

The Kidnapping Of Christina Lattimore Joan Lowery Nixon

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Caught in the Act

Joan Lowery Nixon is the acclaimed author of more than a hundred books for young readers. Over the years, many of her readers have written to her to ask how they, too, can become published writers someday. From her first publication at age ten to her graduation from Hollywood High during World War II, this memoir, which includes advice as well as anecdotes, is her answer. Listening to her favorite

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programs on the radio, performing puppet shows at orphanages and hospitals, and writing love poems for high school classmates to send to soldiers overseas all planted the seeds from which a prolific writing career grew. Joan Lowery Nixon never forgot what her ninth-grade journalism teacher told her: “A writer must always have faith in herself. If you don’t believe in yourself, no one else will.” Both informative and entertaining, *The Making of a Writer* is a charming look at one writer’s beginnings. “Nixon tucks her tips into a memoir that stands alone...A delightful look back at a time and a life.” –Booklist “Her writing is clear and interesting, admirably blending her personal history, that of the nation, life lessons, and writing tips...[readers] will appreciate the insights she offers into her own life as well as the development of her signature style.” –VOYA “A lively read...[with] clear and concise advice to writers.” –School Library Journal “A lighthearted biography...It is a nicely focused take on something about the author.” –Kirkus Reviews
From the Hardcover edition.

The Name of the Game Was Murder

A teenage girl is kidnapped, but when freed, she is accused of masterminding the scheme to extort money from her wealthy grandmother.

Gus & Gertie and The Missing Pearl

Seventeen-year-old Stacy awakens from a four-year coma ready to identify, locate, and prosecute the young man who murdered her mother and wounded

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her.

The Kidnapping of Christina Lattimore

The Casebusters investigate accidents at an abandoned theater—where a ghost is the chief suspect! Ever since the new mall opened on the other side of Redoaks, the area around the historic Culbertson Theater has been abandoned. But when a local developer wants to bulldoze the area and turn it into a shopping center, someone inside the theater decides to take matters into his own hands—hands that may be alive or dead. After a sandbag falls on a building inspector's shoulder—the latest in a string of suspicious accidents—kid detectives Brian and Sean Quinn decide to investigate. Sean's friend Sam suspects it is the work of the ghost of Horatio Hamilton, an actor who died in the theater decades before, but Miss Beezly—the strange old woman who runs the theater—says that Horatio's ghost is too polite for such misbehavior. Someone is pulling these dangerous pranks, and Brian and Sean better find out fast—in case the next sandbag falls on a detective!

Keeping Secrets

Deeply unhappy about her family's separation because of poverty, Megan gradually finds contentment and purpose in her new home on the Kansas prairie with a kind and loving adopted family.

The Other Side of Dark

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Dodsworth and his duck have just arrived in London via hot air balloon. There is so much to see Double-decker buses Palaces Fog But a crowded bus stop leads to a hilarious case of mistaken identity and . . . a lost duck. Time to call in Scotland Yard?

Dodsworth in London

For fans of Gillian Flynn, Caroline Cooney, and R.L. Stine comes *Nightmare* from four-time Edgar Allan Poe Young Adult Mystery Award winner Joan Lowery Nixon. Emily has never fit in with her overachieving family. Instead of getting straight As, she sits in the back row and hides behind her hair. As a result, her parents have enrolled her for the summer at Camp Excel, an academic camp for underachievers. Emily doesn't want to go, and not just because she thinks it isn't necessary. Since she was a child, she's been plagued by a recurring nightmare. And something about this camp feels familiar. Has she been there before? Why can't she remember? With the help of two new friends, Emily discovers that her nightmare is not just in her head. Someone at Camp Excel has a secret and will do anything—even kill—to keep Emily from uncovering the truth. "A taut, well-constructed mystery." -Kirkus Reviews "Readers will once again fall under Nixon's spell as they enjoy this page-turner." -School Library Journal "[An] inimitable blend of horror and whodunit." -Booklist "[Nightmare has] taut suspenseful passages...[and] clever false leads." -Publishers Weekly

Nobody's There

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For fans of Gillian Flynn, Caroline Cooney, and R.L. Stine comes *The Haunting* from four-time Edgar Allan Poe Young Adult Mystery Award winner Joan Lowery Nixon. The walls whisper. The ceilings shriek. No one can survive a night of terror inside Graymoss. The old plantation house has been in Lia's family since the Civil War, but it's been possessed for generations by a malicious spirit, and Lia's family has always stayed far away. Now her parents have decided to move into Graymoss, and Lia must either change their minds or chase away the horror lurking inside the old house. Using clues from her great-great-grandmother's diary and an old copy of *Favorite Tales of Edgar Allan Poe*, Lia must discover what—or who—the evil wants. "Nixon creates a spooky setting fairly dripping in atmosphere, then spins an ever-tightening thread of tension." -Kirkus Reviews "A book that will please mystery fans...[and a] plot [that] keeps readers guessing until the end." -School Library Journal "Nixon has woven a tale that grabs and holds her readers...It's a really fun read!" -VOYA "A page-turner that will satisfy mystery and ghost story fans." -Booklist From the Hardcover edition.

The Dark and Deadly Pool

The family of Rebekah Levinsky emigrates from Russia and settles in New York City, hoping their dreams will come true. But instead of finding streets paved with gold, they find they must work seven days a week in a sweatshop simply to survive. Will Rebekah conquer the odds and find happiness?

The Weekend Was Murder

For fans of Gillian Flynn, Caroline Cooney, and R.L. Stine comes *Nobody's There* from four-time Edgar Allan Poe Young Adult Mystery Award winner Joan Lowery Nixon. Furious at her father for breaking up their family, Abbie Thompson acted without thinking and got arrested for malicious mischief. Now the judge has assigned her to volunteer in a program that matches teens with the elderly. But Abbie doesn't get just any elderly person. She gets Edna Merkel, a cranky, difficult woman who's a member of the town's crime prevention group. In fact, Mrs. Merkel is too active a member, and after she brags that she's on to something big, she is attacked and ends up hospitalized. Suddenly the private investigator game is real, and only Abbie—with the help of Mrs. Merkel's indecipherable notebook—can figure out who did it. But will Abbie get to the assailant before the assailant gets to her? "Fast-paced and involving." –Kirkus Reviews "Well drawn and distinct...Nixon's fans will no doubt enjoy." –School Library Journal "Another great mystery." –VOYA

The Specter

For fans of Gillian Flynn, Caroline Cooney, and R.L. Stine comes *Spirit Seeker* from four-time Edgar Allan Poe Young Adult Mystery Award winner Joan Lowery Nixon. Holly Campbell's life has suddenly become a newspaper-headline nightmare. The parents of her friend Cody Garnett have just been found in their home, brutally murdered, and Cody is the main

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suspect. Holly's father is the police detective in charge of the investigation, and even he thinks the evidence points right at Cody. Holly knows it's up to her to prove what she believes is the truth: Cody is innocent. Against her father's wishes, secretly crossing the barrier of police tape and television reporters that surrounds the Garnetts' house, she begins her own investigation. Computer files, an odd neighbor, and a mysterious psychic—each might have the evidence Holly needs to help Cody. Or they could all be red herrings that will waste Holly's precious time. A teenager seeking justice and her interactions with the spirit world make this spine-tingling new novel from the only four-time winner of the Edgar Allan Poe Award a surefire winner for mystery fans. "Tightly plotted." -School Library Journal "Enriched with family troubles, guilty secrets, and a whiff of the supernatural, this page-turner will please." -Kirkus Reviews "Readers will enjoy." -Booklist From the Paperback edition.

Laugh Till You Cry

For fans of Gillian Flynn, Caroline Cooney, and R.L. Stine comes *Laugh Till You Cry* from four-time Edgar Allan Poe Young Adult Mystery Award winner Joan Lowery Nixon. Thirteen-year-old Cody doesn't like Texas. He and his mom were only supposed to spend the summer there, helping out his grandmother. But Cody's grandmother is sick and needs them to stay. Now he's the new kid at the local middle school and all his friends are back in California. You'd think Cody's cousin Hayden would show him the ropes. Not

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only is Hayden in the same grade; he lives next door. But Hayden doesn't want anything to do with Cody. Cody's luck begins to change when he befriends Officer Ramsey, a policeman and aspiring stand-up comic. Officer Ramsey appreciates Cody's jokes so much, he pays Cody for the material! But it's no laughing matter when a crime is committed at school and Cody becomes a suspect. Cody is going to need more than jokes to solve this mystery—and clear his name. “Nixon has crafted a lively, fast-paced tale with an intelligent young hero who is creative, courageous, and compassionate.” -Kirkus Reviews “Cody's humorous side...and the book's length make this mystery ideal.” -School Library Journal “A fast-paced and fun read.” -VOYA

Whispers from the Dead

As the saga of the Kelly children continues, Mike Kelly is adopted by a German immigrant farm family living in Missouri. Although they are kind to him, they are mainly interested in having cheap labor.

Playing for Keeps

The Nic-Nac kids--Niki, Amy, Carlos, and Slap--investigate such neighborhood mysteries as the disappearance of items from the community swimming pool, then write about their exploits in their own newspaper.

Shadowmaker

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For fans of Gillian Flynn, Caroline Cooney, and R.L. Stine comes *The Weekend was Murder!* from four-time Edgar Allen Poe Young Adult Mystery Award winner Joan Lowery Nixon. Mary Elizabeth can't wait for the weekend to begin at the Ridley Hotel, where a famous mystery writer and a troupe of actors are coming to enact a murder mystery for 150 amateur sleuths. Mary Elizabeth's role is to discover the "body" in Room 1927, which is supposed to be haunted. But nothing prepares her for the real body she finds in Room 1927... "A masterfully constructed, engaging read that...[is] ingeniously plotted, fast-paced and lighthearted." -Publishers Weekly "Fans will love wading through the myriad details and placing bets on the outcome." -Kirkus Reviews "Mystery fans will...enjoy trying to solve the various crimes." -School Library Journal From the Trade Paperback edition.

In the Face of Danger

Presents a look at weapons throughout history while relaying information about each item's history, uses, and damage potential, in a work that ranges in coverage from man's first weapons to nineteenth-century American weapons.

Adventures of the Red Tape Gang

For fans of Gillian Flynn, Caroline Cooney, and R.L. Stine comes *Whispers from the Dead* from four-time Edgar Allen Poe Young Adult Mystery Award winner Joan Lowery Nixon. Only Sarah senses the horror. The

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minute she steps through the doorway of her family's new home, Sarah feels a smothering cold mist, and hears the echo of a scream and a heartbreaking whisper in Spanish, "Help me!" Sarah feels compelled to find out who is trying to reach her. But can she uncover the mysteries of the past before terror strikes again? "A master at creating compelling suspense novels, Nixon has written yet another carefully plotted, subtly terrifying thriller." -Publishers Weekly
From the Paperback edition.

Land of Promise

Irish immigrant Rose Carney has a difficult life in Chicago. She's working to help pay for her mother's and sisters' passages, dealing with her father's drinking problem, and worrying about her brothers' involvement in questionable activities. Rose becomes committed to a campaign to clean up Chicago and fight for world peace, but she knows her family responsibilities come first. With everything that's happening in her life, can Rose hold on to her American dream?

Champagne at the Murder

In the midst of corrupt city politics, a young civil servant refuses to go along with "the way it's always been."

The Man Downstairs

Lisa and her three friends find themselves unwilling

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players in a cat-and-mouse game with a murderous magician whose identity and motivation baffle them. Reprint.

A Dangerous Promise

The seance started as a game, but it led to murder and terror for the people of a small east Texas community.

Search for the Shadowman

For fans of Gillian Flynn, Caroline Cooney, and R.L. Stine comes *Search for the Shadowman* from four-time Edgar Allan Poe Young Adult Mystery Award winner Joan Lowery Nixon. Twelve-year-old Andy Thomas isn't thrilled with his teacher's assignment to explore family history. But when he starts asking questions about his ancestors, he is surprised to discover a black sheep named Coley Joe Bonner. No one wants to discuss what happened in the family's past. Everyone, including Andy's own relatives, advises him to stop his investigation. But Andy continues and searches everywhere, from the Internet to the local cemetery, to discover the truth. Will Andy's search hurt those he loves or make them realize that it's never too late to seek social justice? "A riveting tale of suspense set against a background of fascinating historical context." -School Library Journal "Hints of disgrace and treachery...children will read the story for the fun of guessing who is warning Andy off the case." -Booklist

Spirit Seeker

For fans of Gillian Flynn, Caroline Cooney, and R.L. Stine comes *The Dark and Deadly Pool* from four-time Edgar Allan Poe Young Adult Mystery Award winner Joan Lowery Nixon. Liz enjoys her summer pool job at the glamorous Ridley Hotel. Until the dark and lonely night when a ghastly shadow surges up from the pool. A face—eyes wide, mouth gaping—stares at Liz. A hand clutches at her sneaker. Then it, whatever it is, is gone. But danger isn't. Strange things are happening at the hotel, and a shaken Liz wants to know why. But whoever is behind the trouble will stop at nothing—not even murder—to get what he wants. “[A] suspenseful mystery, rounded out with touches of humor and romance.” –Publishers Weekly From the Paperback edition.

The Orphan Train Adventures

Stacy Champagne returns to her hometown to help out at her family's Silver Ridge Hotel. She did not plan on getting involved in solving the murder mystery of the unpopular Will Knight. The coauthor is Kathleen Nixon Brush.

The Seance

In 1992, celebrated novelist Ann Patchett launched her remarkable career with the publication of her debut novel, *The Patron Saint of Liars*. On this 25th anniversary, read the best-selling book that is “beautifully written . . . a first novel that second- and

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third-time novelists would envy for its grace, insight, and compassion” (Boston Herald). St. Elizabeth's, a home for unwed mothers in Habit, Kentucky, usually harbors its residents for only a little while. Not so Rose Clinton, a beautiful, mysterious woman who comes to the home pregnant but not unwed, and stays. She plans to give up her child, thinking she cannot be the mother it needs. But when Cecilia is born, Rose makes a place for herself and her daughter amid St. Elizabeth's extended family of nuns and an ever-changing collection of pregnant teenage girls. Rose's past won't be kept away, though, even by St. Elizabeth's; she cannot remain untouched by what she has left behind, even as she cannot change who she has become in the leaving.

A Deadly Game of Magic

In 1856, having traveled with his young sister from New York to a foster home on a farm in Missouri, ten-year-old Danny plots to get his foster father to send for and marry his mother.

Land of Hope

The Kellys traveled across the Atlantic Ocean looking for relief from Ireland's potato famine and a better life in America. For years, everything went well, until Tom Kelly became ill and died, leaving his wife to support their young children. Although she tried desperately to find employment, Mrs. Kelly could not sufficiently support her children and eventually had no choice but to send them west on the Orphan Train. Join in the

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fascinating adventures of the Kelly children as they settle into their new lives with new families in the West.

The Haunting

For fans of Gillian Flynn, Caroline Cooney, and R.L. Stine comes *Playing for Keeps* from four-time Edgar Allan Poe Young Adult Mystery Award winner Joan Lowery Nixon. Rose Ann can't believe her good luck. Her grandmother, Glory, needs a last-minute roommate for her bridge-tournament cruise to the Caribbean. But Glory doesn't really need a companion. She's eager for Rosie to meet her friend's grandson, Neil, a brainy guy full of facts about baseball, among other things. Once Rosie is aboard the ship, though, someone else catches her eye—a boy her own age, who introduces himself as Ricky Diago. But after the ship sails, something doesn't seem quite right. Rosie sees only Ricky's uncle, Mr. Diago. Even stranger, Neil swears that Mr. Diago is actually a famous Cuban baseball player from the Cincinnati Reds. Then, after a day excursion in Paradise Beach, Rosie is approached by another boy who claims he's Ricky Diago. She's certain he's not the person she met at the beginning of the trip. Suddenly Rosie finds herself caught in a high-stakes game of international intrigue with life-or-death consequences. Who is the real Ricky Diago? And how far will Rosie go to help him? With her trademark expertise, Joan Lowery Nixon interweaves politics, baseball, and romance in a masterful novel of suspense on the high seas. “[An] engaging mystery.”

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-Kirkus Reviews “[A] fast-paced combination of suspense and romance.” -Booklist “Satisfactory teen mystery.” -VOYA

Backstage with a Ghost

It's the autumn of 1863, and as the Civil War rages, a stranger named Violet seeks refuge with the Kelly family. Peg Kelly, 11, is thrilled—Violet treats her like an adult, not a child. Violet is fleeing Confederate raiders and has information that may save the Union. But she can't deliver her message unless she takes a dangerous journey.

Watch Out for Dinosaurs!

When their mother can no longer support them, six siblings are sent by the Children's Aid Society of New York City to live with farm families in Missouri in 1860.

The Kidnapping of Christina Lattimore

A plan to secretly help their community nearly backfires for a group of children when they find themselves involved with real gangland criminals.

A Family Apart

It's 1861, and although Mike Kelly is far younger than the legal age of 16, he and his best friend Todd secretly join up with the Second Kansas Infantry and become army drummer boys. Mike's dreams of glory end when he's wounded at the bloody Battle of

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Wilson's Creek and must begin a dangerous adventure behind enemy lines.

The Making of a Writer

Novelist Augustus Trevor has written a manuscript that reveals the darkest secrets of his guests. Whoever can solve Trevor's clues can have his story removed from the book. But when Trevor is bludgeoned to death, the survivors (along with the reader) are challenged to find both the manuscript and the murderer.

A Place to Belong

For fans of Gillian Flynn, Caroline Cooney, and R.L. Stine comes *Shadowmaker* from four-time Edgar Allan Poe Young Adult Mystery Award winner Joan Lowery Nixon. When Katie Gillian and her mother move from Houston to a small Texas town, they never imagine that violence and intrigue will interrupt their six-month stay. Could the two bodies found have anything to do with the newspaper articles Katie's reporter mother is writing—or with the shadowy figures Katie has noticed lurking outside her house at night? “Strong female characters[,]...affecting and fast-paced, this mystery delivers.” –Publishers Weekly
“Nixon deftly weaves the ordinary difficulties of a new kid in school into a suspenseful mystery...[and her] characters are interestingly complicated.” –Booklist
“[A] smoothly knit novel.” –Kirkus Reviews From the Paperback edition.

The Patron Saint of Liars

Arriving for a vacation on Holiday Island, penguins Gus and Gertie stumble into a hotel full of bad guys and have a beautiful, valuable deep-sea pearl stolen from them. 10,000 first printing.

The Beauty of the Beastly

Seventeen-year-old Dina is fighting cancer and is angry at the whole world. But when Julie, a nine-year-old survivor of a car accident, becomes Dina's roommate at the hospital, there's no time for Dina to keep on being angry. Because Julie is frightened. Desperately frightened. She's sure that someone caused the accident she was in--someone who will return to kill her. Now she's insisting on being with Dina all the time. But by befriending Julie, is Dina making herself the target of a dangerous killer?

A History of Weapons

A teenage girl is kidnapped, but when freed, is accused of masterminding the scheme to extort money from her wealthy grandmother.

Kidnapped

For fans of Gillian Flynn, Caroline Cooney, and R.L. Stine comes *A Candidate For Murder* from four-time Edgar Allen Poe Young Adult Mystery Award winner Joan Lowery Nixon. A suspense novel set in the world of politics. With her father running for governor of

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Texas, Cary is determined to find out why she appears to be in danger. “A thriller...[with] believable characters and an ever-mounting level of suspense [that will] hold the reader’s attention to the finish.”
–Publishers Weekly “Nixon is back doing the kind of book she does best...an inviting read.” –Booklist /2000
From the Paperback edition.

Nightmare

“An awe-inspiring tour of nature” from a Pulitzer Prize-winning science writer (San Francisco Examiner). Natalie Angier has taken great pains to learn her science from the molecule up. She knows all that scientists know—and sometimes more—about the power of symmetry in sexual relations, about the brutal courting habits of dolphins, about the grand deceit of orchids, and about the impact of female and male preferences on evolution. *The Beauty of the Beastly* takes the pulse of everything from the supple structure of DNA to the erotic ways of barn swallows, queen bees, and the endangered, otherworldly primate called the aye-aye. Few writers have ever covered so many facets of biology so evocatively in one book. Timothy Ferris, author of the acclaimed *Coming of Age in the Milky Way*, says Angier is “one of the strongest and wittiest science writers in the world today.” “Like Alan Lightman or Lewis Thomas,” writes Nobel laureate David Baltimore, “she draws from science a meaning that few scientists see, and her writing takes on an unusual dimension of artistry.” And Sherwin Nuland, author of *How We Die*, believes that “Natalie Angier is in the tradition of the

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great nature writers.” “A gold mine.” —The New York Times “From cockroaches to cheetahs, DNA to elephant dung, Angier gives us intimate and dramatic portraits of nature that readers will find rewarding.”
—Publishers Weekly

A Candidate for Murder

The adventures of sixteen-year-old David Balfour, an orphan, who after being kidnapped by his villainous uncle manages to escape and becomes involved in the struggle of the Scottish highlanders against English rule.

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