



# The Last Place You'd Look: True Stories of Missing Persons and the People Who Search for Them

By Carole Moore

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What happens when a non-custodial parent kidnaps her son? Or a college student vanishes after a night out with friends? Or a middle-aged man seemingly drowns in calm waters? What do family members, friends, and law enforcement do when a beloved goes missing? Here, Moore explores an array of missing persons' scenarios, using real life stories, to uncover the various ways that people go missing, the efforts made to retrieve them, the emotional fallout for family and friends, and the difficulties and challenges such cases present for all involved. She covers parental abductions, intentional disappearances, stranger abductions, the missing and mentally ill, runaways, foul play, and other situations where people go missing. In addition, the criminal justice approach to missing persons is discussed, as Moore looks at the science of missing persons (DNA, forensic dentistry, etc.), resources for family and friends, national organizations such as the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, and other groups involved in searching and recovering loves ones. Here, readers will discover how people are found, how missing persons' cases are treated, and how and why some stories have happy endings and others do not.

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## **The Last Place You'd Look: True Stories of Missing Persons and the People Who Search for Them** By Carole Moore **Bibliography**

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### Editorial Review

#### Review

An easy to digest narrative of a very difficult subject. Carole Moore has a way of immersing you into story without letting you drown in detail. A highly recommended read for those who desire a realistic look into the world of the missing and unidentified. A much needed nudge in the right direction for those most effected. (Todd Matthews, [www.TentGirl.com](http://www.TentGirl.com), National Volunteer Advisory Board and the Center for Human Identification Program at UNTHSC )

A remarkable book that offers encouragement to families of the missing. (Barbara Nelson, Responding to Missing and Unidentified Persons Conference, Fox Valley Technical College )

Carole Moore's book, *The Last Place You'd Look* is an A to Z primer about the world of the missing. From abductions, to the history of forensic dentistry, to the realities of CSI against an entertainment industry that takes too many liberties, we get a full picture of the awful tragedy of the many stories about those who get lost, are victimized, or are "just gone" one day. It is impossible to know how the people who are left behind feel, but Moore takes us inside, sharing the family situations as well as the burden on the police-all the folks who dedicate their lives to finding them. This is a well-researched, important read. (Andrea Campbell, editor for the Arkansas Identification News and diplomat and fellow of the American College of Forensic Examiners International )

A guided tour through the perplexing realm of missing persons. Moore is a professional writer who also spent 12 years as a police officer. She thought she knew a lot about the missing-person phenomenon until she started talking with family members of the missing and attended a conference on missing and unidentified persons. The number of missing adults across the United States at any given point hovers around 40,000, an admittedly rough estimate. When children are included, the number at least doubles. Using case studies, Moore goes broad more than deep, examining almost every imaginable angle: police-agency procedures when receiving a missing-person report; procedures which are too often insensitive and outdated; advances in forensic technology, especially DNA and dental records, which sometimes mean a higher rate of cases solved; abductions of children by a biological parent feuding with the other biological parent; the unique challenges of searching for missing persons who are mentally ill; missing-person cases that cross international borders; the usually devastating, permanent impacts on family members searching for loved ones; how to prove foul play when no physical evidence emerges; and heroic searchers who are unrelated to the missing person by blood, including those at organizations such as Project Jason, the Charley Project, Cue Center for Missing Persons, the Center for Hope and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, among others. The author's case studies, usually treated in a page or two, can create a dizzying effect, but they are appropriate to her arguments. By nature depressing, but shot through with rays of optimism. (*Kirkus Reviews* )

Since the National Child Safety Council introduced its missing-children milk-carton program in 1984, the problem of disappearing loved ones has sadly grown more widespread. If one includes adults such as college students and the mentally ill, the number of missing persons cases swells to nearly 2,000 per day in the U.S. alone. Yet according to journalist and former police officer Moore, resources for tracking and successfully closing these cases continue to grow, with sophisticated Internet databases and increasing cooperation between national agencies and local law enforcement. Moore was drawn into the crisis when she learned that a college friend disappeared while hitchhiking. This heartbreakingly true story is just one of dozens Moore shares

in a thorough overview of the problems involved in locating everyone, from children abducted by noncustodial parents to the victims of unsolved murders. While Moore's background contributes to a somewhat biased reluctance to criticize flawed enforcement policies, her work offers much valuable information for bereaved families, as well as guidance for staying safer in an increasingly predatory world. (Booklist )

*The Last Place You'd Look* offers readers a rare inside glimpse at missing person cases, highlighting how disappearances unfold, the effect on those involved and what such cases mean for society as a whole....Moore's hands-on experience — she served 12 years with the Jacksonville Police Department as a patrol officer and criminal investigator — shows, but it's her personal connections and care she takes with the families of those who have lost loved ones that shines through in her work....The book examines unsolved disappearances by exploring how people go missing, what efforts are made to find them and the emotional fallout for those left behind. (Jacksonville Daily News )

There are few things more terrifying than a loved one disappearing without a trace, yet this unfortunate reality happens to thousands of people a year. People are kidnapped (sometimes by family members), the mentally ill disappear, we lose track of those traveling abroad, and sometimes people are snatched right out of their own home. Moore, a former police officer, offers anecdotes and personal experience outlining the different types of missing persons, typical police procedures, what family members should be aware of, and finally, the occasional success. Readers looking for a CSI-like collection of happy stories and dramatic denouements should look elsewhere, immediately. These stories are hard, often heartbreaking, and flow forth with the cynical wisdom of the bureaucrat. No doubt this is important information to possess, even vital.

(Publishers Weekly )

Focuses on the efforts of police, search and rescue, nonprofits and volunteer organizations to resolve missing persons cases....*The Last Place You'd Look* provides searches a starting point and gives readers an overview of 'the club no one wants to belong to.' Moore explores an array of real life stories to uncover the various ways people go missing, the efforts made to retrieve them, the emotional fallout, and the challenges such cases present for all involved. (Law Enforcement Technology )

This book can be summed up in four words: It's excellent. Read it.... The author tells the missing-person story as if through a literary novel. She focuses on details that penetrate with emotional intensity, then flows on to paint the broad picture around them. Ms. Moore lends immediacy and credibility to the book by writing in her own voice and drawing from personal experience. She closes the overall story of despair with a collection of happy endings, giving the reader a sense of hopeful empowerment. *The Last Place You'd Look* is lean, balanced, informative, and compelling. The more people who read it, the better chance any lost person has of getting found. (New York Journal Of Books )

#### From the Author

When you hear "missing person" you probably think of people who lead dangerous lives -- people on the edge -- but that's not what I found when I wrote this book. Instead, I discovered a 19-year-old on his way to work, a former serviceman who took off hiking, a teenager hanging around a swimming pool on hot afternoon, a mom who ran to the store, a daughter who went to a party, a father who vanished from his home; in other words, ordinary people who disappeared without a trace. I also found some 40,000 Jane and John Does all over the country, many buried in anonymous graves. I examined the process used by police, family and non-profits to search for the missing and unite the dead with their identities. These are their stories and, yes, they can be disheartening, but I believe it's vitally important that they be told.

#### From the Inside Flap

**WHAT HAPPENS** when a non-custodial parent kidnaps her son? Or a college student vanishes after a night

out with friends? Or a middle-aged man seemingly drowns in calm waters? What do family members, friends, and law enforcement do when a loved one goes missing? Here, Carole Moore explores an array of missing persons scenarios, using real-life stories, to uncover the various ways that people go missing, the efforts made to retrieve them, the emotional fallout for family and friends, and the difficulties and challenges such cases present for all involved. She covers parental abductions, intentional disappearances, stranger abductions, the missing and mentally ill, runaways, foul play, and other situations where people go missing. In addition, the criminal justice approach to missing persons is discussed, as Moore looks at the science of missing persons (DNA, forensic dentistry, etc.), resources for family and friends, national organizations such as the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, and other groups involved in searching for and recovering loved ones. Here, readers will discover how people are found, how missing persons cases are treated, and how and why some stories have happy endings and others do not.

## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Lonnie Bowers:**

What do you in relation to book? It is not important along with you? Or just adding material when you really need something to explain what your own problem? How about your free time? Or are you busy man? If you don't have spare time to do others business, it is gives you the sense of being bored faster. And you have free time? What did you do? Everyone has many questions above. They must answer that question because just their can do which. It said that about reserve. Book is familiar on every person. Yes, it is proper. Because start from on pre-school until university need that The Last Place You'd Look: True Stories of Missing Persons and the People Who Search for Them to read.

#### **Carla Floyd:**

This book untitled The Last Place You'd Look: True Stories of Missing Persons and the People Who Search for Them to be one of several books that best seller in this year, here is because when you read this reserve you can get a lot of benefit in it. You will easily to buy this particular book in the book shop or you can order it via online. The publisher of the book sells the e-book too. It makes you more readily to read this book, as you can read this book in your Touch screen phone. So there is no reason to you to past this book from your list.

#### **Louis Hartford:**

Your reading 6th sense will not betray you actually, why because this The Last Place You'd Look: True Stories of Missing Persons and the People Who Search for Them publication written by well-known writer who really knows well how to make book that may be understand by anyone who else read the book. Written with good manner for you, leaking every ideas and creating skill only for eliminate your personal hunger then you still hesitation The Last Place You'd Look: True Stories of Missing Persons and the People Who Search for Them as good book not only by the cover but also by the content. This is one e-book that can break don't ascertain book by its deal with, so do you still needing one more sixth sense to pick this specific!? Oh come on your reading sixth sense already told you so why you have to listening to another sixth sense.

**Donald Thomas:**

A number of people said that they feel uninterested when they reading a reserve. They are directly felt it when they get a half parts of the book. You can choose the book The Last Place You'd Look: True Stories of Missing Persons and the People Who Search for Them to make your own personal reading is interesting. Your skill of reading skill is developing when you such as reading. Try to choose basic book to make you enjoy you just read it and mingle the idea about book and looking at especially. It is to be initially opinion for you to like to open a book and study it. Beside that the e-book The Last Place You'd Look: True Stories of Missing Persons and the People Who Search for Them can to be a newly purchased friend when you're really feel alone and confuse in what must you're doing of that time.

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