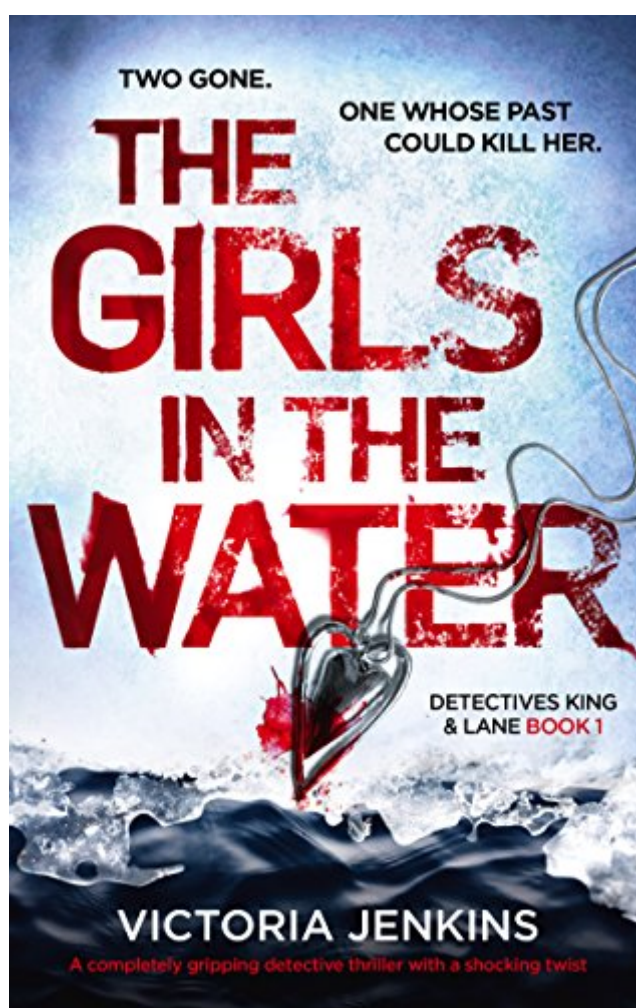


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The Girls In The Water: A Completely Gripping Detective Thriller With A Shocking Twist (Detectives King And Lane Book 1)



Synopsis

'WOW! This book was fantastic, I loved it. I literally binge read it because I couldn't put it down... if I could give it 6 stars I would.' *Bonnie's Book Talk* 'When she woke, she found herself in darkness. She couldn't move. She was going to die and she had no idea why.' Early one icy winter morning, Detective Alex King is called to a murder scene at a local park. The river is running high, and in the water lies the body of a woman, her wrists tied, and all her fingernails missing. The victim, beautiful, young Lola Evans, had a troubled past, but Alex's team can't find a reason why anyone would want to kill her. The pressure to solve the case keeps mounting, but all their leads run dry. Then, another body is found in the water. A disturbing clue suggests how the girls are connected. But who would target such vulnerable girls, and does this mean another life is at risk? Just when Alex thinks she has cracked the case, she realises one of her own team is in terrible danger. Alex is caught in a race against time to reach the next victim before it's too late... and some of her team must face terrifying truths from their own lives if they're to have a chance of catching the killer. Utterly nail-biting and compelling with a jaw-dropping twist, *The Girls in the Water* is perfect for fans of Robert Bryndza, Val McDermid, and Mark Billingham. What readers are saying about *The Girls in the Water*: 'An incredibly compelling and gripping read. The book had me glued to the pages as the investigation into the murder victim unfolded and various layers of the skilfully crafted plot came together. I stayed up way too late in a desperate attempt to finish as the team races against the clock to save another potential victim. This is an incredible debut by Victoria Jenkins and a thrilling and exciting start to a new series.' *Novel Deelights*, 5 stars 'A wonderfully gripping story that makes me excited for book 2!' *Breakfast at Shelby's* 'The first word that comes into my head is WOW! This book was fantastic, I loved it. I literally binge read it because I couldn't put it down. The characters were complex and very likeable and I can't wait to see them again in the next instalment. This was a really good book, if I could give it 6 stars I would.' *Bonnie's Book Talk* 'This book is so far my favourite UK mystery.' *Goodreads* reviewer, 5 stars. 'This book has everything, a great plot, well developed characters that you become truly invested in and a very clever perpetrator that is determined to make his mark. If you love thrilling police procedurals, this book is a must!!' *Goodreads* reviewer, 5 stars 'This book is incredible... completely enthralling and I can't wait for the next!' *Kitty Catalyst Bibliophile* 'A superb book... loved it!' *Goodreads* reviewer 'Danger hangs around the corner. Excitement on every page. I felt the chills run down my arms. The prickling sensation of fear... Yes, this is fiction but the reality of the characters both dead and alive were so believable. I highly recommend *The Girls in the Water* to readers worldwide.' *Urban Book Reviews* 'Wow! What an incredible, assured and resounding debut!

Enjoyed every page of this brilliant book. A beautifully crafted story, with many twists and turns that keep you guessing. The character development is fab. Loved the detectives and the backstory and the way everything fell into place at the end. Intelligent, fast paced and thrilling. Loved it!' Renita D'Silva, 5 stars. 'Really gripping... I'll definitely be tuning in to the next book in the series.' Love is a State of Mind

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Customer Reviews

Very addicting book fast paced keeps you guessing and a lot of surprises things would never expect a excellent book

Good read.

A body is found in a river. King and Lane are swiftly on the case but have barely scratched the surface when another body is found. With the body count rising, can they get to the bottom of things? As they try and solve these, often gruesome crimes, hindered by their own personal demons from the past, they face a race against time to find the perpetrator before they strike

again? This was a bit of a slow burner for me. Yes, it's a series opener and there are scenes to set, characters to introduce and backstories to lay down but, to me, this didn't come across as in balance with the actual story going on as it did overshadow it a bit. The story itself was a little repetitive. I understand the need to reinforce the salient points but, at times, this was done a little bit too much. There was also a lot of stuff going on in the characters' own lives that, although on the whole, pertinent to the goings on, did spoil my overall enjoyment of the book. That said, I did read through my niggles and was mostly satisfied at the conclusion. I don't think it helped me that I failed to connect with the main characters in the book. Maybe I got a bit fed up with their incessant internal musing and the way their personal lives and backstories got in the way of the story I was trying to follow. This would indicate that it is probably a me thing rather than the author's fault. Don't get me wrong, I do love delving into a character's history as I usually find it helps me connect to them, but in this case, it pretty much did the opposite. The actual crime was well plotted and that part of the book did hold my attention nicely as I tried to follow the clues myself to guess the ending which, when it came, was very well handled and that part did leave me satisfied. Now the big question... has the book grabbed me enough to get me to read the next? I think it did. In the second book, I would imagine that the characters' lives would take a bit more of a backseat as they have now been defined and are pretty much established. Also, with certain things mostly resolved, I would expect that the crime would be a bit more front and centre in book two. With that in mind, coupled with the fact that the actual crime story being told was good, I will definitely give the sequel a read when it come out. My thanks go to the Publisher and Netgalley for the chance to read this book.

Woo! What a fantastic way to kick off a new series! The prologue alone already made me move to the edge of my seat and after finishing those two pages, I was hooked and utterly convinced this would be one tense ride. My expectations skyrocketed at that point and I was not left disappointed as the promise of something dark and twisted was completely fulfilled. When the body of a young woman is found in a local park, DI Alex King and DC Chloe Lane are put on the case. But Chloe quickly becomes distracted and obsessed as someone is taunting her about the death of her brother, Luke. Did he commit suicide or was he murdered? Joys of joys, what a wonderful team of women we have here. Girl power and all that! Both are flawed and have baggage which makes them all the more realistic and believable. Chloe struggles with her past in more ways than one and Alex, while divorced from her husband, is still sleeping with him. As you do. *The Girls in the Water* is an incredibly compelling and gripping read. There are characters I loved and characters I'd happily strangle myself. The book had me glued to the pages as the

investigation into the murder victim unfolded and various layers of the skilfully crafted plot came together. I stayed up way too late in a desperate attempt to finish as the team races against the clock to save another potential victim. This is an incredible debut by Victoria Jenkins and a thrilling and exciting start to a new series. It has so much to offer, from a chilling killer to a haunting backstory and with an intelligent plot and interesting characters. I can't wait to see more of Alex and Chloe!

I'm always super excited when I'm able to jump in on the ground floor of a new series, it's so intimidating when you really want to read a book and you realize it's the eighth book already, right?! The Girls in the Water is an excellent beginning to an exciting new series, if you want to catch it from the beginning it's out now! Alex and Chloe are the two lead characters, they are partners and Alex is Chloe's boss. Alex is in her forties and Chloe is in her twenties but despite their age difference, they make quite the team. The case they're working on is really intense, young women are being murdered and left in bodies of water. When a tie to Chloe's past is uncovered the tension mounts as they realize she may be in danger as well. The character development was strong here, both Alex and Chloe have interesting pasts. Alex has a complex relationship with her ex husband, Rob and Chloe's brother died when she was younger. The dynamics of the team were also engaging, I quite liked all of them besides Alex and Chloe including Dan and their superintendent Harry. The pacing is steady to start, I think this is partly because Jenkins is introducing the reader to a new cast of characters. Things do amp up as the book progresses and the climax was intense and got my pulse pounding. There were also quite a few surprising turns that caught me off guard, being shocked is always good! I'm looking forward to the next book already and think fans of Patricia Gibney would enjoy this one.

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