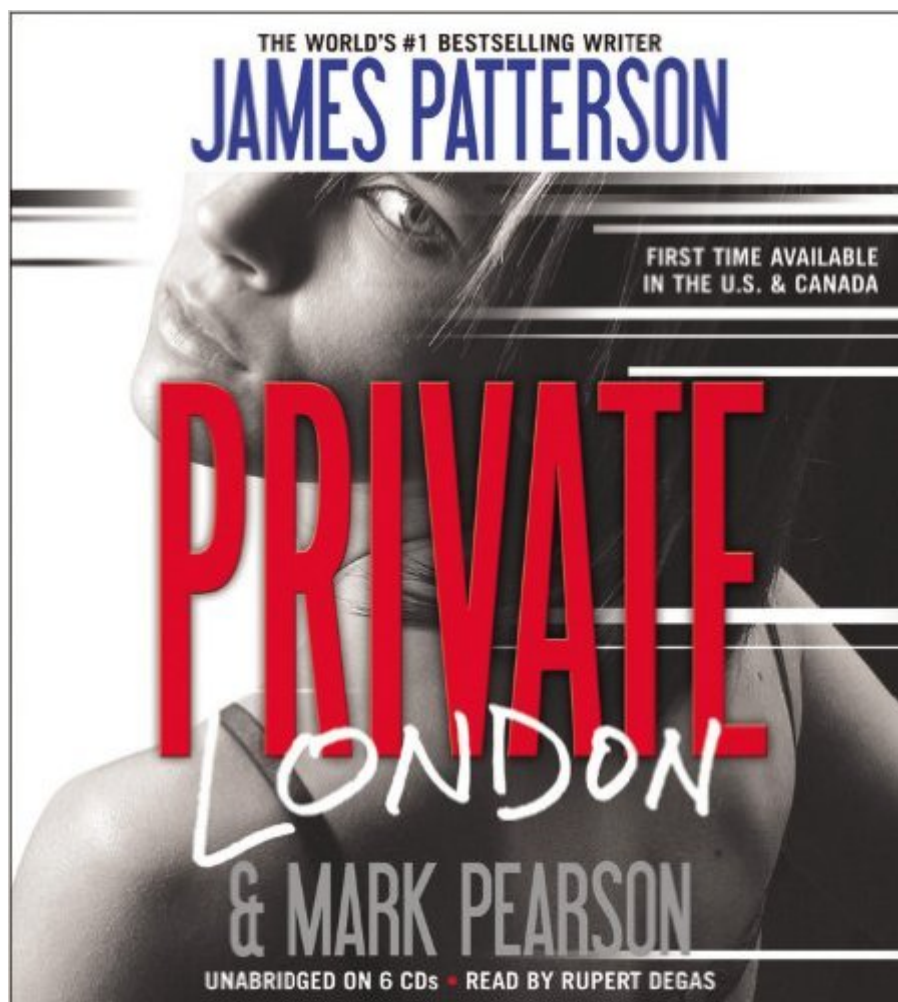


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Private London (Private Novels)



Synopsis

Private goes on the hunt for London's most feared killer since Jack the Ripper. For Hannah Shapiro, a young American student, the nightmare began eight years ago in Los Angeles, when the owner of Private--the world's most exclusive detective agency--saved her from a horrific death. Now, after eight years, the terror follows her to London. The only man who can help is former Royal Military Police Sergeant Dan Carter, head of Private London. In London, young women are being abducted and their bodies found mutilated in a grotesque, mysterious way. Carter's ex-wife, DI Kirsty Webb, leads the investigation into these brutal murders, which may somehow be linked to Hannah Shapiro. Working together, the two investigators are caught in a desperate race against the odds. Private may be the most advanced detection agency in the world...but can they catch a predator who rivals London's most elusive killer ever?

Book Information

Series: Private Novels

Audio CD

Publisher: Grand Central Publishing; Unabridged edition (December 4, 2012)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1611130239

ISBN-13: 978-1611130232

Product Dimensions: 5.2 x 0.8 x 6 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.4 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars Â Â See all reviews Â (1,205 customer reviews)

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Authors, A-Z > (P) > Patterson, James #1128 in Â Books > Books on CD > Mystery & Thrillers

#1602 in Â Books > Books on CD > Literature & Fiction > Unabridged

Customer Reviews

I picked up the latest in the Private series by James Patterson in the airport in London and got through it in one pretty easy read on a Saturday while looking out at Hyde Park--a seemingly appropriate setting to read this book. Like most of Patterson's books, there are generally multiple stories going on in any one book. The primary story here is about a girl--Hannah Shapiro--who early in life watches unspeakable acts committed on her mother during a kidnapping. Later in life, she travels to London to attend school and her past seemingly follows her and it is up to Dan Carter who heads up Private's London office to save her. The story takes at least 3 very surprising turns and

keeps you interested throughout. The second story that has to do with women being taken off the streets and human organs going missing is much less interesting and to be honest was somewhat convoluted. I don't think the reader will find it nearly as enthralling as the story about Hannah Shapiro. The book ends with a "reunion" of sorts and makes you wonder if there will be a follow up to Private London--although I tend to think not. Overall a good book very typical of the "Patterson genre."

There is most definitely a good story in here somewhere but it is very poorly told. If this had been any other author I would have stopped reading ages ago but I kept on giving it a chance. The novel started off as being more British than the British. Given it was set in London there was definitely a lot of effort put into making it sound tres Anglo-Saxon. I don't think people realize that the barriers that they believe exist between Americans and Brits are very grey. Nowadays language is becoming more international and frankly there were a few words at the start that I don't think even English coppers use anymore. Next qualm: the two story lines - the one about the murdering wife of a "kiddie fiddler" and the other about the kidnapping had no link whatsoever and I failed to understand why they were in the same novel except as cushioning to make the story longer. The main story line of the kidnap seemed miles too far-fetched for me. It was bizarre. Especially the linkage to Al Qaeda and Israel; the impressionable American girl whose mind is manipulated to make her believe she was sexually abused as a child... There is far too much in this and it failed to grab me like the first James Patterson I read (Now You See Her). Overall, I wouldn't recommend this as a good read. Heather[...]

I like James Patterson books. I find them easy to read and entertaining. Typically I mix them in with other books I read--Demille, Baldacci, Childs, Follett. I've enjoyed the Private books, but found this one just o-k. It seemed disjointed and was a little hard to follow at times. This is the first of Patterson's books that I've read (and I've read most) that I don't think I would recommend. It was a definite just o-k.

I love reading James Patterson books and pre-ordered this one as I do with them all, unfortunately I was very disappointed. The story was all over the place and too hard to follow, unlike most Patterson books. The language was also forced and awkward. While this book took place in London, other stories in the Private series that also took place in London were not this poorly written. There are very few Patterson books I dislike, but this one is right up there with Toys.

Sorry.....

I love James Patterson and his other Private books but this one jumped all over the place, introduced so many people and their involvement it was confusing.

not Patterson's best effort but not a waste of time either. Good to read on an airplane. Sometimes I think he just is trying to capitalize on his reputation by writing another book.

Patterson returns with a 'Private' entry - this time set in London. Private is the world wide private detective/security agency headed by Jack Morgan. His London counterpart - Dan Carter is tasked with protecting the traumatized daughter of a wealthy client when she attends school in England. Hannah Shapiro was kidnapped as an adolescent and witnessed unspeakable acts against her mother. Years later she is trying to put her life together and the past behind her. But the past has a way of finding youCarter's ex-wife is pursuing another case - young women are turning up dead, their organs apparently harvested. She pursues the case and tries to put distance between herself and her ex. The book is typical Patterson - short chapters, a quick read. He isn't Hemmingway and some of the plot devices are convenient, and some of the connections are a stretch but the twists in the plot keep the pages turning. Worth an afternoon.

I like the story line but found there are way too many characters involved. In fact I have had to make a chart to keep track of who was who - and I have not yet finished the book. Getting through the "Brit" wording was fairly easy (in most cases) but I found the narrative choppy and not the usual smooth Patterson style. The story keeps jumping back and forth from character to character and normally these flashbacks are not a problem - kinda is an issue here.

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