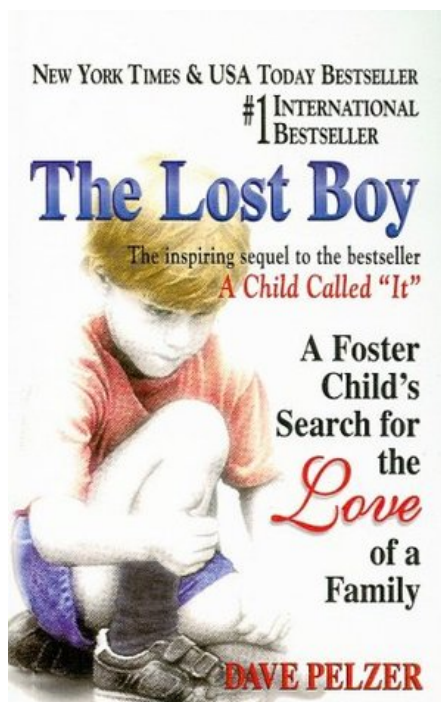




The Lost Boy

Dave Pelzer

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"The Lost Boy" is the harrowing but ultimately uplifting true story of a boy's journey through the foster-care system in search of a family to love. This is Dave Pelzer's long-awaited sequel to "A Child Called 'It'." "The Lost Boy" is Pelzer's story -- a moving sequel and inspirational read for all.

The Lost Boy Details

Date : Published August 1st 1997 by Hci (first published 1997)

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Author : Dave Pelzer

Format : Paperback 331 pages

Genre : Nonfiction, Biography, Autobiography, Memoir

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From Reader Review The Lost Boy for online ebook

Nateran says

There Is Always Hope

Delenn says

I had to read this one after The Child Called It. It was also compelling and opened my eyes to the foster care system.

Nour Allam says

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Jenny says

The Lost Boy, written by bestselling author David Pelzer, is about David's own struggle in foster care. In this book, David has a conflict internally and externally. The internal conflict is how he feels sad and worthless after all those early years of abuse. The external conflict is between David and his mother. When David was about seven to nine, he excessively abused by his mother. Therefore, with the frequent visits she pays him at his different foster homes, she acts as though he is still worthless and 'no better than white trash'.

On a scale of one to ten (ten being very good) I would give this book a nine out of ten. This is because it was very sad, but written very well. The first book in this series, A Child Called 'It', David is about seven years old when his mother starts to beat him very much. She would starve him for days, clean the bathrooms with toxic fumes in the air, and she even stabbed him in the stomach once. I personally think that the first book was sadder than the second. I would definitely recommend these books to everyone. However, they are very sad and upsetting. I think everyone of all ages would enjoy these books very much.

Kelly Furniss says

The second book in this trilogy starts to deliver as much shock as the first about the appalling treatment David suffered but then his fight for survival and love shine through as he is finally removed and placed in

different foster homes.

It was amazing near the end going on to see just what David achieved and the real strength of character he has, I was in complete awe. The epilogue notes I found really added to the story as we got the recollections of the main characters in Davids life at the time and and their thoughts and feelings of what happened in his past as they lived it and now his present.

A compulsive read.

Kellie says

A truly amazing story of Dave Pelzer, the little boy who was viciously abused by his mother. Again, I can't come close to understanding the viciousness of this woman and how she could treat her own son this way. It is truly amazing that Dave survived and became successful as he did. Dave is so right about Foster Care and the System. I met a woman at work who became a Foster Parent and I truly looked at her in a different light. It takes an extraordinary person to commit themselves to something like that. I really admired her. This book brought tears to my eyes. Truly inspirational.

Claudia says

Reading Response #16

I fell in love with this book. It was amazing. This book is a sequel to the first book called 'The Child Called It'. Some kids, teens or adults are afraid to talk about their abusive childhood past. The author does an autobiography about his past, how his mother made him drink washing detergent and make him vomit food. I cannot even imagine that this could even happen. Pelzer's father never bothered to help his own son, I cried when I read this book. It shocked me just to read how miserable he was. I take back all I said about my parents, despite how annoying they are, they only 'annoy' you because they love you, and they care about you. Without them, I do not know what to do in life. I would be lost. Pelzer never had anyone for support, until a nearby school helps.

I enjoyed this book very much. I would recommend this book to everyone. We should raise more awareness about this issue. So many kids all around the world gets beaten (physical abuse), verbally abuse..etc every day. I wouldn't ever be able to live like this. The author wrote this autobiography as an example of how some kids are treated in this world, they should be fearless and speak now before its too late. Some kids don't tell anyone about their abusive lives because they are scared that their parents or guardians would abuse them more. It kills me to see how innocent they are, and how mean, cruel are the parents. They have a very icy cold heart. I pity on the kids who are abused everyday.

Najati Matrook says

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The Lost Boy is a sequel to "A Child Called It" which basically depicts the life of David (the author) at ages 12-18 years old.

This second part of the trilogy, however, tells you about a boy who's trying to become a man in order to fit in to the society that's all new to him.

After being rescued from his mother's abusive claws, Dave was jumping from one foster house to another. Little did he know that the "likes" of him. The "F-kids" as what they were branded were being looked down

by the society. Community saw them as rotten tomatoes, even freak of natures. Like being a foster kid was their fault and choice.

Physical abuse seemed more easier to conquer and hurdle than the battle that boiled inside this little man. His questions about his past had led him to slightly crooked paths. More than anything, he wanted to feel like a normal teenager. He wanted to be treated like a human being.

These wants eventually became needs. He needed acceptance. He needed to fit in. He needed to feel human. He needed respect.

He befriended kids who had given him the merest of attention. Acceptance and recognition came in the form of stealing and lying.

Deep inside, he knew he was doing something wrong but his early mind shrugged it off. He was elated. No matter how temporary the feeling was.

Foster parents, just like them, were also being frowned upon. But it was from and with these people that David later on realized his worth and found his identity. People who gave him the kind of love his biological parents weren't able to give.

-- This book made me cry my eyes out. My eyes were so swollen I didn't dare to go out of the room so that nobody would ask what was wrong. It made me cry not because I felt sorry for the boy that David was or used to. I cried because I admired his courage and strength to make a difference. In some ways, he was the same little kid that stutters every time people talk to him. But he felt the need to become a man or make a man out of himself.

And above all these, I especially admired his gift of love. He loved the mother who stabbed him and burned his arm on the stove. He loved the brothers who hated him for revealing "their secret". And he loved the father that never stood and fight for him. He loved them more than he loved himself.

And for that, He can't be the Lost Boy =)

Good Read! :-)

Kim says

good book even though it was sad

Katie says

"The Lost Boy" is the sequel to "A Child Called It," and it continues where the first memoir left off. This, the second installment, takes the reader through the author's years in foster care after being taken away from his sadistic mother. It is refreshing to hear positive commentary on the foster care system, since most of what is reported is horrible. Dave's strength, perseverance, and unshakeable spirit are extremely inspiring, and it is heartbreaking to learn of his experiences. This is a moving and miraculous story of survival, but it is not quite as poignant as the first in the series.

Aimee O'Donnell says

The book I read for quarter three was "The Lost Boy", by Dave Pelzer. This book is the sequel to the series of, "A Child Called It". The author's purpose of writing this novel was to show that God can give you any struggle in your life; however he will not give you any difficulty that you cannot handle. He has a plan for everybody, and it will all work out in the end. I feel that David tries to tell everyone who is reading the story that you should never give up on something even if it is the littlest things, because you are not the only one going through whatever your struggle may be. You have to put a smile on, even if you are feeling down on the inside.

The theme of this book is basically to tell everyone the struggle he went through and to show that you are not alone and you can get through anything. Dave Pelzer was abused at a very young age growing up by his mother. It was harder each day for him and it felt to him like it never got better. If you try and get through the day, it is just one day closer to the ending of your situation or struggle you have going on in your life and I feel that this is the main theme throughout the whole novel. Throughout the whole story, the author tried to stay on the same topic about his life and how he was abused and to tell everyone how to get through things in a better way and stay strong.

The style of this novel is narrative because the author is telling a story that happened to him at a young age. The author is trying to inform everybody his struggles he went through as a child. Dave Pelzer had it very hard as a young boy and it was defiantly not easy. Abuse is something that happens all over the world today. It is very cruel and unfair. Unfortunately, we live in a world where no matter what people do, it will never stop. Many children, teenagers and even adults have abuse in their life or have had it at a point in time. No matter whom you are, no human being deserves this and I really hope adults read this novel to see how unfair this is, and no child on Earth deserves it.

My opinion on this book, it I thought it was extremely incredible and almost life- changing. When I read this story, and all the events that happened to him, I could feel the emotion through the book. I felt sadness, angriness, and even happiness because he was saved from the terrible events in his life. I liked everything about the book and how Dave wrote it and I would not change a single line in the story. The book that is similar to the sequel, "A Child Called It". This is the story where he is a child and is going through the pain. I feel that we do not know how lucky we really are. We take things for granted and don't know how much we really have. It is really sad to think that we have to have something bad happen to us, for us to realize what is sitting right in front of us. This book made me realize how blessed I am to have an amazing and supporting family who loves and cares for me each and every single day. No child should EVER have to go through abuse. Every person deserves a mother and a father that loves them. Everyone on Earth should have somebody who treats them right and should not be treated badly and I love how Dave Pelzer tells that in this story.

Emily says

"The lost boy" is a sequel to, "A Child Called It," and it continues where the first memoir left off. This, the second book, takes the reader through the author's years in foster care after being taken away from his...well, crazy mother. It is great to hear positive opinions on the foster care system since most of what is reported is horrible. Dave's strength, perseverance, and unshakeable spirit are extremely inspiring, and it is heartbreaking to learn of his experiences. This book is extremely wonderful, I recommend it to most anyone, and I can not wait to read the first book and those after.

Lindsay Bui says

Dave Pelzer's *The Lost Boy* tells the story of his so called childhood, the years of abuse, disappearing with one decision that led to his discovery of a life and a world outside of his home. The book is set in his grade school to high school years, when he transit from being abused at home to living in the foster care system. Wanting to escape his mother's beatings yet yearning for her love and acceptance, Dave made a difficult decision of leaving his mother. Dave learns to adapt to his new life in the foster care system, a life style that he has chosen. The book reflects on Dave's childhood, which allows readers to be inspired to not let obstacles in their lives discourage them from doing what they want.

Ultimately, the story of Dave Pelzer is a story of a transition from childhood to manhood, adapting to new environments, and discovering one's self amidst of internal conflicts and conspiracy against a foster child. It all adds up to a tale of acceptance and forgiveness, the true meaning of enlightenment that too many people disregard. *The Lost Boy* conveys that story emotionally through actual events, attempting to help lost souls, much like Dave Pelzer, to discover and be driven to achieve their passion, and to find their standing in society.

The most memorable event in the book was when Dave made the decision to leave his mother, despite her threat from her previous visit. Knowing that Dave was scared by his mother, Ms. Gold (Pam) encouraged him to tell the court about his mother and what he wanted. Dave was a brave soul making that decision, because during his stay in the foster care system, he has always feared that his mother would take him back. Dave gave up in wanting to escape his mother's beatings after her threat, but Pam insist and inspired him to leave his mother. Dave listened to Pam due to their deep connection. He couldn't stand disappointing her nor reject her feelings.

Through this book I was able to learn more about the foster care system. Its significance and affect on the community. This book also reminded me to not take things for granted and appreciate little things in life. This book motivated me to work hard to reach my goal because by the end of the day whatever you're doing is for you and your own benefit in its own form.

This book truly touches my heart because I love children and I can't stand the idea of them being abuse or neglected. Children symbolize innocence, but Dave Pelzer was forced to think about life in views beyond his comprehension. I felt as if I was Dave as he questioned life and desperately trying to find himself through his issues.

I would recommend this book because it was an inspiring story and it surely is a reality check. Often times when people want to make a change they would think about helping third world countries. They fail to realize that people in their own community also need help and support. If you ever feel like the world is conspiring against you or need a little motivation then read this book. It will remind you that there will always be the less fortunate and how hard it takes for them to overcome their situations.

Sophie Narey (Bookreview- aholic) says

Published: 01/08/1997

Author: Dave Pelzer

Recommended for: fans of true life novels

This is the sequel to *A Child Called It*, in this book we read about the next stage in Dave Pelzer's life. It is a truly amazing and inspiring book, it is one that will move you to tears and make you feel for him. He grew up in an abuse household, with no-one to turn to, in the series of books about his life he reveals just how bad his life was when he was growing up and how he managed to make something of his life despite what his childhood was like. This book truly makes you appreciate what your own life is like and makes you appreciate the people that you have around you. It is very well written and really draws the reader into the

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17/85, 5 stars *****

This book made me cry. One of the most heartbreaking things about this time period for the author (ages 12-18) is that all he still wanted, despite everything his mother had done to him, was her love and to know why she treated him the way she did. Ultimately, he manages to forgive both her for her abuse and his father for his neglect and I find it all so amazing. This author is truly inspirational. By telling his story, he teaches resilience and forgiveness and shows how the human spirit can succeed in the face of the worst kind of adversity. What he went on to do with his life is quite simply phenomenal! I'll say it again - he is truly inspirational.

Thea says

This is a book that explains the kids way of thinking, tells us how hard it is for anyone to fit in especially if everyone else thinks that you are different. I think the moral of the story is to understand, care and love children more.

David is a perfect example of a child craving for attention. Any child if not given the proper attention and guidance, even the most angelic and the nicest child in the world, can do things that may hurt others, destroy some property or worst destroy his own future- unintentionally.

The story makes you cry without you knowing it. That's how good the book is in playing with your emotion. It opens the mind of the reader to the realities of: the emotional battle of a foster child, the difficulties of foster parents, the hard work and dedication of social workers, the role of a teacher in every child's life, and most especially the "no one can define your future except yourself" also "your past can make you stronger only if you use it wisely."

Great book :)

Izzy Brogaard says

The book I read is called The Lost Boy. I really like this book. I like in some situations how David, the main character, handled himself. It is a very sad book, and it also tells a lot about a little boy's family life.

This book starts out as David getting yelled at and abused by his mother. David is only nine. His mom calls them "games", and to David, the only way to stay alive is to play those "games", so his mom won't hurt him as bad. One day he gets the chance to run away, so he takes it. He gets found by the police and his dad. His dad lies to the police saying that his mother doesn't beat him. His dad also says that David says that for attention. His dad gets to take him back home, and everything starts all over again. He has a cot in the basement with no blankets. He has to sit there on his hands and not move, otherwise he will play another one of his Mother's games. He eventually goes to court and put into a foster home. He gets into trouble after being at his first foster home. David gets taken to a facility, since there is nobody to take him in right now. He liked it there, until he got a visit from his father. His dad said that he messed up the family by exploiting their secret about the abuse. Now, she abuses the other boys. He moves from different homes throughout the years. When he turns 18 he gets his G.E.D. David then joins the air force.

I think this book would be good for teenagers. They are more mature and would understand the situations in the book better than a ten year old would. I give this book four stars.
