



Missing Persons

Clare O'Donohue

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The debut of an exciting new mystery series featuring a cynical, crafty television producer turned amateur sleuth.

The cause of death is "undetermined," but the cops peg Chicago television producer Kate Conway as the main suspect when her soon-to-be ex-husband, Frank, is found dead. To make matters worse-and weirder-Frank's new girlfriend suddenly wants to be friends.

Happy for the distraction, Kate throws herself into a new work assignment for the television program *Missing Persons*: the story of Theresa Moretti, a seemingly angelic young woman who disappeared a year earlier. All Kate wants is a cliché story and twenty-two minutes of footage, but when the two cases appear to overlap, Kate needs to work fast before another body turns up-her own.

Missing Persons Details

Date : Published May 31st 2011 by Plume

ISBN : 9780452297067

Author : Clare O'Donohue

Format : Paperback 288 pages

Genre : Mystery, Fiction, Cozy Mystery

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From Reader Review Missing Persons for online ebook

Stephanie Tiner says

Kate Conway is going through a divorce when her husband dies unexpectedly. When the police investigate, they believe Kate may have had something to do with it. To add to the stress, her ex-husband's new girlfriend seems to want to become friends.

After the funeral, Kate lands a new job for a television show called Missing Persons. It's a nice distraction. Theresa Moretti has been missing for a year. All she needs is 22 minutes of footage for the show, but when her case seems to intersect with Kate's husband's death. Kate feels rushed to finish the job before there is another body, her own.

This was an interesting little read though I found it to be more of a contemporary novel than a mystery. This novel is marketed as a mystery, and there are two separate mysteries but in my honest opinion, it was more about the life of Kate Conway as she deals with her career and the death of her husband.

I liked this novel but I would have preferred more of a mystery as that is what I was expecting.

The character of Kate Conway is well constructed, though I had an extremely hard time relating to her. I believe that is because we have next to nothing in common.

The settings are fairly simple and yet easy to follow and picture in your mind.

All in all, it was a decent read, though lacking on the mystery. I would give this novel 3 out of 5 stars and would recommend it to fans of contemporary fiction.

I bought my copy of this novel from my local Dollar Tree and the picture featured above is my own.
stephanietiner.weebly.com

Brina says

Average mystery series. I like the premise Kate being the producer of a crime tv show and having it lead to solving crimes. Cast of characters is promising and we will see where it leads. Positive is that it takes place in Chicago and I know all the scenes for the most part. Curious to see how series evolves.

Mark says

O'Donohue puts her journalistic skills to work building her new character, Kate Conway, a Chicago television reporter and begins her second series with a rollicking good start.

Conway produces one of those true crime local cable shows and is used to dealing with dead bodies and missing people but when the dead body is her soon-to-be divorced husband who just happens to die while she is starting up a fledgling new show on finding missing people then local homicide detectives find cause to question her motives and alibi.

Throw into the mix the husband's new fiancé, who all of a sudden wants to be Kat's new 'best friend', a old high school jock friend and unhappy in-laws Kate funds her personal life as much as a juggling act as the new television show. When the body of the girl she is reporting on as missing shows up and Kate starts to receive death threats of her own she has to figure out is the hidden danger from the results of her reporting or from someone a little closer to her personal life.

O'Donohue exhibits a masterful approach with her classic red-herrings and carefully placed foreshadowing as she drags us through the muck-racking of yellow journalism but still finds a way to keep as close as

family when worrying about her protagonist. This novel kept me interested and still left room for unexpected twist in the end. This will be a series worth collecting.

Laura Kay Bolin says

Kate Conway is a television producer working on crime shows, but she never thought she'd find herself smack-dab in a murder mystery. In the midst of a divorce to her husband of twenty years, she gets a call from her soon-to-be ex husband Frank's new girlfriend in the middle of the night. Racing to the ER, Kate discovers Frank has passed away from a heart attack. The doctor is suspicious, and suddenly the police are investigating Frank's cause of death, and the soon-to-be ex-wife, Kate, is the prime suspect. Not only is she the prime suspect.

While the investigation into Frank's death is going on, Kate gets a call to produce a new show called Missing Persons. This is a perfect distraction from her life. Her first Missing Persons case involves twenty-two year old, Teresa Moretti. Teresa seems to be almost saint like, but the deeper Kate digs the more questions arise and the list of suspects grows. Suddenly, it seems both cases intertwine in Kate's life and she begins to fear if she doesn't solve the mysteries she might just be the next victim.

I thoroughly enjoyed Missing Persons. This was a fast paced action filled book. Since O'Donohue herself is a producer, I felt like I really got an idea of how some television shows are made. I loved Kate. She seemed so real to me, going through all sorts of emotions and self-examination. I also really enjoyed all the supporting characters. But most of all, I enjoyed the ending. I was surprised by the outcome of the mysteries. This isn't some dark dreary who did it book, but a fun entertaining who did it. I highly recommend Missing Persons.

Kelly Roll says

Kate is a free lance producer on a variety of "true crime" shows. She is also a woman who was going through a messy divorce when her husband turns up dead. Kate is, of course, a suspect in her husband's murder. She also becomes more interested in the disappearance of a young woman than her job calls for. What I liked about the book - I really enjoyed the inside look of how a reality television show is produced. The authors inside knowledge definitely adds to the story. I also appreciated how Kate began to become a more interesting person as she truly began to think about her marriage and her husband.

I found the clues and suspects to be less well developed as the two mysteries played out. I felt the author tried too hard to make us suspect certain individuals while not really fleshing out why the actual killer of the young missing girl did away with her or why he ended up stalking Kate.

Debbie says

"Missing Persons" is a fast-paced, well-written mystery. Actually, there's several mysteries: how did Kate's husband die, what happened to the missing girl that she's producing a TV episode about, and who is trying to scare Kate? The mystery wasn't predictable--in a good way--and was handled more like these things

would occur in real life. And while there were plenty of clues, I never felt certain about the "whodunit" until after the reveal.

The characters were realistic, varied, and complex. They dealt with realistic struggles about life not ending up like they had expected. Vivid details about her job as a freelance TV episode producer for Crime TV and about the people brought the story alive in my imagination. I would become so immersed in the story that I lost all track of time, and I had a hard time setting the book down even when I really needed to. I felt like this story really could have happened, and I plan on re-reading it someday.

There was a minor amount of bad language. There were no sex scenes. From the book description, I wasn't sure I'd like the story, but I did. Overall, I'd highly recommend this very well-written book.

I received this book as a review copy from the publisher.

Gail Cohen says

Nothing missing in this cozy mystery.

LORI CASWELL says

Plume
Published by The Penguin Group

A Kate Conway Mystery
First In A Brand New Series
ISBN-10: 0452297060
ISBN-13: 978-0452297067

Kate Conway's soon to be ex-husband Frank is dead and the cops always think the spouse did it so Kate becomes the number one suspect. Strange too is that his new girlfriend wants to be her new best friend.

She decides to bury herself in work to get her mind off his death and give the police time to find the real killer. She is offered a new assignment for a brand new series, Missing Persons.

Kate starts researching the story of Theresa Moretti, a young woman who has been missing for a year. Her family is still holding out hope Theresa is alive and believes Kate will find her. Kate just wants to get enough footage to tell the missing girl's story and move on but Theresa's family has really touched her which causes her to dig a little deeper and the more she digs she finds the death of her ex may be related to this Missing Person story. She also finds the deeper she digs she may be putting her own life in danger.

I LOVED IT!!!!

This is an edgy story that not only draws you in but educates on how these True Crime shows are made and with an author that has a background in television all the jargon rings true, especially how long it takes, how much film is needed, and how much is cut to tell a story in about 22 minutes.

The unexpected is that as each clue is uncovered you feel you are actually right on the scene. This can happen with a lot of stories but this one actually played in my mind's eye like a television program. It made you almost forget this is a work of fiction and that you were actually reading a book. It really is hard to believe the same author who wrote the Someday Quilts series in the same person who wrote this book. Clare you have a wonderful imagination and I LOVE IT!!!

I am sure readers of the previous series will love this book but I see it bringing in a whole new group of readers, those who love true crime. This story fits the description of a cozy mystery in the way that the crime solver is an intelligent female amateur sleuth, but this series seems to go further just because of Kate's job and takes place in the big city of Chicago.

This series has a wealth of information available as people go missing and crimes are committed everyday. I look forward to being on the scene of the next Kate Conway Mystery.

Disclosure of Material Connection: I received this book free from Plume, A Division of Penguin Books. I was not required to write a positive review. The opinions I have expressed are my own. I am disclosing this in accordance with the Federal Trade Commission's 16 CFR, Part 255 : "Guides Concerning the Use of Endorsements and Testimonials in Advertising."

Jamie says

Great storyline and kept me engaged. struggled a bit with the writing (and typographical errors) but over all a good book.

Viviane Crystal says

This is a most unusual novel, two parallel mysteries interwoven with some clues and conversations not only providing enlightening material for one but also the other mystery being followed!

Kate Conway is a TV producer who's job is to gain the trust of her interviewees and present them to a jury in a pleasant but factual way. She has produced one show called "Caught" and is now beginning to work on one called "Missing Persons." But this job becomes complex when her own ex-husband is found dead, his new girlfriend attempts to befriend Kate, and investigators are questioning everyone who knew him, with the suggestion that his natural death was not so innocent!

Theresa Moretti is the missing young woman whose case reveals Kate Conway's very skilled performance

not only as a producer but a crime solver. It seems Kate had two boyfriends who may know of her whereabouts, but a control-freak mother, suspicious best friend, and suavely repulsive local politician all claim to know more than they do. Kate's cameramen also contribute to the theories behind this disappearance, but these change every few minutes, increasing the tension the reader is experiencing as he or she attempts to figure it all out even before Kate might do so!

Missing Persons is an excellent mystery that is totally unpredictable regarding both stories. There's also an additional tender and endearing quality, a deeply caring spark, that threads throughout the whole story without diminishing the crime or mystery aspects of what should be a well-deserved best seller!!! Superbly done, ClareO'Donohue!

Betty Ast says

Great mystery! Couldn't put it down.

(Lonestarlibrarian) Keddy Ann Outlaw says

I don't know when I have enjoyed a mystery more. Actually, there are two mysteries presented here. When true crime tv producer Kate Conway's almost ex-husband Frank dies, she becomes a suspect, plus she is hard at work filming a show about a missing young woman. The author skillfully weaves these two whodunit stories together.

I enjoyed trying to guess the outcome of both these cases, rooting for Kate. Her sleuthing is believable;, there are many suspects and the characters are well developed, most of all Kate herself. One interesting twist involves Frank's girlfriend, Vera, who he was living with when he died. Vera is, perhaps unfortunately, a very nice person, so both Kate and I as the reader were loathe to suspect her of Frank's murder. Their unlikely relationship grows as the book continues.

I look forward to reading more Kate Conway mysteries! Most mysteries are too procedural for me. Often I give up halfway through and skip to the end and toss the book aside. Missing Persons kept me engaged, a little on the edge of my seat (pleasantly so), and I wanted to savor every page.

Michelle says

(3.5 stars) This is the first book in the Kate Conway series. Kate is a freelance television producer, with a skill to get the quote and the shot she needs. She does a lot of true crime docudramas and is currently starting on a new series dealing with missing persons. Kate works in a tight team with her sound man and her videographer. She is in the midst of a divorce from her husband, Frank, who has been seeing another woman. When Frank turns up dead from a suspicious heart attack, Kate is initially a suspect, but then forms an unlikely alliance with his girlfriend, Vera, to find the truth about his death. She also becomes deeply curious about the missing woman at the center of her docudrama, who may not have been as innocent as she initially appears. Kate begins looking at those close to Theresa, including her obsessive mother, sullen brother, two very different boyfriends and a helpful politician whose ties to Theresa make her wonder about his involvement. Two mysteries for the price of one make this an interesting start to the series.

Marlyn says

Kate Conway's husband left her for an older woman and filed for divorce. Home alone one night and feeling sorry for herself, she gets a call from Vera, the new girlfriend, telling her that she's had to call an ambulance for Frank. Soon after Kate gets to the hospital, the doctor informs them that Frank has died.

When the doctor asks for an autopsy, and the police come to visit her, Kate is certain that there was something fishy about her the death, and tries to find out what happened. Kate also accepts a new gig from Crime TV, producing a series about real missing persons cases. The first episode will be about a young woman named Theresa Moretti, an apparently flawless young woman who disappeared a year earlier.

Suddenly, Chicago begins to seem like a very small town, with many of the people involved in her husband's death also turning up in the Moretti case, and it appears that Kate has a stalker.

Also the author of the Someday Quilts mystery series, much cozier than this first book of the Kate Conway series, O'Donohue writes from experience as a television producer of several programs for several networks, including truTV, TLC and The History Channel. Writing in the first person from Kate's point of view, the author somehow manages to allow the reader to draw her/his own conclusions rather than accepting what the character believes.

No indication of when the next Kate Conway novel might appear, though there is a new book in the Someday Quilts series (*The Devil's Puzzle*) due in September.

Liz says

A fairly straightforward mystery but with an unusual setup and some very good twists. I enjoyed the main character's wry take and appreciated the evidence of growth as the story came to its conclusion. Now I'm going to track down other books by Kate Conway.
