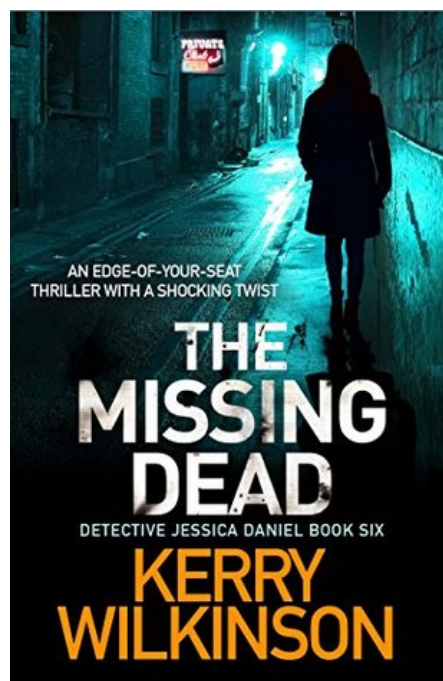




The Missing Dead

Kerry Wilkinson

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Think you can trust those closest to you? Think again.

When a couple arrive home to find their teenage babysitter, Oliver, has disappeared, they are angry their young daughter has been left alone. **Detective Sergeant Jessica Daniel** is sent to investigate and it quickly becomes clear that something truly sinister has happened.

Oliver didn't leave. He was taken.

In a sickening twist, a journalist discovers that an obituary was placed for the victim just days before he went missing. And it's only a matter of time before the body is discovered.

As Jessica and her team work to solve the crime, a woman is killed. Her brutal murder is identical to the dead teenager's. Jessica knows there must be a link but someone isn't telling the truth. Can she work out who . . . before someone else dies?

***The Missing Dead* is an addictive twisty thriller that will have you hooked from start to finish. A must read for fans of Angela Marsons, Robert Bryndza and Rachel Abbott.**

Note: previously published as 'Thicker than Water.'

Read what everyone is saying about *The Missing Dead*:

'Tense and gripping reads...this one took me about a day to finish... **a winner of a book.**' *In Search of the Classic Mystery Novel*

'**A thumping good read...**it is especially satisfying to see a female detective triumph. In addition, she is a ballsy, well rounded character that you end up rooting for as she puts herself in danger in order to close the case. **The clever and unexpected plot twist at the end is one which, in true British Sherlock Holmes style, could have been deduced by the reader using the clues provided by the author.** This is the epitome of a great holiday read. You can relax in the skilful hands of a writer who brings you with him every step of the story.' *Promoting Crime Fiction*

'Another brilliant, pacey novel. A good read from start to finish. **Keeps you engaged and entertained.**' *Frost Magazine*

'This is a very well written story. **You are led into believing you know who the killer is and then comes along another twist – very cleverly put together.** I liked the character of Jessica Daniel and it definitely makes me want to read another book with her featuring in it. Kerry Wilkinson puts together an intriguing yet humorous in parts story and is a very talented writer. Bring on the next book!' *Mojo Mums*

The Missing Dead Details

Date : Published March 29th 2017 by Bookouture (first published October 24th 2013)

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Author : Kerry Wilkinson

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Genre : Mystery, Crime, Fiction, Thriller

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From Reader Review The Missing Dead for online ebook

Petra says

Carrying on with book 7 straightaway due to that ending. Really enjoyed this, but there were a few things about the case being investigated that didn't make an awful lot of sense. Absolutely love the characters and their interactions though.

Denise says

A married couple hires a teenage boy to babysit while they go out for date night. When they return, the sitter is missing -- but their little daughter is still asleep in her crib. The parents of the boy don't know where he could be. Then, his body is found across town in an apartment. There is a connection between the families, but it takes Jessica and her team awhile to figure it all out. Add a thread tying in the owner of a strip club and you have a parcel of an interesting investigation.

Set in Manchester, this 6th in the Detective Sergeant Jessica Daniel is every bit as compelling as the previous books. I do love the series and all of the characters. The writing is fabulous and the plot moves forward at a pace designed to keep the reader's attention until the satisfying conclusion (except for that bit of an unfair cliffhanger, Mr. Wilkinson!). I like the relationships between Jessica and her team as well as the setting and the police procedural details. I'll keep reading this series as long as he writes it -- so on immediately to #7.

By the way, this book has another title now -- THE MISSING DEAD.

Liz Barnsley says

I dip in and out of the Jessica Daniel series - glad I headed back in for this one, it is excellent. I must catch up with my gaps! Full review to follow.

Neats says

This is the sixth book in the Jessica Daniels series.

Oliver, a teenage boy goes missing from a house he's supposed to be babysitting at but when the baby's parent's return home, nothing else is amiss and their daughter is still safely asleep in her cot.

DS Jessica Daniels is called in and although she's suspicious of the disappearance as Oliver's mobile was found at the house, she has nothing else to go on. But when a journalist friend informs her that someone placed an obituary for the missing teen two days before his disappearance her suspicions are raised even higher. When Oliver's body is then found in a seemingly random house across the other side of town the investigation takes a whole new turn.

This is another great read from Kerry Wilkinson and I really enjoyed the development of Jessica's character which is just as much a part of the story as the crime investigation. I would recommend you read this book

but I think that even though it could be read as a standalone it would be much more enjoyable if you've read the previous five novels.

Renita D'Silva says

Tense, thrilling, unputdownable. Jessica just gets better and better. A superb, mind bending plot of twists that had me guessing and desperately turning the pages. Another brilliant story from the incredible Kerry Wilkinson. I love this author and this series and cannot wait for the next.

Carol says

When Cameron and Eleanor Sexton return home, they find the babysitter missing and daughter asleep in her bed. Two more murders occur and DS Jessica Daniels is looking for the link that ties them all together. At work she pushes the line as she puts herself in danger to catch the bad guy but her personal issues showed a more vulnerable side to Jessica. The plot moved along at a good rate throwing in twists and turns that kept the suspense flowing. Jessica's team, work well together and support each other in personal lives as well. The Missing Dead can be read as a stand alone but I suggest you read the series as there is continual growth of the characters and is well worth the reads.

Linda Strong says

AKA -- THE MISSING DEAD

A married couple go out for 'date night', leaving their young daughter in the care of a friend's teenage son. When they return home, the first thing they see is that the front door is open. The baby sitter is gone ... their daughter is safely tucked into bed. At first they are angry that Oliver would leave his charge alone. But when they called his parents, he had not returned home ...and he left his phone behind. What happened to Oliver?

Then a couple of strange things happen. A journalist finds an obituary that had been placed for the victim just a few days before he disappeared. And then a few days later, Oliver's body is found in the bathtub of a woman he didn't know.

And when she is killed in the exact same way as the teenager, Detective Daniel sees sleepless nights ahead.

She and her team need to find the connection before the next body falls.

This is another habit-forming series that just gets better and better. Jessica Daniel is a solid character and it's been a roller coaster ride following her from the very first book. She's tough, she's honest, but some of her hard edges are softening just a bit. Her team is A+ .. they always have her back, and she has theirs.

There is a nice blend of professional angst and personal problems that easily keeps the reader's attention.

There are plenty of credible suspects to investigate. The action is fast-paced and the suspense is palpable.

This is a terrific series! I highly recommend starting with Book 1 and reading in order.

Many thanks to the author / Bookouture / Netgalley for the digital copy of The Missing Dead. Opinions expressed here are unbiased and entirely my own .

Melissa Borseley says

I received a copy of this book from Netgalley in exchange for my honest review. Thanks to Netgalley I have been fortunate to read and review all of the books in this excellent series. Unfortunately, I was not as engrossed in this story as I have been with all of the other books. I felt this book started off very slow and while I liked that this book concentrated alot on Jessica's personal life and relationships, the actual murder plot was lacking and I admit to skimming here and there which is not something that I have done with any of the other books. I did like this book, just not as much as the others. I am still looking forward to the next book in this series!

Elaine Tomasso says

I wasn't too keen on the original novel in the series, Locked In, so it took me a few years to retry the series and now I'm hooked as every book is better than the one before. Thicker Than Water is amazing as I had absolutely no idea where it was heading until the denouement and there are very few books I can say that about. It starts with Eleanor and Cameron returning from dinner to find their teenage babysitter, Oliver, missing and their toddler fast asleep. Days later his body is found in a stranger's bath. The question is why, especially when a week later the stranger, Kayleigh, is herself murdered in a similar way. This is definitely a one sitting read as there is so much going on, not only in the investigation but in Jessica's personal life where she suspects Adam is having an affair. I really warmed to Jess for the first time in this novel as she seems to have lost much of her stropiness and is a bit uncertain at times, which makes a pleasant change. She is ably supported by her usual cast who are as well drawn as required for a plot based novel. I strongly recommend Thicker Than Water as an absorbing read.

✕Tabby✕ says

2 stars because Jessica was a total bitch about the love confession! Actually, i'm done with this series I can't stand Jessica anymore!

Liz says

The sixth in the Jessica Daniel series and I continue to be impressed. Wilkinson does a great job of weaving a good story. Even the minor characters are painted in a way that you can picture them immediately.

The plot begins when a teenage boy goes missing while babysitting a little girl who is left unharmed. When it's discovered that his obituary was printed two days before this happened, Jessica knows things aren't going to end well.

This series is as much about the team and their interaction as it is about the current mystery. I appreciate that we not only get to see Jessica's personal life, but also that of her friends and team. Things are not as we would have expected based on how book #5 ended.

Jessica continues as one of my favorite detectives. Prickly, with a mean sarcastic side. Yet she also has her compassionate side which you see more and more of as the books go on. But it's her wit that gets me. I often find myself chuckling at her comments and thoughts.

And OMG on that ending. It's a damn good thing I already have book seven to dive into because six ends with a total cliffhanger.

My thanks to netgalley and Bookouture for an e-copy of this book in exchange for an honest review.

Sarah Joint says

Since there is a very small chance the author may glimpse this review: **Kerry Wilkinson, there's a little book reviewer in America who's quite upset with you right now.** How could you end a book that way? My poor heart. That simply wasn't fair, sir.

This is rapidly becoming one of my favorite series. If you haven't read any Jessica Daniel books, I highly recommend them: but start from the beginning! It's worth it. She has grown so much in the six books I've read, and in already looking forward to the next. They're filled with complex and likeable characters and great cases.

Talk about a nightmare: a couple rushes home after their babysitter doesn't answer the phone when they call to check on their sleeping daughter. The door is left open. There's a cell phone on the floor. The sitter is gone. ...But their little girl is still safely stuck in bed. Relief floods through them, but where is Oliver?

Though Oliver is still missing, a contact informs Jessica that an obituary ran in the paper a few days before he disappeared. Seems like someone may want to tease the police or his poor family after planning his murder. Before long, his body is found dumped... but not in any of the usual places. He's in a woman's bathtub. She's never met Oliver before, so why was he dumped there?

DS Daniel and her team scramble to figure out connections after there's another murder in the same fashion as the first. I have to admit that I didn't see most of the twists coming. Great addition to the series.

I received an ARC of this book from Net Galley and Bookouture, thank you! My review is honest and unbiased.

Kristi Elizabeth says

Read all my reviews at: <https://brainsfartsandbooks.wordpress...>

Talk about a twisty turny topsy turvy story. Kerry Wilkinson is at it again in this Jessica Daniel suspenseful thriller. Jessica gets called out to a house where a teenage boy named Oliver who was babysitting has vanished from. With her spidey skills, Jessica, in her own special let-me-bug-you-until-you-give-me-what-I-want kind of way digs deeper and deeper into the pasts of the many characters in this book. What I didn't expect, was for Kerry to throw in a little medical terminology. As a personal trainer who loves studying the human body (yes, I really should have gone to med school), anything in the way of biological science really sparks my interest. I love when a fictional read tosses info about a disease or something I didn't know existed into it. I also like how Jessica's personal story is told throughout the book. The reader wants to know more about her and Kerry does a great job of it. Overall, the plot of this book was really well done. The who, the why, the how, all very cut and dry and with that little "ding" of a lightbulb as everything gets drawn together. Some people wrote about how the ending was a bit mean because it leads you to the next part of Jessica's story without giving you what you really want to know. It's one of those stay tuned for the next episode of kind of ending. The good news is that Book 7 is out and you will be glued to the pages of that one as well.

Thank you to NetGalley, Kerry Wilkinson, and Bookouture for my ARC in exchange for an honest review.

Helen says

Clear five stars to this one - amazing stuff from my new favorite author. Absolutely brilliant characterisation and plot - totally compulsive: this is crime writing at its best. Looking forward to the next one - I'm starting Vigilante shortly and can't wait.

Melissa Souza says

******Thank you to Bookouture and Netgalley for sending me a ARC in return for an honest review.

Sadly this one is going into my DNF pile. I don't even know how this book has got a 5 star to 4 star rating. For an adult novel, the writing style is below mediocre. It read like a YA novel albeit a bad one.

The characters are so flat, I couldn't differentiate one from the next. Plus, the reveals are so boring. There's so heart thumping drama. I was expecting a thriller and this book doesn't even qualify as one. I don't even get the plot devices for story progression. Plus where are all the details? I want descriptions of the crime scene, the forensic process and so on. I want intricate and complex characters with damaged backstories. This was just blah. I couldn't even force myself to read the next page. I guess this one is for those who like simple whodunnit mysteries. I prefer the grimly, gruesome, raw and highly emotive crime thrillers. This was way too safe for me. That's why this book was not at all enjoyable.

I wouldn't recommend reading this book if you are a hardcore crime thriller fan like me. I'd best stick to those that actually have some depth of story. I guess Kerry Wilkinson's books are a pass for me.
