



Forget My Name

J.S. Monroe

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How do you know who to trust...

...when you don't even know who you are?

You are outside your front door.

There are strangers in your house.

Then you realise. You can't remember your name.

She arrived at the train station after a difficult week at work. Her bag had been stolen, and with it, her identity. Her whole life was in there – passport, wallet, house key. When she tried to report the theft, she couldn't remember her own name. All she knew was her own address.

Now she's outside Tony and Laura's front door. She says she lives in their home. They say they have never met her before.

One of them is lying.

Forget My Name Details

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From Reader Review Forget My Name for online ebook

Cassie says

Unputdownable.

What would you do if a young woman knocks on your front door saying that she has lost her memory? A young woman arrives at Heathrow airport.

She's lost her bag, her phone, passport everything, including her memory. All she knows is that she has a train ticket to a village in Wiltshire and every now and again she will get a flashback of her best friend, Fleur. When she arrives in the village, she feels drawn to a cottage. A cottage that is now owned by Tony and Laura. A cottage that the stranger is able to describe right down to the tiniest details. She must have lived here at some point in her past.

Tony decides that she looks like a Jemma, (with a J) and with no reason not to, this is the name that she stranger begins to answer to. . . . but there was another Jemma (with a J) in the village before and after murdering her best friend at university, she has since disappeared. Some of the locals are convinced that these women are one and the same person . . .

This book takes place over just 4 days and they are a bloody busy 4 days starting off at Heathrow Airport, taking us to a village in Wiltshire and then ending up in Berlin. A fantastic fast-paced book that is full of twists and turns that at times left me wondering what the hell was going on. Who am I supposed to believe? There were a few different plotlines, but they worked well and all came together in the end even though there were the odd little bits that were utterly unbelievable – which I can't go into without giving the game away – but this didn't distract from my enjoyment of the book. I found myself rooting for Jemma all the way through. Sympathising with how terrifying it must be to suddenly have no memory of anything other than a house.

This is the first book that I have read by this author and I will certainly be keeping an eye out for more.

Louise Wilson says

You are outside your front door. There are strangers in your house. Then you realise. You can't remember your name.

When a woman turns up at Tony and Laura's home, the woman insists that they are living in her house. The couple invite her to come in. The woman tells them she has lost her bag with her purse, passport etc and that she can't remember her name. But she can describe the layout of the couples home. The couple think that she has amnesia and invite her to stay the night. They also book her an appointment with their local GP for the next morning. From here on, the plot just gets thicker and thicker.

The book is written using the viewpoints of several characters. It's also another one of those books where you can't say too much as you would give away too many spoilers. The twists just keep on coming and I

gave up on trying to guess where the story was going as I just kept getting it wrong. There are some creepy characters in this creepy thriller. It's difficult who to believe in this fast paced book but you will just want to find out more. Who is telling the truth and who is telling lies? I also liked the information that we got told on our brains, memory and of sea horses. An enjoyable read.

I would like to thank NetGalley, House Of Zeus and the author J. S. Munroe for my ARC in exchange for an honest review.

Mandy White says

Forget My Name started out like it was going to be a great thriller that I could really get lost in. Unfortunately for me it didn't keep going in the same vein and I lost interest. Too many characters and theories being tossed around that were so far fetched. I figured out the who early on but not why. I wanted to like this one more.. just wasn't for me.

A woman turns up at a house that she believes she lives in only to find another couple living there. She has no memory and can't even remember her name. The couple invite her in and let her stay while she tries to figure out who she's is and why she is there. I was confused by some of the actions of these people who had no idea who this woman was.

Thanks to Head of Zeus and NetGalley for my advanced copy of this book to read. All opinions are my own and are in no way biased

michelle says

A woman if fresh off the plane from Berlin. She turns up at Tom and Laura's home, with no memory or who she is, or where she has been. She only knows that she has lived in that house. But Tom and Laura has lived there for over 3 years and even Tom and Laura takes in her and lets her stay the night, as she has nowhere else to go. They even take her to see the local GP. They think she is suffering from Amnesia. They think that "Jemma" is a woman that used to lived years ago in that house named Jemma Huish. She went missing several years back and now she has returned. But after the Police get involved they rule that out. But who is this woman and what is her agenda?

I have difficult describing this book. I liked the premise of this story and for the first half I thought it was gripping, with lots of twists and turns. But half way through it when we find out what "Jemma" is really doing, I thought the story just petered out for me, and got confusing. I thought that some things written was unnecessary and started skimming reading towards the end. I thought a great idea, but the ending didn't deliver for me.

Nicki says

Wow, this author certainly doesn't hang about, no long drawn out background information, it's just Wham, straight into the story with the arrival on Tony and Laura's doorstep of a mysterious female stranger who insists that they are living in her house. Now most people would just say that is was sad but not their

problem and slam the door in her face. But kindly Tony and Laura take the terrified women into their home, cook her a meal and try to find out who their mysterious visitor is but she insists that she has lost her bag and can't remember her identity. Only more than one of these people are lying and the reader swiftly finds themselves plunged into a twisted story of lies, secrets and manipulation that has bony fingers that reach back into the past.

This twisty, gripping thriller is set mainly in and around Swindon, Wiltshire which is about an hour away from where I live and has chapters that alternate between a number of realistic characters, most of whom are unreliable and includes one character who is such a nasty, twisted individual that this person caused me to feel chills and my skin to crawl a number of times throughout the story. My favourite characters were DI Silas Hart and his partner DC Strover and also Luke who used to be a journalist and was investigating his own mystery which may or may not have been connected to the mysterious woman who had suddenly appeared in his small village. It's hard to say much about the mysterious stranger without giving away spoilers so I will just say that she was a brave, gutsy character who I felt very anxious for and was rooting for all the way once her story and the reasons behind her actions were revealed.

I learnt some fascinating information about brains, memory and seahorses whilst reading this well written, enthralling thriller. The story is fast paced, has short, snappy chapters and had me hooked in from the very first page. Very, very good book and highly recommended by little old me

Many thanks to publishers Head Of Zeus for a arc of this book via Netgalley in exchange for an honest review

Amanda says

After reading the blurb on this book I couldn't wait to start, as it sounded like I could really sink my teeth into it and was I disappointed? Definitely not!!! The first line "I can't remember my own name" had me intrigued straight away.

A mystery woman arrives at Tony and Laura's house claiming she lives there, but has Amnesia and no proof of I.D. They let her stay but who have they invited into their home!!

This is a twisty thriller that draws you in. I didn't guess how this would end and thoroughly enjoyed trying to guess how this book would end.

Thank you to Netgalley for my copy in exchange for a review.

Julie Parks says

This book is like a ravishing snake that's slowly and almost hypnotically twists and untwists herself in a thousand unpredictable ways.

You think you have some idea about the plot. You don't. The snake moves around and you realize there's a whole new side to it.

The locations change. New characters are introduced. A new layer of the given characters is revealed.

Reading this was forever surprising and at times also devastating. It's not a light topic in the end. FORGET MY NAME will not let you forget anyone's story even after putting the book down.

Thank you NetGalley for the chance to read this in exchange for my honest review.

Sheri says

A young woman, fresh off a flight from Berlin, turns up at a house in the English countryside...

She's lost her memory. She can't even remember her name, but she knows one thing for sure - she lives in that house. Except she doesn't... someone else does, and they've never seen her before.

It's an intriguing premise, not least for local people for whom "Jemma"'s mysterious appearance sparks intense speculation. Is she a murderer, a connection to a long-lost love, or a Russian spy? Everyone has their theory...

There's an awful lot going on in this book and it did get pretty confusing at times, especially with regard to a seemingly ever-increasing number of very similar-looking women. (This, among other things, stretched credibility to breaking point.) None of the characters seemed particularly trustworthy and honestly I didn't believe a word any of them said anyway, so although there are certainly twists none of them really pulled the rug out from under me. That said, I didn't guess the truth and it did keep me reading, building to a tense denouement.

It's tightly plotted and the story does hang together even if it defies credibility at times and the characterisation feels quite thin. An enjoyable enough read but probably not one which will stick in my memory (ironically enough given the overarching theme)... except perhaps for a particularly quirky villain.

Maggie says

The woman knocked at Laura & Tony's door. She said that it was her house. She could describe the layout of the house. What she couldn't do was tell them her name. Being a caring person Laura tried to put her at her ease. Tony decided she looked like a Jemma- with a J. She seemed to be frightened of the idea of a hospital when they go to the local GP so Laura invites her to stay the night whilst the doctor tries to find some psychological help.

A text from the GP raises suspicion that this could be the woman who years ago lived in their house & killed her best friend because, 'the voices told me too'. This frightens Laura but Tony is fascinated by 'Jemma' & her memory loss. His father dies of very early onset dementia & he is obsessed with memory.

The GP isn't the only one who has old memories stirred up by her arrival. Luke, the semi retired journalist wonders- could she really be his daughter?

This story is told from various points of view. Just when you think things are being revealed, things take off in a completely different direction. It started as an interesting idea & turned into a real page turner. As with a lot of stories, it was necessary to suspend belief on many occasions, but the story was so good I was happy to do so. All in all a great read.

Thanks to Netgalley & the publisher for letting me read & review this book- I couldn't put it down!

Alice-Elizabeth (marriedtobooks) says

I got a digital copy for review via NetGalley!

Forget My Name had such a creepy premise to it, I love my Thrillers to be on the scary side and I was certainly not disappointed with the writing. It was fast paced, with great dialogue and kept me on the edge of my seat. The main character is a woman who has travelled from Berlin and after her handbag is stolen, she suddenly can't remember who she is or most of her past life. The only thing that comes back to her memory is the address of an old house she use to live in. This house is now occupied by a couple Tony and Laura. Both of them claim never to have seen this woman before. But one of them isn't telling the truth...

I read this in a single sitting and it was enjoyable. One thing to note, don't read this before bedtime!

Becca says

Unfortunately this was a bit too confusing and 'out there' for me. I don't want to give anything away so I'll keep it brief.

There were so many characters to keep track of. Very similar women. Some odd ones to watch out for. I didn't necessarily like any of them. I mean I don't have to like them to read about them, but I did think at times, why am I reading this? There is no one to root for or believe in.

It wasn't all bad. I found the story interesting, just hard to keep track of. I have seen some other reviewers saying how it wasn't very true to life, or realistic. And I have to agree with this. The scariest bit of psychological thrillers, is that it could happen to you, and this just didn't deliver that sense of anxiousness to me. There was no hiding behind your hands, or speed reading through to make sure everything turns out OK.

I feel bad to say that I probably wouldn't recommend this, and I wouldn't read this again. Sorry! :/

Dale Harcombe says

'I can't remember my own name.' This is the opening sentence of a story that is quite intriguing. The person standing at the door of the house cannot remember their own name, but she is convinced this is where she lives. Except another couple are living in the house. Since her bag had been stolen at the airport, the woman at the door has no proof of who she is, no wallet, no passport or anything to identify her. Tony and Laura, the

couple in the house, invite her in. The unnamed woman can identify the layout of the house. How can she know all this unless she has lived there? Someone is lying. But who is it and why?

So starts a story that had me quite interested initially. The plot takes several twists and turns along the way, becoming more and more convoluted. This is where it started to lose my interest a bit. Towards the end I became less enamoured, especially once it got to the seahorses and the significance of them. At times I wondered why I kept on reading, as some aspects of the story were farfetched or gross, but I did so that shows the power of the story to draw me in. It got more unbelievable. In the end I was glad to be done with it.

I've given it three stars, mostly for the way it starts off and it kept me reading even when I was struggling to believe the plot. I also never warmed to any of the characters so felt I was outside looking in the whole time rather than involved.

Shalini says

The blurb said a woman arrived to a village via the train with her bag stolen and total retrograde amnesia, including not knowing her name. Then she knocked on Laura and Tony's home claiming it to be hers, as the address was all that she remembered. They took her in, and Tony named her Jemma. And the twists started rolling...

J. S. Monroe has written a brilliant book with so many twists that at times I felt almost like a pretzel. Memory and hippocampus were brilliantly used in the entire plot. I loved the way Monroe has plotted the amnesic main character. I had to go back to my knowledge bank to remember if such an amnesia is possible. Well, the brain can be tricky!!

The book had a darker overtone, without it being too macabre, but it went with the entire flow. Tony, as the man obsessed with sea horses and memory, was as unlikable as villain ought to be. There was something off each time he helped Jemma.

The author then went ahead admixed in the plot, the character of a psychotic woman who had murdered her best friend and who looked just like our protagonist. In all this confusion, the cops and an ex-reporter Luke had to search for the lone thread which would unknot the entire plot.

My niggles came and went as I read the book, some parts were too descriptive (I learned to skim read), a few unanswered questions (I let go of them), slightly clearer prose (I had to re-read some bits)

The book held me captive till I reached the last page and then made me write this review. What a book!! I received an ARC from NetGalley and publisher Head of Zeus, and this is my honest and unbiased opinion.

Ruthy lavin says

Well written, an enjoyable read.

I bit thready at times but still a good solid thriller.

3 stars ?

Lou says

'Forget My Name' is internationally bestselling author J. S. Monroe's second thriller to be written in the English language, and having thoroughly enjoyed 'Find Me', I was happy to discover that this was just as compelling and compulsively readable. The writing flows wonderfully from chapter-to-chapter making it a total pleasure to read, there are a plethora of twists, turns and red herrings to keep the reader guessing for the duration and it starts off at quite a slow burn type of pace, but it doesn't take long until Monroe turns the screw and ratchets up the tension until we reach the unbearably tense finale from which comes a stonker of a climax! And a most satisfying one at that!

There were a few of the suspenseful surprises that were predictable quite early on, and usually this would affect my overall appreciation for the book, but here I was enjoying everything else so much that it didn't have a substantive impact on my rating or review, although I have removed one star due to that. Engaging, completely gripping and a fun-filled, addictive experience, most crime buffs will absolutely love it! A couple of quick sidenotes on why it couldn't be awarded the full five stars - There is quite a large cast of characters which I didn't feel was necessary and could lead to confusion. Also, if you're the type of reader who needs a story grounded/based in reality, then this may not be for you. Many of the events that take place are far-fetched and wouldn't occur in real life. I also felt that it could've been better edited and quite a number of pages deleted without taking anything away from the novel.

Essentially, the fundamental concept this book is based on is the consequences of the main protagonist's amnesia, so this is definitely more of a mystery and intrigue tale than a thrilling one per se. It's creepy, impeccably paced and wastes no time in throwing you in at the deep end. Thoroughly enjoyable, it certainly captivated me!

Many thanks to Head of Zeus for an ARC. I was not required to post a review, and all thoughts and opinions expressed are my own.
