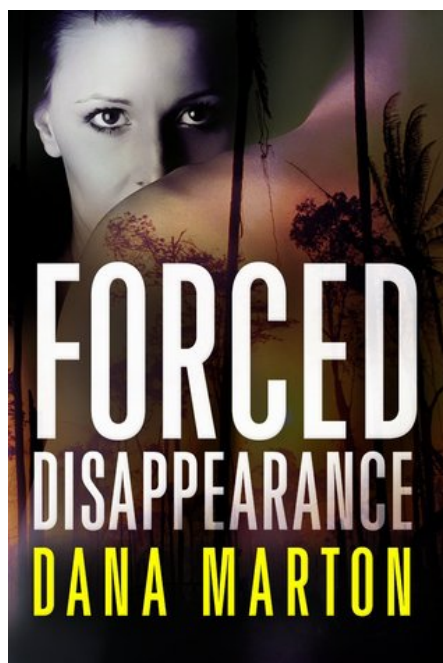




Forced Disappearance

Dana Marton

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A gripping, fast-paced novel of romantic suspense from *New York Times* and *USA Today* bestselling author Dana Marton.

When wealthy American businessman Glenn Danning goes missing in Venezuela, investigator Miranda Soto volunteers to track him down. It's her first assignment for the Civilian Personnel Recovery Unit, but this mission is about more than salvaging the remnants of her shattered military career. Glenn was Miranda's best friend and first lover, and she'll do anything to save him from danger...especially since she just lost everything that mattered to her.

Glenn barely survived being kidnapped and tortured as a suspected spy, but the shock of seeing Miranda again gives him a new lease on life. Their still-simmering attraction grows hotter as the couple races through the treacherous jungle. Determined to reach safe ground, they must stay alive long enough to stop the terrifying enemy who still hunts Glenn. And even if they survive, Miranda's dark past could jeopardize their future together...

Forced Disappearance Details

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From Reader Review Forced Disappearance for online ebook

Lucy Dosch says

I had high hopes for this story. With thoughts of my other favorite military series, I was intrigued by the interesting change of pace offered in this story. Our heroine was the soldier who goes into the jungles of Venezuela after her old boyfriend who was captured and held hostage. It just didn't live up to my expectations.

Adventure stories seem to be one of the hardest to balance the excitement and the romance. I was looking forward to a story where it was the heroine who comes in and saves the day for a change.

The story jumped right in and we find Glenn Danning being tortured once again. He has been picked up and accused of being a spy. We hear about the torture and some that he has already endured. We have no idea if Glenn is what he says he is, a businessman on vacation, or if he might be a CIA spy on assignment. He is tortured into unconsciousness and returned to his cell. From there, he makes a daring escape attempt and we are left hanging not knowing whether or not he is successful. And I'm on the edge of my seat.

Everything gets slowed down as we meet our heroine who is starting a new job at the Civilian Personnel Recovery Unit. We spend time walking around the new offices and meeting a few people. Filling out a W-9. Setting up her desk. While Miranda's job with the military was recovered captured soldiers and she would storm in with a team guns blazing, her new job at CPRU is more of a diplomatic mission. She goes in, unarmed, to meet with local police to follow up on the missing U.S. citizens, usually tourists, and hopes that they provide her with all relevant information. She will usually get a local babysitter to monitor where she goes and who she speaks with.

We learn vague facts about Miranda in this chapter: She lost her job for the army but we don't know why. All we know is that she killed someone. A bad guy? A good guy? She also misses some people in her life but no more information is given. We learn much later that these missing people are her husband and her daughter and what happened to them. All these things keep being brought up for the remainder of the story but takes too long to get the actual details. By the end of Chapter 2, we've lost all the momentum that we had gained in Chapter 1.

Through her investigation she turns up additional clues that the police ignored and manages to get an idea where Glenn is being held. With her local babysitter she heads out and it is Miranda who foils Glenn's escape. We then go on a loop of capture, escape, hiding in the jungle, and getting close to rescue before re-capture. Their big plan being to sneak into the local airport and sneak onto a plane, because you know no one care who boards a plane anymore, right?

While trekking through the jungle, we learn about Miranda and Glenn's past. Two college, science geeks that enjoyed spending time together and sexual experimentation. There is the usual poor girl/rich boy subplot that Miranda disappeared from Glenn's life after poor scholarship girl is shoo'd away by super rich boyfriend's mother. We also learn that Miranda has the worst luck since her husband and her daughter are killed in separate horrible instances.

As far as the romance, Glenn and Miranda were re-connecting well. Eventually Miranda confesses why she originally left Glenn and to a degree it makes sense that she would be leave not only for the poor girl/rich boy circumstances, but she needed to find her own way. We have great reconnecting, leading to sex, but then Miranda starts pulling away for what now is B.S. reasons. This time losing the romantic momentum.

This story started out with great potential. A fabulous opening Chapter that jumped right into the action. It would pick up speed here and there but generally, it just floundered.

Received ARC from the publisher in exchange for an honest review.

Romance Readers Retreat says

Wow! What a whirlwind of a story!

Miranda is tough as nails. Having left the US military, she's got a new job finding US citizens that have disappeared in foreign countries.

She can hardly believe it when her first assignment is to locate a man she knew many years ago. But far from being just any man, this man was her first love. The unobtainable one, the one that got away.

Geeky Glen is not who he used to be. A successful CEO, he's shed his geeky image, on the outside at least.

Will Miranda find him? Can she bring him home safely?

What transpires is an epic fight for survival but when the two lovers meet again, will old demons and guilt keep them apart?

A thoroughly gripping thriller, with lots of twists. An enjoyable read.

ElaineY says

I found the action scenes too unbelievable. Glenn's torture and wounds are such that it would be impossible for him to escape his cell, overpower a guard, run up and down stairs with bloody feet, jump into a jeep and escape.

The action and suspense in these romantic action/adventure must be done realistically for me to be invested in the plot and the characters and I didn't get that in this book. I bought the ebook and Audible based on the numerous positive ratings and gushing but I'll stick to murder mysteries from now on until I can find a romantic suspense author who can write realistic torture/escape/action scenes.

Joyce Bean narrated it well, though. I did not like Bean's early audios but her voice and narrating have matured.

Quirks says

At first I gave this book four stars. But after some thought I realized that there were a bit too many things about it that didn't work for a 4 stars book. But I'm gonna start with how I generally feel about the book and the things I liked.

This book had an interesting premise and seemed different from the usual romance novels because it had more serious issues and I thought that there wouldn't be any overused plot points that are introduced to create "obstacles" in the happily ever after. It didn't work as well as I'd hoped but it did to some extent.

The writing was okay. It wasn't great but it wasn't one of those choppy badly written books. It did suffer from dullness, which happens all too often with book written in third person. More on the third person later.

The pace was good as well as the characters. I did have a few problems with the female protagonist, though.

Now for the negatives:

1. Third-person: A lot of authors seem to be under the impression that the only difference first and third person is changing an "I" to a "he/she". It is so much more than that. First person is more personalised and an unreliable narrator. For example, if there a line, "If I ever got my hands on that asshole...", it would work. But "If he ever got his hands on that asshole..." doesn't work at all. Why don't people get that?

Anyway, this was a major problem with this book. It wasn't as bad as many others but it was still bad.

2. Miranda: Miranda's character, in my opinion, wasn't as well developed. For one, her thinking she should be locked up for something she did which I won't spoil, I didn't buy it for a second. I would have understood her too feel shock or even guilt (view spoiler). But the way she kind of regretted it and thought it was wrong and she should be punished for it, it didn't work. Not only was her thinking wrong but it also didn't fit her character. I think it was a half-assed attempt to give her character more depth. It was unnecessary.

Another thing was the strong-female-lead aspect. Her claustrophobia got more attention than him being tortured for weeks. I'm sorry, but if you want a strong female lead then treat her like one. *Oh she has combat skills!* doesn't mean shit if she can't handle even the slightest bit of emotion.

Finally, not really about Miranda but related to her; I'm the kind of person who likes equality in a relationship. And for that, both need to equally want the relationship and be equally willing to fight for it. It shouldn't be a case of "Oh! he really loves me and wants to be with me so I'll agree. I'm too tired to argue anyway." which it was in this book. That is the recipe for a future, ugly break-up.

3. The Ending: I didn't like it. It was predictable and disappointing at the same time. Predictable in the sense that I knew that was going to happen, that he was gonna find her. And disappointing because the whole book Miranda was against the relationship for her own deluded reasons. I was hoping that in the end she would finally realize her mistake and do something about it. Unfortunately, that didn't happen.

Overall, this could have been a good book because it's plot had a lot of potential. I'm very disappointed that it wasn't. Other people might like it more but this book wasn't that good for me. I wish I could say different.

Yvonne says

Miranda Soto may no longer have a career in the military, but her new job is not much easier. She's now a member of the Civilian Personnel Recovery Unit and her first assignment is to find a missing American businessman, Glenn Danning, in Venezuela. However, this is no ordinary case. The missing businessman happens to be a former lover which makes this case very personal. Although it's been a long time since Miranda saw Glenn, she still has feelings for him and is not about to let anything bad happen to him. She vows to return him to his family, unharmed.

When Glenn Danning is captured, tortured, and accused of being a spy, he is determined to get back home. He's shocked when his rescuer turns out to be a former lover. Even with Miranda, it's not an easy fight to escape their captors.

Talk about intense drama and action, this book has more than its share of it. I could feel all the pain these two went through. Dana Marton is an expert at creating excitement and a gut-wrenching story. This book is jammed with emotions, adventure, romance and thrills. Miranda and Glenn's chemistry sizzles on each page. I was totally captivated and couldn't put this one down.

Dana Marton has won me over as a fan and I'll be sure to read her backlist.

FTC Disclosure: The author provided me with a copy of this book to review for this blog tour. This did not influence my thoughts and opinions in any way. All opinions expressed are my own.

sue says

Miranda starts a new job, looking for people who have vanished, disappeared.

The one person she didn't bank on looking for was Glenn.

The thing is, kidnapped outside the law, means they are impossible to find.

I loved the romance in this book, I also loved the thriller aspect.

I got a bit muddled sometimes, but that might be me trying to read it over Christmas with a lot going on? Or did it jump sometimes?

That said, I really loved the book and although this is the very first book I have read by this author, I would love to read more, she does have a good style of writing. Its fast paced, that's probably why I got confused sometimes as I wanted and should have read this book in one sitting, its hard putting a book like this down for a day or two and then picking it up. I would recommend you sit down and take your time over reading this.

Tanja ~ KT Book Reviews says

Action, drama, suspense and some second chance romance is what you find in Forced Disappearance. Funny banter and smart moves perfectly describe the couple brought to life by Dana Marton.

Where to begin? The hereon, Miranda Soto, is captivating and intriguing from the very beginning. There is a sense of mystery about her, an underlying certain something that attracted to me to her character right away. She is fresh from the Army and it's pretty obvious that being a civilian isn't something she wanted to happen. Miranda finds herself starting a new job, finding Americans who have gone missing in foreign countries. She never thought day one would prove to be a blast from the past when her ex boyfriend from college is on the dossier placed before her.

Taken and in the process of being tortured, the only thing that is keeping wealthy businessman Glenn Danning sane is the happy place he has created in his mind. It stars the one who broke his heart. The one he

never forgot. The one he clings to when the pain becomes too great. Miranda. Glen knows it's just a coping mechanism to get through the torture he is enduring.

Unexpectedly reunited in the jungle and on the run from those bidding them harm, Miranda and Glen evade, survive and hash out the past. All the while realizing neither is who they once were all those years ago in college.

It was a great read and for fans of romance/action/suspense.

4 STARS

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Cindy ~ SnS Reviews says

I thoroughly enjoyed this from beginning to end. There were plenty of twist and turns and surprises throughout the story that mainly takes place in the Venezuelan jungle.

The two main characters started out as brainiacs at MIT. Even their first foray into sex was done more as a scientific experimentation. They were best friends and lovers until she left him for the military.

Ten years later finds Miranda Soto a shell of the person she used to be from many losses in her life but yet also a tough, trained warrior. After being discharged she is given the job of joining a new government group that rescues civilians. Her first assignment is an American that went missing in Venezuela who so happens to be her ex-boyfriend from MIT, Glenn Danning.

Glenn Danning came from a wealthy family and he now runs his family's business. He was taken while on business in Venezuela and is being tortured for being a spy. Glenn has changed a lot himself during the 10 years, he's not the nerdy looking geek anymore but a buffed up man with a high IQ. He uses two things to get him through his torture – humor and thinking about his first love, Miranda.

The story moves along at a pretty fast pace. We bounce back and forth between Miranda trying to find him and Glenn escaping on his own before they finally meet up. But things don't end there. Soon they are both on the run for their lives and it was interesting having the woman be the more experienced in the situation they were in but Glenn's sense of chivalry of wanting to be the man and protect Miranda kept getting in the way.

Ira says

3.25 stars.

The story was interesting, the heroine who tried to save the hero from his kidnapper and so many I wanted to know from these two because of their previous background together.

But 200 something for this type of story?

Yeah, everything feel forced too!:(

Sparkymom says

I had read a couple of this author's previous books, so I felt confident I would enjoy this one. This novel was a bit of the reverse on the typical romantic suspense formula. Miranda was sent to rescue Glenn and remained his protector throughout the story. Glenn was by no means a weakling, but he had Miranda's back and yielded to her tactical knowledge and Army experience. The couple's previous experience together made their attraction to each other that much easier even though Miranda resisted everything but the physical despite Glenn's desire to try for something more serious. Through their treks through the jungle of Venezuela, the two grow closer and closer as they only have each other to depend on. Even though Miranda is confident when she is battling or evading the enemy, she has secrets which make her insecure with a long term commitment to Glenn. Glenn doesn't give up but sets out to help Miranda find healing in exchange for her sacrifices to save him.

I liked the quick pace of the book and the frequent action. Net Galley provided a copy of this book for review.

Laylah says

This is a well-written romantic action, especially the action portions. The author has a very mature and realistic way in formulating the pursuits that I found refreshing. The chemistry between h/h is also palpable. I did believe reading their dialogues they're old lovers and in love. TBH, if handled a bit differently, this could be one heck of a love story, but unfortunately something was either too much or missing. What I found most jarring was actually the love scenes. I don't mind explicit sex scenes in general. I just don't find they flow with the mood and tone of this book. It feels to me like the author just girds herself and goes all in just to please the romance lovers while her natural inclination and talent are more leaning toward the investigation and action tropes. Those scenes thrilled and gripped me. Love scenes I skipped.

BTW, what's with all these frequent references to this engineering things? We're an engineer. We think so logically, we're so inhumanly awesome.... Seriously, this is what people imagine what MIT engineering grad think and even verbalize about themselves? During school, probably. A few years after graduation, still a chance. But ten years after and they still can't stop in awe of themselves? Umm....I guess they're really kinda special. 3 stars

Trish R. says

Entertaining all the way through..

I wasn't crazy about the torture Glenn went through but I liked when he finally managed to escape, with Winky the monkey as company, only to be recaptured again, along with Miranda this time. I was really

hoping they would escape again before anymore torture took place. You'll have to read the book yourself to find out if that happened. But I do wish someone would have killed Roberto and the Commander. Especially the latter. OMG! He was soooo cruel and evil.

I have to admit that what happened did so in Venezuela so that made the country look really bad and told me I'd never want to go there on vacation, even if the book is only fiction it was still scary.

It was rough going there for a while, for Glenn and Miranda but the ending was very, very good.

I liked Glenn's brother, Tyler, but his mother was rather snobby, I just couldn't like her or Cesar.

There was some swearing and the F-bomb was used 2 times. And the sex was explicit. So, if you don't like swearing or sex in your books then you should pass on this.

As to the narration: Ms. Bean did a great job. She did the men's voices great and her emotions were pretty good so I would definitely listen to her again.

Les Romantiques says

Posted on Les Romantiques - Le forum du site

Reviewed by Rinou

Review Copy from the Publisher

I already read and liked some romantic suspense written by Dana Marton, and this time I was attracted by the fact it's the hero's turn to be saved by the heroine. And on this point I wasn't disappointed, even if the story has highs and lows.

Miranda Soto has just integrated a unit in charge of recovering civilians who have disappeared abroad and her first mission consists in finding Glenn Danning, a rich businessman who disappeared a month ago during his holidays in Caracas, and with whom she had had an affair at college ten years ago. Quite fast they both find themselves in danger.

First I confess that naively I didn't know anything about the forced disappearances, organised by some countries in all illegality, and I was aghast by their existence. That sends shiver down my spine and makes me want to never again going in holidays abroad. I'll let you visit the internet if you want more details than those in the novel.

That being said, Forced Disappearance begins very strongly, with a scene of torture then the hero's escape, and goes on a quite sustained rhythm almost till the end. The atmosphere and the tension are well done, and I was wondering how they would walk away. However some of the couple's decisions left me sceptical. I also thought that once found by the heroine, the hero recovered quite fast from one month of torture.

All in all I like Miranda and Glenn, separately and as a couple. They both are determined, reliable, and endearing. Miranda's past, very burdensome, is revealed little by little, making her obstinacy to think herself not good enough for Glenn more understandable, even if it's annoying all the same. I liked how the memories of their affair are incorporated to the present story instead of being told in flashbacks. I also liked that she tries put their attraction in perspective by talking about the adrenaline of the situation, and that he gives her time to think about it when they come back.

Special mention to the Venezuelan special agent pretending to help Miranda in her search, and who proves to be a complex and vicious character well imagined. And another one for the end, very moving, that I didn't expect. Once again a good romantic suspense by Dana Marton to enjoy for this genre lovers.

Julie says

Forced Disappearance by Dana Marton is a 2014 Montlake publication. I was provided a copy of this book by the publisher and Netgalley in exchange for an honest review.

I love Dana Maton's Broslin Creek series and was super excited to read this new stand alone novel. It does not disappoint!!

When Miranda Soto starts her new job looking for Americans who have disappeared in other countries, the last person she expected to be looking for is Glenn Danning. She and Glenn, a successful engineer and from old money, were once nerdy brainy types who became lovers. But, some bad luck for Miranda caused her to leave Glenn and join the Army. In the intervening ten years, Miranda's luck has gone from bad to worse and she is now in the jungles of Venezuela looking for Glenn. What on earth was Glenn doing in Venezuela? Was it really a vacation like she was led to believe or did Glenn really have a business related motive for being there? Either way, Glenn is in a real bind when the Venezuela national guard kidnaps him, believing him to be a spy. Can Miranda free him and get them out of the country alive?

This is one fast paced thriller! The steamy, sticky jungle of Venezuela has nothing on the hot and sexy vibes bubbling up between Miranda and Glenn, even after ten years and a lot of water under the bridge. This novel is evening paced and suspenseful with action, drama and romance all added in with perfect timing. I loved how Glenn and Miranda work together. They are a perfect match even if it took a lot of convincing on Glenn's part to make Miranda realize they could make things work. Glenn's surprise for Miranda at the end of the book made me tear up. What a wonderful gesture! What a guy! Miranda deserves a little good luck after all she suffered and it looks like now she just might have a chance at happiness after all. So, all in all this book was a great read. The book started off with a suspenseful white knuckle edge and never once lost it's rhythm. And you will love Glenn's little sidekick too. This one is 5 stars.

Dísir says

Former lovers Glenn Danning and Mirando Soto are reunited 10 years when Miranda takes on her first case to retrieve him from Venezuela, where he's been kidnapped for nebulous reasons.

The suspense is more light-hearted than what I'd expected and written almost in a matter-of-fact way, and I got the very strange, odd feeling like I was reading a romance through engineers' eyes, which had an added geek element to it. There is however, quite a bit of action as both Miranda and Glenn try to outwit the Venezuelan authorities and that's where the hot and heavy scenes begin.

Glenn is also strangely likeable - as a former geek turned hot businessman - but it always seemed as though he was more into the relationship than Miranda was, and I didn't quite like to see him short-changed just as Miranda was too busy still running away from her past.

