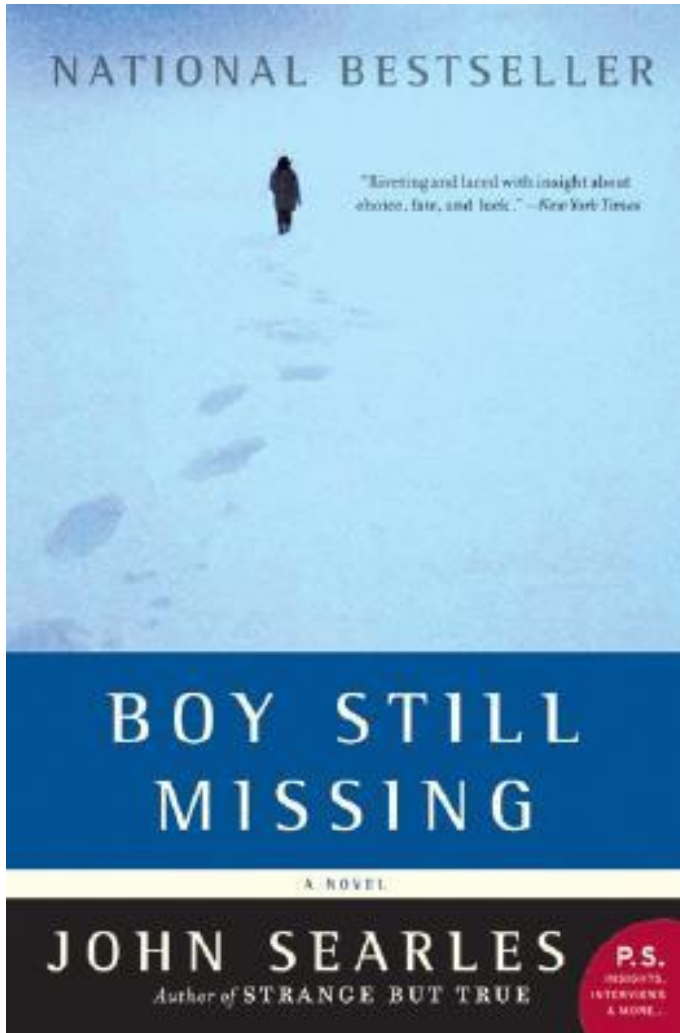

John Searles

Boy Still Missing: A Novel



Title: Boy Still Missing: A Novel

Author: John Searles

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Description

It is June 1971. Dominick Pindle, a tenderhearted but aimless Massachusetts teenager, spends his nights driving around with his mother and dragging his wayward father out of bars. Late one evening, Dominick's search puts him face-to-face with his father's seductive mistress, Edie Kramer. Instantly in lust, he begins a forbidden relationship with this beautiful, mysterious woman. Before long, though, their erotic entanglement leads to a shocking death, and Dominick discovers that the mother he betrayed hid secrets as dark and destructive as his own.

Charged with the exhilarating narrative pace of a thriller and set during a complicated and explosive era, *Boy Still Missing* is the critically acclaimed debut novel from John Searles. It renders a deeply affecting portrait of a boy whose passage into adulthood proves as complex and impassioned as the history that unfolds before his eyes.

Insightful reviews

Daleen Berry: **Haunting, lyrical and melodic**

Boy Still Missing reads like a haunting tale, its melody remaining long after the reader finishes the last lyrical word. A cross between southern writers Bobbie Ann Mason and Flannery O'Connor, northerner (and Cosmo editor) John Searles proves that Yankee men can write a good "southern" story, too. Searles' style captivates the reader, effortlessly carrying her (in this case) through not just this fictional coming-of-age story, but also into the recesses of her own mind, life and experiences.

That is what great writing does: It provokes and causes one to pause, to reflect and try to find answers about life. Whether those answers are personal, peripheral or pivotal does not even matter, for Searles has provided the best answer of all--a lovely piece of prose in which nothing is what it seems; Dominick Pindle, a character most sons can relate to; and anticipation for an ending does not disappoint. Don't miss *Boy Still Missing*, for it will touch you in all the ways that matter, ensuring you spend a rich afternoon of pure pleasure with a writer whose work you will want to follow!

Nadine: John Searles is one of those writers I bumped into by accident. I hadn't intended on reading his book, but I was hooked on the free sample on Google books. After reading several paragraphs of this book, I started out on a search of all books John Searles. I read, "Strange But True" and I loved it. The writing style is whimsical enough to keep me interested, not alienated.

I just finished r reading this. It exceeded my expectations. AWESOME book. Did anyone else have go back and read the prologue? I did. I wasn't paying attention in the beginning.

Beem Weeks: Dominick Pindle is a fifteen-year-old boy with far too much on his plate. Whenever his alcoholic father goes AWOL from the family apartment, it's always Dominick sent to retrieve the man from any one of the small bars and pubs dotting the landscape of Holedo,

Massachusetts. Then, on a June night in 1971, Dominick is sent by his suspicious mother to the home of one Edie Kramer, possible mistress to the boy's father.

While he finds his father there, passed out in Edie Kramer's bed, the aimless teenager doesn't report the discovery to his mother, choosing instead to lie. But the lie isn't meant to protect his philandering dad; Dominick Pindle finds himself in lust with the beautiful (and pregnant) Ms. Kramer.

The teen becomes confidant to the older woman. Secrets are spilled, confessions are made, and Dominick Pindle's life—his very world—will never be the same again.

Edie needs money and Dominick knows just where to get plenty. But in taking this cash for his friend, Dominick triggers a chain reaction that will ultimately take away the one person he loves most in this world.

Author John Searles has painted a vivid portrait of the prototypical dysfunctional family, with a skill not usually witnessed in debut novels. The story itself is strong and quite intriguing, drawing readers in with little effort. The plot remains solid from start to finish. Searles's characters are more than believable—they are people we've known throughout our own lives.

The only complaint I have against this work is that at times the writing slips from fresh and unique to generic and dull. The ending drifted into the sappy and cliché. But don't let that deter you. If you're searching for a good, solid read, I recommend this story.

Linda Lipko: gradual in pace, I virtually gave this the 50 web page rule. i am completely satisfied I hung in there and ended up analyzing the publication in a single sitting. It was once commonplace for fifteen 12 months previous Dominick Pindle to force every one evening together with his mom and her female friend as they sought for his father's car, and, discovering him at a bar, Dominick continuously used to be the one that went inside of and begged Daddy to come back home. However, it was once strange while Dominick's mom came upon his father's vehicle parked in a woman's driveway rather than a bar. Retrieving his father from appealing divorced Edie set Dominick on a existence altering path. This one occasion despatched ripples of destruction for lots of involved. Dominick fell in love/lust with a lot older Edie. utilizing him for emotional support, and with a purpose to comprehend his father, Edie teased and manipulated younger Dominick. Soon, studying that she used to be pregnant together with his father's child, Dominick stole his mother's emergency fund funds from a compartment in her bed room and gave \$8,000 to Edie. Refusing to abort the baby, Edie used to be overwhelmed by means of Dominick's father and left on her personal to accommodate the situation. utilizing Edie's stolen money, she paid her money owed and left town. Concurrently, studying that his father is once more lacking in action, Dominick attempted to console his distraught mother. Torn among his immature emotions towards Edie, and the pity and love that he feels for his mother, he burns with anger towards his father. Their residence is cold, and his mother, who's familiar with his father's widespread abandonment, seems even more disappointed than usual. by myself and desperate, Dominick's mom dies from a self caused abortion. discovering his mom lifeless in a neighborhood hotel, in a pool of blood, Dominick

learns that his mom used to be additionally pregnant. And, if he shouldn't have stolen her money, she may have used it to procure a secure abortion someplace outdoors of the United States. Conceived because of loneliness, Edie's mom longed for affection and had an affair with an area policeman, Dominick's mom additionally was once deserted via the daddy of the kid who initially helped set off the abortion, yet left her whilst it used to be visible issues have been going wrong. To appease his guilt, Dominick took drastic measures. working clear of home, on a quest to confront Edie along with her selfishness, and to rescue his child sister, after days went by, the headlines now kingdom that he's "The Boy nonetheless Missing." this can be a complex story, and by the hands of a much less proficient author, it will were a cleaning soap opera disaster. Instead, the writing is crisp and the characters so splendidly developed, that it really is certainly greatly definitely worth the time and effort spent to finish. At occasions convoluted and hard to follow, one of many top statements that shines via is that of women's rights to chose. At a time while abortions have been illegal, Dominick's mom might have lived if she had the alternative to abort her child in a safe, sterile environment.

Graham Botha: A e-book that's particularly relatively compelling, no matter if the sequence of occasions lacks credibility. The plot comes just about being realistic, yet from time to time pushes the credibility issue to the purpose the place it virtually turns into adolescent fantasy. an enthralling starting slides into the doldrums of the center and warms to a nearly demanding end. I loved the book, yet won't rush to learn extra through this author.

Colleen: i discovered this on my shelf today. A quick, interesting at some point seashore read. I loved the book, yet every now and then the writing used to be choppy.....bouncing among teenage angst and a chilling tragedy. i need to learn whatever else by means of this writer to determine how he develops as a writer.

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