



The Girl in the Red Coat

By Kate Hamer

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The Girl in the Red Coat By Kate Hamer

- An Amazon Best Book of the Year for 2016
- Costa Book Award for First Novel finalist
- Dagger Award finalist

"Kate Hamer's gripping debut novel immediately recalls the explosion of similarly titled books and movies, from Stieg Larsson's *The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo* and its sequels, to *The Girl on the Train* to *Gone Girl* ...

—Michiko Kakutani, *The New York Times*

"Keeps the reader turning pages at a frantic clip... What's most powerful here is not whodunnit, or even why, but how this mother and daughter bear their separation, and the stories they tell themselves to help endure it." —Celeste Ng (*Everything I Never Told You*)

"Compulsively readable...Beautifully written and unpredictable, I had to stop myself racing to the end to find out what happened." —Rosamund Lupton (*Sister*)

"Both gripping and sensitive — beautifully written, it is a compulsive, aching story full of loss and redemption." —Lisa Ballantyne (*The Guilty One*)

"Hamer's dark tale of the lost and found is nearly impossible to put down."
—Booklist

Newly single mom Beth has one constant, gnawing worry: that her dreamy eight-year-old daughter, Carmel, who has a tendency to wander off, will one day go missing.

And then one day, it happens: On a Saturday morning thick with fog, Beth takes Carmel to a local outdoor festival, they get separated in the crowd, and Carmel is gone.

Shattered, Beth sets herself on the grim and lonely mission to find her daughter, keeping on relentlessly even as the authorities tell her that Carmel may be gone for good.

Carmel, meanwhile, is on a strange and harrowing journey of her own—to a totally unexpected place that requires her to live by her wits, while trying desperately to keep in her head, at all times, a vision of her mother . . .

Alternating between Beth's story and Carmel's, and written in gripping prose that won't let go, *The Girl in the Red Coat*—like Emma Donoghue's *Room* and M. L. Stedman's *The Light Between Oceans*—is an utterly immersive story that's impossible to put down . . . and impossible to forget.

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The Girl in the Red Coat By Kate Hamer Bibliography

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

An Amazon Best Book of February 2016: It's every parent's nightmare: Beth, a single mother, takes her 8-year-old daughter, Carmel, to a local festival for some fun and frivolity and she vanishes. What follows is an unusual and terrifying journey for them both. Kate Hamer's sophisticated debut, *The Girl in the Red Coat*, is no ordinary whodunit, nor does it resort to over-the-top prurience to get under your skin. In many ways, this makes it even more chilling, as Hamer masterfully manipulates the reader into anticipating the worst with each (frantically) turned page. But ultimately it's two parallel tales of survival: How does Beth press on in the face of paralyzing shame and worry? How does Carmel keep her wits about her in a frightening and complex situation beyond her comprehension? What gives this novel unexpected power and heart are the ways in which they find to hold onto themselves. --*Erin Kodicek*

From Publishers Weekly

British single mother Beth knows her eight-year-old daughter, Carmel, has a tendency to wanderâ€”at a local corn maze, on school tripsâ€”but one foggy day, the girl vanishes at a local festival and cannot be found. A man who claims to be Carmel's grandfather convinces her that Beth has been in a terrible accident, so Carmel leaves the fairgrounds with him and winds up at a secluded home with the man and his female companion, Dorothy. As Beth frantically searches and slowly isolates herself from the outside world, Carmel is told after careful manipulation that her mother has died, and soon finds herself in America with her new "grandparents," who work as spiritualist healers. Carmel fights to remember her past, but as time passes and she crisscrosses the country, her old life begins to fade. It takes everything in her to remember her name, her address, and her parents. Hamer's spectacular debut skillfully chronicles the nightmare of child abduction. Telling the story in two remarkable voices, with Beth's chapters unfurling in past tense and Carmel's in present tense, the author weaves a page-turning narrative. The trajectories of the novel's two leadsâ€”through despair, hope, and redemptionâ€”are believable and nuanced, resulting in a morally complex, haunting read. (Feb.)

Review

An *ELLE* Lettres Readers' Prize Winner

“Kate Hamer’s gripping debut novel immediately recalls the explosion of similarly titled books and movies, from Stieg Larsson’s *The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo* and its sequels, to *The Girl on the Train* to *Gone Girl* ... What kicks *The Girl in the Red Coat* out of the loop of familiarity is Ms. Hamer’s keen understanding of her two central characters: Carmel and her devastated mother, Beth, who narrate alternating chapters ... Both emerge as individuals depicted with sympathy but also with unsparing emotional precision.” —**Michiko Kakutani, *The New York Times***

“This stunning debut...has the propulsion of a thriller.” —**People**

“Every sentence in Kate Hamer's debut is so perceptive that you're torn between wanting to linger on the thought and itching to learn what happens next...The taut plot alternates between Carmel's emotional struggle to survive and Beth's refusal to believe that her daughter is gone forever. Meanwhile, their complex yet unbreakable bond is rendered with honesty and love.”—Oprah.com

“Keeps the reader turning pages at a frantic clip . . . What’s most powerful here is not whodunit, or even why, but how this mother and daughter bear their separation, and the stories they tell themselves

to help endure it.” —Celeste Ng, author of *Everything I Never Told You*

“Hamer’s book is a moving, voice-driven narrative. As much an examination of loss and anxiety as it is a gripping page-turner, it’ll appeal to anyone captivated by child narrators or analyses of the pains and joys of motherhood.” —Huffington Post

“Riveting. Worth the hype.”—Book Riot

“Compulsively readable . . . Beautifully written and unpredictable . . . I had to stop myself racing to the end to find out what happened . . . Kate Hamer catches at the threads of what parents fear most—the abduction of a child—and weaves a disturbing and original story. There is menace in this book, lurking in the shadows on every page, but also innocence, love, and hope.” —Rosamund Lupton, author of *Sisters*

“Gripping and sensitive—beautifully written, *The Girl in the Red Coat* is a compulsive, aching story full of loss and redemption.” —Lisa Ballantyne, author of *The Guilty One*

“[A] spectacular debut ... Telling the story in two remarkable voices, with Beth’s chapters unfurling in past tense and Carmel’s in present tense, the author weaves a page-turning narrative. The trajectories of the novel’s two leads—through despair, hope, and redemption—are believable and nuanced, resulting in a morally complex, haunting read.” —*Publishers Weekly*, starred review

“Reading this novel is a test of how fast you can turn pages.” —*Library Journal*, starred review

“Hamer’s lush use of language easily conjures fairy-tale imagery, especially of dark forests and Little Red Riding Hood. Although a kidnapped child is the central plot point, this is not a mystery but a novel of deep inquiry and intense emotions. Hamer’s dark tale of the lost and found is nearly impossible to put down and will spark much discussion.” —*Booklist*, starred review

“Poignantly details the loss and loneliness of a mother and daughter separated...Fast-paced ... Hamer beautifully renders pain, exactly capturing the evisceration of loss...Exquisite prose surrounding a mother and daughter torn apart.” —*Kirkus Reviews*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Harriet Blum:

As people who live in the actual modest era should be update about what going on or facts even knowledge to make these people keep up with the era that is always change and make progress. Some of you maybe will update themselves by reading through books. It is a good choice for you personally but the problems coming to an individual is you don't know what type you should start with. This *The Girl in the Red Coat* is our recommendation so you keep up with the world. Why, as this book serves what you want and want in this era.

Stephen Hilton:

The guide untitled The Girl in the Red Coat is the e-book that recommended to you to learn. You can see the quality of the publication content that will be shown to you actually. The language that creator use to explained their way of doing something is easily to understand. The copy writer was did a lot of study when write the book, to ensure the information that they share to you personally is absolutely accurate. You also could get the e-book of The Girl in the Red Coat from the publisher to make you a lot more enjoy free time.

Carolyn Hoar:

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