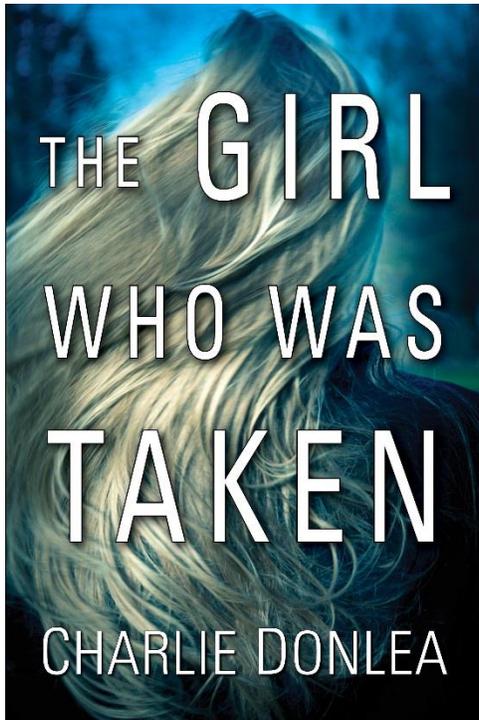


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**THIS IS THE STORY OF TWO GIRLS. . .**  
**THE ONE WHO RETURNS,**  
**AND THE ONE WHO DOESN'T.**



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**THE GIRL WHO WAS TAKEN**

Charlie Donlea

Kensington Books, May 2017

Charlie Donlea, one of the most *original* new voices in suspense, returns with a haunting novel, laden with twists and high tension, as two women — one the sister of a missing girl and the other the victim who managed to escape — come together to uncover the identity of the madman behind the abductions.

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**Praise For Charlie Donlea's SUMMIT LAKE:**

“The whodunit plot is so clever and compelling . . . For fans of nonstop mysteries with a twist.”  
– *Library Journal*

“With a soaring pace and teasing plot twists, Charlie Donlea’s debut mystery is like a cool drink of water with a twist of lemon. It’s refreshing to find a book that has such a well-developed plot and excellent writing to back it up.” – *BookPage*

“This exceptional debut will challenge the most ardent reader to discover the culprit. The buildup to the startling climax is handled with kid gloves, giving away only as much as Donlea wishes to reveal, the ending is a stunner.” – *RT Book Reviews, 4.5 Stars (Top Pick)*

“Debut author Donlea keeps the reader racing through the chapters about Becca’s past, trying to stay one step ahead of the present-day investigation.”  
– *Booklist*

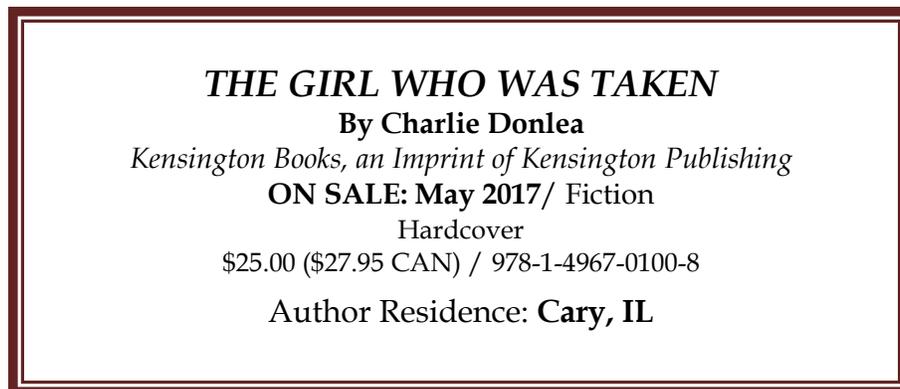
Nicole Cutty and Megan McDonald are both high school seniors in the small town of Emerson Bay, North Carolina. When they disappear from a beach party one warm summer night, police launch a massive search. No clues are found, and hope is almost lost until Megan miraculously surfaces after escaping from a bunker deep in the woods.

A year later, the bestselling account of her ordeal has turned Megan from local hero to national celebrity. It's a triumphant, inspiring story, except for one *inconvenient* detail: Nicole is still missing. Nicole's older sister Livia, a fellow in forensic pathology, expects that one day soon Nicole's body will be found, and it will be up to someone like Livia to analyze the evidence and finally determine her sister's fate. Instead, the first clue to Nicole's disappearance comes from another body that shows up in Livia's morgue--that of a young man connected to Nicole's past. Livia reaches out to Megan for help, hoping to learn more about the night the two were taken. Others girls have gone missing too, and Livia is increasingly certain the cases are connected.

But Megan knows more than she revealed in her blockbuster book. Flashes of memory are coming together, pointing to something darker and more monstrous than her chilling memoir describes. And the deeper she and Livia dig, the more they realize that sometimes true terror lies in finding exactly what you've been looking for.

### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR:**

**Charlie Donlea** was born and raised in Chicago. He now lives in the suburbs with his wife and two young children. Readers can find him online at [charliedonlea.com](http://charliedonlea.com).



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