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When Zoe Walker sees her photo in the classifieds section of a London newspaper, she is determined to find out why it's there. There's no explanation, no website: just a grainy image and a phone number. She takes it home to her family, who are convinced it's just someone who looks like Zoe. But the next day the advert shows a photo of a different woman, and another the day after that.

Is it a mistake? A coincidence? Or is someone keeping track of every move they make . .

I See You Details

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Author : Clare Mackintosh

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From Reader Review I See You for online ebook

Emily (Books with Emily Fox) says

3.5 It was a good thriller. Not the best but not the worst!

sue says

I was so mindful of reading this book. I have come across authors debut novels that have really made an impact on me then their subsequent book has fallen flat, so I opened this with trepidation, but I need not have feared because this author has a talent.

Yep, a real talent that just comes through this book immensely.

She has done it again, she has excelled herself in her writing ability to not just pull you into the book, oh no, you are 'shoved' into it with full force and eagerness, so much so, that its a case of 'one more chapter' one more chapter' and so it goes on until your eyes are dropping.

Its a book that stays in your head, just like her debut novel.

Zoe, London Underground, CCTV, being tracked, are you being followed.

All the characters in this story are so real, from someone who is the main character right down to someone you would feel in life is insignificant.

But they are not.

This is a thrill ride, this is a 'is someone watching me, if so who'.
At times its a scary read, a thrilling read, many bit your nail moments.

This is an author that I will be following.

My thanks to Little, Brown Book Group UK via Net Galley for my early copy.

Maureen says

Thank you to Netgalley and Little Brown Book Group for my ARC in exchange for a fair and honest review

OMG! Towards the end of this book I felt as if I was standing on the edge of a precipice, my stomach chasing butterflies, and my heart beating fit to burst - but forgive me, I'm getting ahead of myself, because there's much more to come before then.

Nobody thinks too deeply about their daily commute to and from work by Tube, a bit mundane maybe,

sometimes stressful, the hustle and bustle, but after reading this it would be hard not to see something a bit more sinister in your daily journey. The guy opposite who you catch looking at you, is it just a glance or does he have fantasies about hurting you or worse?

When Zoe Walker sees her photo in the classified ads in a London newspaper, she is desperate to find out why it's there, and more importantly who put it there. Worse still it's among the ads for 'escorts' chat lines and dating agencies. And so begins this journey of terror that knows no limits, but I don't want to give anything away because I wouldn't want to spoil the journey for YOU.

This is a gripping, cleverly crafted story, that has some jaw dropping moments - and boy I've read more than my fair share of them this year! But along comes 'I See You' and it just darn well blows my socks off! Clare Mackintosh gets right into one's psyche, real deep down, determined to unleash your deepest fears, and she does it wonderfully.

Exciting - Shocking - Unbelievably Clever! Read it - you won't be sorry.

Karen says

So this book wasn't great but kept me turning pages and entertained. When I got towards the part to reveal who was behind this mess, the reason just didn't seem realistic at all. This was good on showing police procedure, and I did really like Kelly, the woman cop.

Jules says

I found this book really hard to put down, especially the second half, which I lived and breathed until the very last page. I'm sure this thriller made my heart stop beating, not once, but twice, having to briefly stop reading in order to catch my breath. I can feel my heart racing just thinking of a couple of specific moments within the book.

The short chapters written in italics throughout the story were rather creepy and gave me the heebie-jeebies.

It would be misleading of me to say this is in any way the same as a TV mini-series I absolutely loved back in the late 1990s called *Killer Net*, but a couple of things about it really reminded me of it, so made it all that more exciting for me. If you love the idea behind this book, you may wish to watch *Killer Net*, as I suspect you'll enjoy it too.

Crikey, what an ending to a great thriller... and breathe!

This is a psychological crime thriller, and for someone like me, who loves psychological thrillers but isn't a huge fan of crime and police procedural, I think this had the perfect balance.

I would like to thank the publishers for a proof copy of this book, via THE Book Club (TBC) on Facebook, in exchange for an honest review.

Melissa says

Turns out, it might be harder to write a second novel than a debut. I've actually heard, quite a few times now, that second books can be a beast. Clare Mackintosh even takes the time to mention that in the acknowledgements of this book. I imagine it's even more so coming off of a debut as heart-pounding and impressive as *I Let You Go*. Naturally, that's where my thoughts went—would Ms. Mackintosh be able to emulate the shock value and sheer brilliance of that masterpiece?

For me, *I LET YOU GO* was a stunner. The unforeseen twist in that story knocked me on my ass. It's still a standout in my mind, over a year and hundreds of books later, and one that I've measured other psychological thrillers against, time and time again. Including this one. Just in case you don't fully grasp how spectacular I found that book to be, a pristine signed copy has garnered a coveted spot on my bookshelf among the few others I've considered worthy over the years.

This one on the other hand, not so much. **The most exciting part of this entire book was the epilogue.** Hands down. Had it not been for that last ditch effort to shock her readers with a much needed twist, my rating would have been a little different.

Sure, the thought of being watched and followed was anxiety inducing—in the beginning. The author relies too heavily on that fear to carry this story and without much action, the payoff doesn't feel big enough. At least not for this suspense junkie. I'm sorry to say, but I found the majority of Zoe and Kelly's story to be **incredibly slow, rife with convenience, clunky with awkward revelations and just not all that exciting.** Besides Kelly, there wasn't a whole lot of depth to any of these characters.

What happened? I had to sit back and consider, was it that my hopes for this one were too high? Was I just another passenger on the expectation train unfairly demanding the same experience her first novel delivered? Maybe, but I'm not sure it mattered. I think regardless of who wrote this book, my feelings would have been the same. There wasn't anything about these characters or the plot that I found compelling, noteworthy or even believable.

Was it just me or did the entire plot hinge on an idea that seemed pretty unlikely? (view spoiler) The author provided an explanation within the story, but unfortunately it wasn't enough to get this reader on board.

**THANK YOU to Berkley and NetGalley for an ARC in exchange for an honest review.*

TANYA says

I wanted to be "WOWED" by this book, but unfortunately I wasn't. Good storyline, good writing yet it felt forced and a little stale.

Carol says

Guess who I am..... "I SEE YOU, but you DON'T see me."

In Clare Macintosh's new mystery-thriller, danger is **always** lurking around the corner, and 'someone' is **always** watching as **fear** overtakes Zoe Walker's everyday life.

With stalkers and thieves.....rapists and murderers, bits of clues here and there kept me guessing and anxiously turning the pages to find the perpetrator of the deadly scheme; but then, at what should have been the most intense climatic moment of the whole story, the blow-by-blow (*sadly*) falls flat with an unconvincingly written encounter.

Now, despite my being somewhat disappointed at that crucial point in the plot, **I SEE YOU** is still a very good police procedural mystery (*with a shocking twist*) that the reader just 'might' see coming.....or not, but (*for me*) it was just missing that 'big wallop' you find in **I LET YOU GO**

(A few typos and need of editing in my UK copy)

karen says

this is a fun thriller, but it requires the reader to accept its premise without questioning its logic, and to suspend disbelief like a mofo. if you can do that, you'll have a good time. if you cannot, this is not the book for you.

i can medium do it, so while i enjoyed reading this for the rush and the whodunnit of it all, there were just certain things i could not look past as a reader. it's one of those page-turnery books i loved at the time of reading, but it's forgettable and a little silly after it's all over.

it's a psychological suspense novel and it's one whose goal is to take the quotidian and creepify it, so the reader is left unsettled and uneasy in a familiar, taken-for-granted part of their daily life. this one focuses on the already-harrowing experience of public transportation, casting a sinister light on the straphanging lifestyle. which, yes, is what *The Girl on the Train* did, but this is completely its own thing, although paula hawkins does blurb it, because british transportation-based thriller writing women gotta stick together.

zoe walker is stuck on a stalled train during her commute home one night, forced to read the parts of the paper she wouldn't ordinarily in her desperation for diversion, when she notices a photo of herself in a classified ad with no information other than a phone number and a web address: findtheone.com. naturally confused and concerned, once she gets home she tries to get to the bottom of it, but the number is a dead end, and the site requires a password. her grown children and live-in boyfriend don't share her alarm - assuring her that the small picture might be of someone else entirely, and zoe reluctantly concedes, although she is still a bit apprehensive. when she discovers that a woman whose picture ran in the same ad space was later murdered, her dread grows and she contacts the police, who do not take her concerns seriously until the pattern continues and zoe finds herself in real danger.

the story is split narratively between zoe and kelly swift, a detective demoted to smalltime police work after assaulting a rape suspect, who has been trying to claw her way back to the big leagues ever since. she sees connections between zoe's story and a pickpocketing crime she's been assigned, and she insinuates herself into the case, thrilled to be investigating real crimes once more, eager to impress the other detectives and shed her tarnished reputation. which does not mean that she's going to play it cool and careful - for all the strong contributions she makes to the investigation, she also behaves unprofessionally a number of times,

compromising the case and making more enemies.

in the tradition of psychological suspense, paranoia grows throughout the novel, and suspicion is cast on many people close to zoe, increasing her anxiety and leaving her with no one to trust. many red herrings, many tense situations, much atmospheric dread.

and also a ton of implausibilities, some of which i will address in spoilertown below.

if you are yourself on a stalled train looking for a diversion, this is an excellent choice. okay, that's a bit glib and unfair - this is an entertaining book, but you really need to avoid questioning it, or you're just going to get yourself into a tizzy. it's worth a read, but it's not changing the psych suspense game or anything.

my gripes follow, and they are spoilery, so don't ruin the book for yourself by clicking, okay?

(view spoiler)

come to my blog!

Elyse says

Clare Mackintosh wrote a 'timely' psychological grabber and crime chiller. In the near future, most people will live in a total surveillance state -- which for some people breeds fear of conformity and stifles free self expression.

This story clearly opens our eyes to the fact that we are living in a fishbowl.

Governments and large corporations have spread cameras, microphones and other tracking devices all across the globe, and they also have the capacity to store and process oceans of surveillance data in real time. Big brother not only watches our sex life, he analyzes it. Nightmarish! So far, attempts to control surveillance have generally failed.

Yes...there 'are' some obvious benefits: reduction of crime and other smaller abuses that go unreported--- but Clare Mackintosh gave us a precautionary story....and it 'is' creepy to think about.

Many readers absolutely loved "I let You Go", (last years much talked about debut mystery crime thriller). I was on the opposite end of that excitement.

However...all my complaints about her first book, are gone in this one. I found this book a little more tangible to connect with and more plausible.

Think about all the people being watched-- especially women. Normal every day women going about business as if they are invisible to the greater world at large.

After Zoe Walker sees her photo in the London Gazette, in the classified section, she is determined to get some answers....especially after immediately the next day the advert shows a photo of another woman.

Can you imagine after there have been women murdered since discovering the picture of yourself --- you come to this thought:

"What if someone's putting in photo's of women they're going to murder, and I'm next?"

Fearful! Would you be able to sleep at night?

There's diversity of personalities in the characters. Kelly is an interesting police officer - with he own set of issues-on the London transport.

The female characters stand out stronger than the men.....(but what's surprising about that?) lol.

As for the ending? You wonder about the twists in these type of stories right? What I liked about it is not only 'who' -- but 'why'. So --even if you think you 'might' know the ending - and do not be so sure (really: don't)...there's an element added which I found interesting 'with' the ending as much as whodunit.

Thank you to Penguin Random House and the Berkley Team for offering me a copy of this book. To be released Feb. 12, 2017.

Linda says

"If it's just the two of you. Just you, and whoever's behind you. Whoever is chasing you. How fast could you run then?"

Zoe Walker is a deep creature of habit. She leaves the house at the same time every day and boards the same train every day. She even pinpoints her favorite seats and standing positions while pinned together, elbow to elbow and leg to leg, ready to hit the opening door and escape the madness held within.

But something shocking catches her attention while perusing the local paper. It's an advertisement for a hook-up website with her own photo staring back at her. Could this even be possible or is it just a trick of the eye? Zoe dismisses it and resumes her regular family life with her two adult children, Katie and Justin, and her live-in boyfriend, Simon.

But as the days goes by, Zoe has the odd feeling that she's being followed. She contacts the police and a young officer, Kelly, actually believes her. Together, they dog behind this case as the "normal" quickly flips into an "abnormal zone".

Well, now. First and foremost, I am an avid fan of Clare Mackintosh. Her first book, *I Let You Go*, was so outstanding. That is a hard act to follow even when you're the actual author. Mackintosh has done mega research here in online websites, social media, and police procedures. Perhaps that's part of my lukewarm reaction to this one. When you lead with what you know rather than what the characters feel and how they react with mounting intensity, there lies the problem.

We were able to walk around inside the heads of her highly developed characters in *I Let You Go*. We related to the slanted walkways in which these individuals fought to balance themselves under unimaginable circumstances. *I See You* seemed to follow more of a precise formula that drove the storyline and its outcome. It didn't hold me to the page as her first book did.

It's still a worthy read, however. There's the brilliance of the Mackintosh writing here in place and time. My greatest wish is for a return to her uncanny ability to hold her finger on the pulse of her characters, once more, in her next offering. No reader can resist the vicarious experience of another's heartbeat from slow and steady to rapid and pounding.

Norma * Traveling Sister says

When I first realized that this author had a new book out I quickly snapped it up as I absolutely loved her first novel *I LET YOU GO* and was totally shocked with that unforgettable major twist! Although I have no intentions of comparing the two novels as they are completely different, this one just didn't work out as well for me.

I SEE YOU by CLARE MACKINTOSH is a good mystery/crime thriller that had me engaged, entertained, and interested enough throughout most of this book to keep me turning those pages but then it lost me somewhere near the end. In my opinion there was an unnecessary twist with the reveal that just didn't pan out for me as the reasoning behind it just didn't seem all that realistic to me and I had a sneaky suspicion who the culprit was going to be. So I definitely missed out on the shock-factor of the final reveal.

I found the cover and title of this book to be appealing and very fitting which draws you right into this sinister tale of how women are being targeted, watched, and followed while commuting to and from work on the London Underground.

CLARE MACKINTOSH delivers a slow-building suspenseful storyline that is well-written and an angst driven read here. I couldn't even imagine how scared I would be if I seen a picture of myself in the classifieds for a dating site and was one of the women being stalked and followed like our main character Zoe. Scary!

I SEE YOU is told in three different alternating points of view between Zoe Walker, PC Kelly Swift, and the stalker. PC Kelly Swift was told in the third person and sometimes I found her to be a little confusing when she would be recounting some incidences from her past.

To sum it all up it was an entertaining, mostly enjoyable, suspenseful, steady-paced, quick and easy read with a twist ending.

Review written and posted on our themed book blog:
Two Sisters Lost In A Coulee Reading
<https://twosisterslostinacoulee.com>

Coulee: a term applied rather loosely to different landforms, all of which refer to a kind of valley.

Esil says

3+ stars. I can't bring myself to give *I See You* 4 stars. There were a few too many things that bugged me. But it's definitely a tad higher than a 3 star read. *I See You* starts with middle aged mother of young adults Zoe seeing a photo of herself in the dating service section of a newspaper. She ends up in contact with police officer Kelly. And the story unfolds from both their points of view. I can't say any more to avoid spoilers.

Some strengths:

- Near the beginning in a brief interlude, the unknown perpetrator declares "Routine will kill you". I loved that MacKintosh's book plays with the reality for urban commuters -- jammed together on subways, buses and streetcars everyday with the same people, but somehow assuming anonymity as we all pretend we're somewhere else through phones, books, daydreams or sleep.
- I liked Kelly. She reminded me a bit of Havers in Elizabeth George's Linley and Havers series -- well meaning and smart, but often overly eager.
- I didn't love Zoe as a character, but I did like the interactions with her various family members.
- The very end was clever, although awfully disturbing.

What bugged me:

- I never quite bought into the purpose for which Zoe and other women's photos ended up in the dating service section of the newspaper without their knowledge.
- Although generally very readable, the middle of *I See You* felt kind of slack and aimless.
- The "who" part of the resolution irked me. It didn't ring true.

Not a waste of time, but definitely not a favourite read. Many GR friends loved Mackintosh's *I Let You Go*, which I haven't read. I would definitely give it a try based on what I liked in *I See You*. Thanks to Netgalley and the publisher for an opportunity to read an advance copy.

Sean Peters says

Thank you to Net Galley, the publishers and to Clare the author for an ARC copy for review.

Firstly, I loved Clare's first book a fantastic first novel, the second keeps to the same standard.

A powerful, chilling, gripping tense thriller that keeps you guessing all the way.

When Zoe Walker sees her photo in the classifieds section of a London newspaper, she is determined to find out why it's there. There's no explanation: just a website, a grainy image and a phone number. She takes it home to her family, who are convinced it's just someone who looks like Zoe. But the next day the advert shows a photo of a different woman, and another the day after that.

Is it a mistake? A coincidence? Or is someone keeping track of every move they make . . .

I See You is an edge-of-your-seat, page-turning psychological thriller from one of the most exciting and successful British debut talents of 2015!

Frightening that this could be so easily be true!

Very powerful story, chilling, and gripping, like her debut author a book so powerful it stays in your head, are you being watched?

Clare has done such a good job to keep up her high, no excellent standard of her first book, now cannot wait for her next book. Quickly becoming one of Britain's great authors.

This book grips you to the very last page, great characters enjoyed Zoe character but also Kelly.

Highly recommended and a five star from me.

j e w e l s [Books Bejeweled] says

Oh man. I am so bummed. This is not a good follow up to Clare Mackintosh's debut blockbuster, I LET YOU GO. I'm picky, but I loved that book. I even added it to my TWISTER HALL OF FAME shelf!

The problems with I SEE YOU:

First, I figured out the "twisty" ending VERY EARLY in the book. And I'm not usually known for that.

Second, the plot was ridiculously unbelievable. The entire story is built on a naive idea that stalkers would pay big money to join a website that would do the stalking for them. Crazy????? Yes.

Third, the story is boring. Preachy. When I read fiction, I don't want to be preached to or bored. *Just don't.*

I see my GR friends are giving high ratings to Mackintosh's third book. Let's hope this is simply a sophomore slump!
