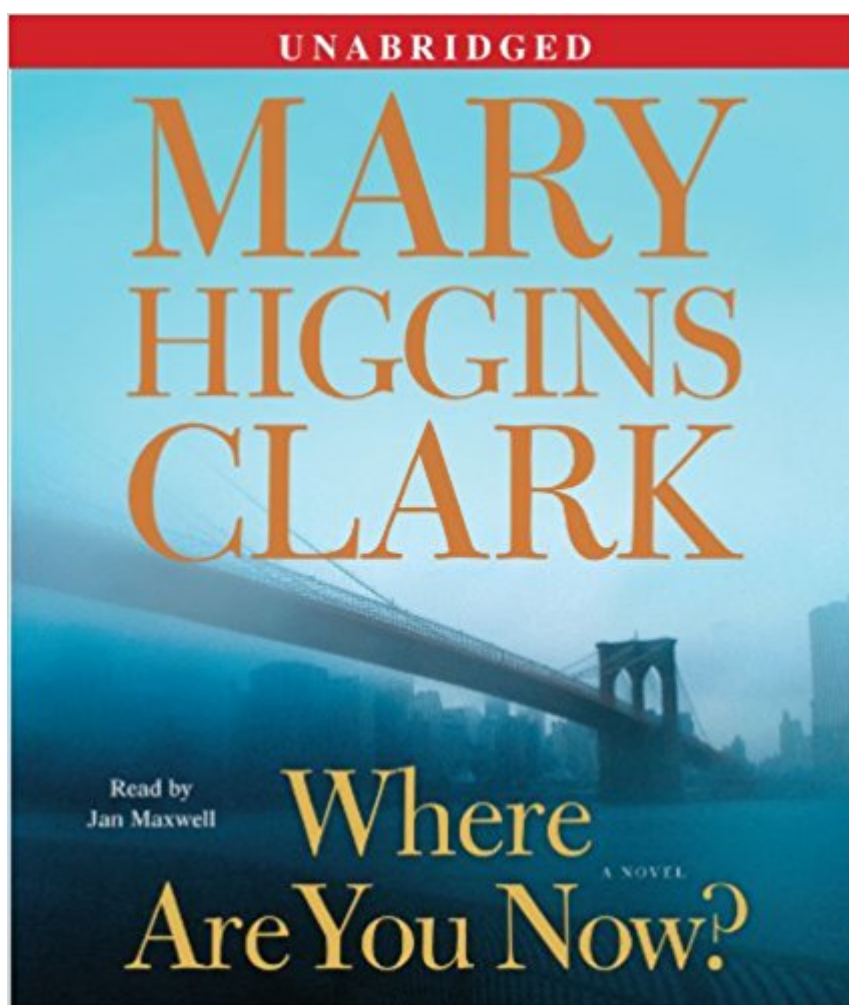


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Where Are You Now?: A Novel



Synopsis

It has been ten years since 21-year-old Kevin MacKenzie, Jr. ("Mac"), has been missing. A Columbia University senior, about to graduate and already enrolled in Duke University Law School, he walked out of his room in Manhattan's Upper West Side without a word to his college roommate and has never been seen again. However, he does make three ritual phone calls to his mother every year: on her birthday, on his birthday, and on Mother's Day. Each time, he assures her he is fine, refuses to answer her frantic questions, then hangs up. Even the death of his father, a corporate lawyer, on 9/11 does not bring him home, or break the pattern of his calls. Mac's sister Carolyn is now 26, a law school graduate, and has just been hired as an assistant district attorney in Manhattan. She has endured two family tragedies -- her brother's inexplicable disappearance, and the loss of her father. Realizing that neither she nor her mother will ever be able to have closure and get on with their lives until they find her brother, she sets out to discover what happened to Mac, and why he has found it necessary to hide from them. Her journey into the world of people who willingly disappear from their own lives leads her to learn about others who may or may not still be alive, and ultimately to a deadly confrontation with someone close to her who suddenly becomes an enemy -- and cannot allow her to disclose his secret...

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Mary Higgins Clark, America's Queen of Suspense, hasn't lost her touch. In *Where Are You Now?* she writes a chilling tale of a psychopath stalking his prey on the streets of Manhattan near the SoHo night clubs. Four women are missing and presumed dead. Also missing for the past ten years,

but presumed alive, is Charles "Mack" MacKenzie, Jr., who calls his mother once a year on Mother's Day, telling her he is OK and not to search for him. Mack's sister Carolyn is frustrated that the NYPD and a private investigator, in spite of their intense efforts, have been unable to solve the mystery of Mack's disappearance. She resolves to find him, and, of course, by doing so, puts her own life in jeopardy. Is Mack still alive, and if so, what kind of trouble is he in? Is he the serial killer? If not, then who is? And what is Mack's motive for dropping out of sight? Scattering red herrings along the path, Clark leads us to suspect various candidates as being the shadowy predator of young women. We begin to wonder whom can we trust? Clark's writing is crisp and clear. Although surprising, the plot resolution is convincing and satisfying; the veteran author ties together all the loose ends. And, as always, her work is admirably clean, without obscenity or profanity.

Years ago, a college student named Charles ("Mack") MacKenzie walked out of his life for no apparent reason. Since then, once a year, he calls his mother to assure her that he's all right, and to ask her not to look for him. Now, Mack's younger sister, Carolyn, has decided to find him. Her search uncovers a lot of old secrets among the people closest to her, and someone is trying to prevent Carolyn from solving the mystery behind her brother's disappearance--by any means necessary.... Once again, Mary Higgins Clark has provided us with a sleek, fascinating thriller that builds to a terrific payoff. I read it in one long sitting, and you'll be tempted to do the same. There's a good reason for her 30-year reign as America's "Queen of Suspense," and *WHERE ARE YOU NOW?* is ample proof of her extraordinary talent. Recommended.

If you have a free afternoon, this book won't disappoint you. Carolyn's brother disappeared over 10 years ago. He calls his mother once a year on Mother's Day. Carolyn sees the toll his disappearance is taking on her mother. She also wants to get on with her own life. She tells her brother she is going to find him on his most recent call. On that same day, a young student disappears while walking home from a club. Carolyn begins to search for her brother while uncovering many connections to the new disappearance and other cases of missing girls. This book held my interest. Early on I suspected someone but the connections were a total surprise. You will enjoy this book. It is as good as early MHJ books.

I have been a MHC fan for the past few years and have slowly been catching up on all her previous efforts. I finished her more distant and far superior *While My Pretty One Sleeps* two days before starting her latest. One of the MHC hallmarks for me is that you are instantly hooked with the first

paragraph. This book didn't do that for me. I had to force myself to keep at it. It didn't really start to gel until 80-100 pages in. The whole plotline with the father and 9/11 felt forced and added zero to the story line. I can see that maybe she wanted to pay tribute to 9/11 but it just seemed added on. Also the main character tells her part of the story in first person and that seemed out of place with the rest of the story. As well as her love interest never really seemed to spark with her. I will say though that the ending was very very good. I didn't see a certain twist coming although I did guess another one from the first chapters. All and all not her best effort, I would wait for the paperback or take it out from the library, it definitely wasn't worth the \$16 I paid.

I love MHC. I have read all of her books and I am a huge fan. I am dissapointed in having to say that this book left me bored to tears. It drug on and on. The premise is good-I highly anticipated reading this book and couldn't wait for it to come out. Once I got started it just became a convoluted mess. Too many characters to follow, which I guess were to be red herrings but all it did was add to confusion. I honestly got bored and couldn't wait to finish...not to find out the ending but just be be put out of my misery. Thankfully, I had a bonus reward and got this book for just a couple of bucks. Buy it used y'all or get it at the library or wait the year and get it in paperback. Trust me...you aren't missing a thing.

The author states at the opening that the idea for this novel came to her when an article in a newspaper caught her eye about a missing person who called home every Mother's Day. I am in awe of her talent and in admiration of her ability to craft an intriguing novel on that premise. She weaves an incredible tale, and several options for the reader to peruse about the puzzle of what really happened to law student, Mack McKenzie. He had the world in the palm of his hand, when he seems to drop off the face of the earth. Even his father's death on 9/11 doesn't bring him home, yet he calls his Mother every Mothers Day. Ten years later on this Mother's day his younger sister puts her legal career on hold and vows to find him, or find out what happened to him so she and her mother can have peace. This riveting ride with all its twists and turns is well worth the price of admission. Only a truly gifted writer can pull it off so well, and without the sex and profanity that is so common today. Just goes to show, if you have the talent you don't need the shock value. Highly recommend it.

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