...>

Good As Gone Details

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Author : Douglas Corleone

Format : Hardcover 304 pages

Genre : Thriller, Mystery, Fiction, Mystery Thriller

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From Reader Review Good As Gone for online ebook

Cheri Meyer says

I won Good As Gone on goodreads. What a great win that was. I am in love with the main character Simon Fisk. Things do not come easy or always go well for Simon but he is determined to do the right thing. He takes recovering kidnapped kids to a new level and I hope this is the start of a new series. Beware, once you start you will not be able to put the book down.

Dianne says

Everyone makes a “personal”rule, that they do NOT stray from following. Former U.S. Marshall Simon Fisk is no different. He now tries to retrieve children “kidnapped” by a parent and taken out of the United States. His one rule, made after a devastating loss in his past is “Do not take on stranger abduction cases.” Period. When he is detained by the French police who threaten him with incarceration if he does not use his expertise to find the missing six-year-old daughter of a very wealthy and powerful American family from their hotel room in Paris. Left with no choice, but filled with the haunting memories of his past, Simon sets out a journey filled with death and deceit, across the European continent and its underbelly of child related crime. The clock is ticking and the trail is hidden beneath layers of petty crooks, dirty attorneys and powerful mob lords. Calling on past connections, finding new allies and dodging death at every turn, Simon is now determined to at least bring the closure to the grieving family that he was denied. Will Simon find young Lindsay before it’s too late? Is there more to the kidnapping than meets the eye? Will Simon find at least a partial closure to events in his past?

Good As Gone by Douglas Corleone is a twisted maze of action, that does not quit! Not only is each scene graphic and detailed, but each character fits my mental image of the role they play. The bottom of the heap thug is brutish, the small time drug runners are creeps with over-inflated visions of grandeur. The grieving mother, facing one of the most difficult nightmares of a parent’s life will tear you apart. But it was being inside Simon’s mind that really struck a connection with me. His thoughts run rapid-fire throughout as he digested each moment and made decisions on the fly! If you like action, mystery and a chaotic thrill ride with a final 360 spin at the end, you will love **Good As Gone!!**

I received this ARC edition from NetGalley and St. Martin's Press
Minotaur Books in exchange for my honest review.

Publication Date: August 20, 2013

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Number of Pages: 304

Genre: Contemporary Crime

Audience: Adults

My Rating: 5 Stars

Available from: Amazon / Barnes & Noble

For more reviews check out Tome Tender's Book Blog or find us on Facebook.

Kathy Martin says

Simon Fisk has lived through every parent's worst nightmare. His six-year-old daughter was abducted and has never been found. His wife committed suicide but Simon, a former US Marshal, now locates children taken by non-custodial parents and brings them home. He is stopped by the police in Paris and forced to help them locate six-year-old Lindsey Sorkin. The French police don't want the scandal of losing another foreign child. Simon doesn't care about the police but he does care about the little girl.

Simon begins a chase that will take him from Paris to Germany, Poland, the Ukraine, Belarus and Russia as he tries to track down the missing child. Along the way he gets involved with the drug culture, with human trafficking, with child pornography, and with the devastation caused by the Chernobyl. He deals with corrupt police and dirty lawyers. But he also finds help from old friends and a possible new love interest.

The story was very fast-paced and filled with danger and violence. Fisk is a driven hero who is still deeply damaged by his own childhood when his father took him away from his mother and sister and from the horrible loss of his own child.

Fans of fast-paced thrillers will enjoy this story and be looking for more about Simon Fisk.

Brian O'Leary says

This book has very good elements of a man trying to help others, but what he is really doing is battling the demons of his past, plus it has a decent ending.

Steve says

I received this book for free through Goodreads First Reads. I was really looking forward to reading this book based on the description and other reviews. I was immediately disappointed by the lack of logic and overall unbelievable details of events. I had trouble getting beyond page 50 but decided that it had to get better. I was wrong and at the half way point I stalled again. It takes more than moving quickly from city to city and getting into and out of dangerous situations to make a good thriller. It has to make sense. Cases in point:

Why does the French police want nothing to do with the case in an official capacity? There was a feeble explanation, I suppose, but not convincing. While in Paris Fisk has a lead on two Germans but can't get their full names. A quick visit by the police to the hotel could have easily produced the names. Just doesn't make sense. If the police won't do simple police work they can at least play the role of "Q" from James Bond by outfitting Fisk with tailor-made suits (a total of 7 that are either damaged in Fisk's escapades and/or stuffed into motorcycle compartments (see below), a Tag Heuer watch (as if that's such a status symbol) a Glock pistol and a BMW motorcycle in Berlin. Wait, a motorcycle? Well, Fisk likes something "I can really maneuver", and it does make a cool book cover illustration. That might make sense if he was going to use it through twisting strasses in Berlin but he ends up riding for hours and hours through Germany and Poland -- with passengers. Okay, maybe the beautiful woman on one trip, but then Marek, a member of the Polish parliament? If I were Marek I would have said, "Screw that. We're taking my Mercedes".

When Fisk is in Berlin he easily (far too easily) identifies the suspects by first names only. His contact in Berlin, Ostermann, at first wants nothing to do with Fisk and even calls the police on him because he's wanted for murder on an 8 year old case. Say what? 8 years and Fisk has no clue that he's wanted in Germany for murder? Ostermann hates Fisk and wants nothing to do with him but after a 5 minute talk with Fisk they are the best of buddies. Unbelievable. They easily evade the German police (the movie version of Jason Bourne wishes the Berlin police were that incompetent).

Overall, the clues and leads were laid in Fisk's lap and there really isn't any investigation. It was more like a scavenger hunt where every house you go to has exactly what you need and they tell you exactly where to go next.

Simon Fisk is not an interesting character at all. He still feels guilty over his daughter's disappearance and wife's suicide, which even after a decade I can understand, but this first person narrative makes it seem he's continually dwelling on it. Maybe he does, but that doesn't make him interesting, just sort of tragic. Oh, and he didn't get along with his father. So he wears jeans and t-shirts because his father didn't like them. Hoo boy. So what about Fisk's conflict with his father molded him into the man he is now other than his wardrobe choices? Don't know. And if that's revealed in the second half of the book I'll never know. Too little, too late.

I cannot recommend this book to anyone who likes well developed characters and intriguing thrillers. I do love thrillers based in Europe and was looking forward to a Ludlum or Reich type thriller. Unfortunately, this never came close.

Stuart says

Fantastic -- grabs the reader immediately and doesn't let up. This is the 4th book I've read by Corleone. He's a master of the genre. Without giving anything away, the climax is both nerve-wracking and heart-wrenching. Highly recommend.

TJ says

I received this book as part of a Goodread's giveaway contest. The book sounded right up my alley, but the novel was mediocre, at best. The general concept of the story had potential. It reminded me a tad of the film Taken with Liam Neeson. Unfortunately, the story turns out completely lackluster. The problem is that everything is a little too easy in the book. The trail of clues is found one after another with zero investigation and more by sheer luck. The logic is lacking, as well. The main character traipses all over Europe breaking numerous laws and being involved in crimes with no police department even holding him for questioning. His background story is thoroughly washed over too. I would pass on this one.

Helen says

Good As Gone is a thriller by Douglas Corleone. His protagonist is Simon Fisk. The story starts with Simon in France being arrested, but he's not being taken to jail. Instead they take him to a house where he's asked to find a missing girl who's been abducted. They ask him because they know who he is, a former United States Marshall. His own daughter was abducted and after that, he became the person who searched for children

who were taken by a parent.

This child, Lindsay Sorkin, was not abducted by a parent, but by a stranger. After talking to the parents, Fisk agrees to take on the case.

At that point, the book races to the end, from town to town, country to country, death to near death. Fisk moves through nightclubs, dark alleys, and his own dark memories. The goal of all this is to find the young girl and save her from a very dark future.

The story moves fast and I quickly turned pages. By the end of the book, Fisk is looking not for one person but for two. It is a very unexpected twist that will shock the reader.

I give Good As Gone a rating of 5 stars.

Whitney says

First featured at Whitnagel.Blogspot.com

Today I'm reviewing a book from Netgalley called Good As Gone by Douglas Corleone.

Good As Gone is the story of former U.S. Marshall Simon Fisk who now retrieves children kidnapped by an estranged parent and taken to foreign countries. Fisk's one rule is that he won't work stranger abductions, having lost his daughter years ago in an unsolved case. However that is about to change, because to avoid a prison sentence in France, Fisk accepts a job searching for 6 year old Lindsay Sorkin. His search sends him through multiple countries and straight into a dangerous international scheme.

Douglas Corleone knocked it out of the park with this book. From the first chapter to the last pages it kept me rooted to the spot until I finished. I would highly recommend this book for those looking for a nail biting thriller with heart and I look forward to reading other books by the author!

5/5 Stars

Nancy says

A Thrilling Race to Recover a Kidnapped Child

Former US Marshal Simon Fisk has just recovered another kidnapped child in France and is heading home when he's detained by the French Police. Six-year-old Lindsay Sorkin has disappeared from the suite where she was staying with her parents. They are distraught. The police give Fisk an option: go to jail for smuggling the child he recovered out of France, or help find Lindsay. Simon avoids looking for kidnapped children unless an estranged parent is the kidnapper. He can't stand the reminder of his daughter's kidnapping and his wife's subsequent suicide.

With no real option, but to help the Sorkins, Fish takes off on a high-speed chase through the seedy areas of Paris and on to Poland and Germany. Time is running out for Lindsay, and he doesn't want another dead child on his conscience.

Very fast paced thriller. If you like action this is definitely a book you'll enjoy. The plot has numerous twists. The ending is a surprise, although the author is good about leaving clues throughout the story.

I highly recommend this book if you like thrillers and a good mystery.

I reviewed this book for Net Galley.

Christa says

I thoroughly enjoyed this fast paced thriller, and am looking forward to reading the author's backlist. The main character, Simon Fisk, was damaged, yet very likeable. The storyline was action packed, keeping me captivated all the way through.

Simon Fisk recovers children who have been kidnapped by their own parents. Simon, a former U.S. Marshall, lost all when his daughter was kidnapped, and due to that, he never takes on stranger abduction cases. Just finishing up a case in France, Simon is taken into custody and given a choice between languishing in a French jail, or finding a six year old girl who was the victim of a stranger abduction. With no choice, Simon attempts to locate the girl in what turns into a whirlwind search through several countries with his own life, and those of the people who give him assistance, in danger. Simon races against time to find the child while he isn't even sure she is still alive.

I thought that Simon Fisk was a great character, and I enjoyed learning more about him and his past. There were some interesting secondary characters also. I liked the storyline, and hope that this book will turn into a series. I received this book as an ARC through Netgalley.

Dotty Morefield says

Warning -- don't start GOOD AS GONE at night or you'll be losing a lot of sleep. This is one of those books that you simply have to read "one more chapter" all the way to the end. Simon Fisk is as real, believable and vulnerable as any character you're likely to find. His race across countries, and against time to find a kidnapped child will have you holding your breath -- and the climax will come as both a shock and surprise. GOOD AS GONE is as good as it gets. Can't wait for the next one. Remember the name - Douglas Corleone - you'll be hearing it a lot!

Ia Uaro says

"Good As Gone" Reviewed by Ia Uaro of www.sydneyssong.net

Book title: Good As Gone

Series: Simon Fisk Novels (Book 1)

Author: Douglas Corleone

Publisher: Minotaur Books; St. Martins

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6-year-old Lindsay Sorkin disappears in the middle of the night from a Paris resort-style hotel room. The National Police doesn't want a media circus which will endanger Lindsay's life as well as the country's reputation; therefore Simon Fisk's expertise is quietly sought.

Simon is a former fugitive hunter who now works privately retrieving children abducted by non-custodial parents. He is a very kind and sensitive man with nothing to lose. Carrying a heavy burden of loss, Simon agrees to take on the assignment to retrieve Lindsay so that there will be two less parents in the world walking aimlessly through their own hell on earth.

Simon's clarity of mind and thought processes is astounding. He is focused, disciplined, systematic, thorough and meticulous. Like an eagle with the sharpest eyes he spots tiny details that other trained investigators have missed, while his brilliant logics connect dots with amazing precision. And all the while he hurts. He knows what the parents are going through and he feels for them. Genuinely worries about Lindsay's welfare, Simon puts her priority in the foremost of his mind when making abhorrent decisions, such as, having to end his opponent's life in self defence, even though, personally, in getting himself killed he has nothing to lose.

Good As Gone is masterpiece crime thriller that will keep readers on edge as Simon races against time to save an innocent life, from Paris to various international cities and alleys, dealing with dangerous lowlives from smelly street thugs to the vilest professional criminals, and of course, corrupt law enforcers and treacheries.

Don't mistake this as just another Madeleine-McCann-inspired story: Good As Gone is a highly original fast-paced ingenious suspense, and you will never mistake Douglas Corleone's writing style with anyone else's because Doug's work is supremely above today's other crime writers'. He is a lot like Simon Fisk: ? Doug's clarity of mind and thought processes is astounding, delivering the exceptionally complex plot in clear voice and easy-to-follow methodical narration, which is a high achievement considering the fast pace of the intricate twists and turns.

? Doug is focused, disciplined, systematic, meticulously thorough and logically brilliant, leaving no chance for readers to become confused in a convoluted maze, taking them along with Fisk through dangers, action, and heart-wrenching pain.

? Doug has perfect knowledge of the content, either from his professional research or experiences as a former defense lawyer.

? Like an eagle with the sharpest eyes Doug spots tiny details to the tee, and this applies in both his superbly comprehensive story and flawless English, such as, though I received a review copy marked "uncorrected", I could only spot a few tiny errors.

? And unlike the majority of today's men-fic, Doug isn't afraid of honesty. He shows us how men too feel, and feel deeply, even those who often have to act with ruthless brutality. He is witty and he is polite in his speech, with very rare use of strong language. (Who did say, never underestimate the seductive power of a decent vocabulary?) In Fisk, you can see Doug clearly: he is caring, and he respects women.

Don't miss reading this book, even though I'm sure a movie deal isn't too far away. Simon Fisk and the story are that good you'll be glad this is going to be a series.

Steph says

I got this book from a Goodreads giveaway.

This is probably the most excited I've ever been to win a book from a giveaway. The plot sounded fantastic and like something I could very well dive into. Unfortunately, it didn't turn out so for me. I had such a hard time getting through this book, but I decided to stick it out just because I was curious to see what would happen to Lindsay Sorkin (which I wasn't expecting what did actually happen with her, by the way.) This novel didn't seem to have much logic and Simon Fisk was far more invincible than realistic. This isn't a book I will be revisiting, however I do know a friend who would LOVE this novel. Maybe this one is just for the right person and I wasn't it.

Roger says

Good As Gone was not the corker I wanted it to be. Our protagonist Simon Fisk is a former US Marshall who specializes in recovering children from countries that do not honor custodial orders-in other words kids who have been kidnapped by one of their own parents. His own child was abducted, fate unknown, and this shattered his life so we have a kind of mini-Batman situation. This book is a collection of cliches between book covers. What kept me reading? I wanted to know the fate of the child Fisk is trying to locate. If you pay attention you can spot the Big Bad but the actually reason for this abduction is pretty original, which is what elevated this book's rating to two stars.
