



2010

Girl, Stolen

Debbie Barr

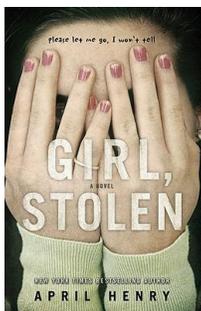
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Henry, April. *Girl, Stolen*. Henry Holt, 2010. ISBN 9780805090055. \$16.99. 215 p.

Reviewer: Debbie Barr

Reading level: Young Adult

Rating: Outstanding

Genre: Fiction; Contemporary Realistic Fiction;

Subject: Kidnapping--Juvenile fiction; Blind--Juvenile fiction; Fathers and sons--Juvenile fiction; Books--Reviews;

When Cheyenne stays in the car while her mom picks up some anti-biotic for her pneumonia, she thinks everything will be fine. That is, until someone else gets into the unlocked car and drives away with her still curled up in the back seat. To make matters worse, Cheyenne is blind as well as sick, leaving her almost helpless. Her captor, Griffin, had no intention of kidnapping her and hopes his dad Roy, a carjacker, will just let her go. Then they find out Cheyenne is the daughter of Nike's president, and Roy gets greedy. Griffin is sure Roy will let her go once they get the ransom, but Cheyenne isn't so sure, and escapes by knocking out Griffin, who has been as kind to her as he can. After a blind run through the woods Roy catches her, and she has to drive his car blind and escapes.

Henry has written a masterful story, full of suspense, subtlety, and surprises. The characters feel real, even the so-called "kidnapper," Griffin, who is complex and sympathetic as he is under the thumb of his father. The danger of the Cheyenne's situation is only heightened by her blindness, making this a fast-paced read. Clean and captivating, *Girl, Stolen* would be a great read for any teen, especially reluctant readers used to the thrills of television crime shows.

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