

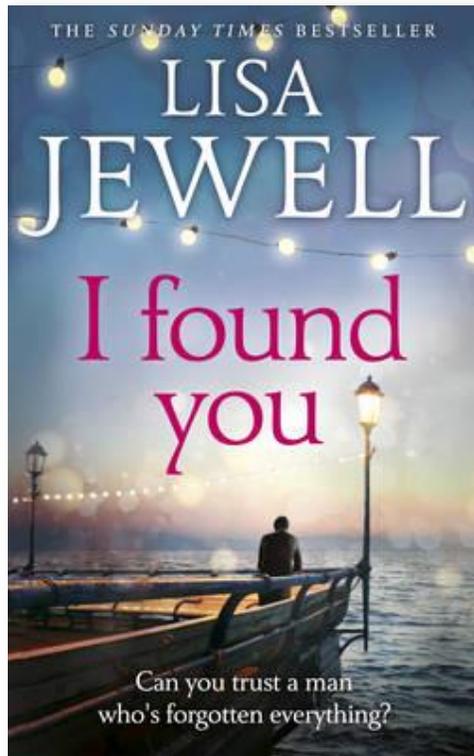


Helping you choose  
your next book

## LoveReading Reader reviews of **I Found You** by Lisa Jewell



**Below are the complete reviews, written by LoveReading members.**



**Linda Hill**

***An exciting novel that grips from the opening line.***

*'I Found You' is exciting, entertaining and a crackingly good read. I was gripped from the very first line of this thriller. All the elements that make for a truly satisfying read are there. Lisa Jewell knows exactly how to drip feed information that compels the reader to want to read more and more. You do need to suspend your disbelief at one or two of the plot events, but the writing is so good you don't notice that until after the book has been read because the pace is stunning and enthralling.*

*I found all the characters life-like and convincing so that I cared what happened to them, especially Alice and 'Frank'. Even the more minor characters like the children (and dogs) felt completely natural and whilst Kitty may act in ways we find hard to accept, she is understandable.*

*What also appealed to me was the quality of the prose. Lisa Jewell's style flows so smoothly and I found her descriptions added just the right level of detail to bring the scenes alive in my imagination. Similarly, I found the dialogue natural so that it felt as if I were eavesdropping conversations rather than reading a book.*

*There's depth of emotion from fear to hatred to love and a touch of humour to*

balance the darker elements of the writing. **For those who like a feeling of humanity with their thrillers, I think Lisa Jewell's 'I Found You' is a perfect read.**

[www.lindasbookbag.com](http://www.lindasbookbag.com) / @Lindahill50Hill

### **Celia Cohen**

***A page-turner of a book combining elements of mystery, romance and horror.***

***I loved this book, couldn't put it down.*** The story of three people skilfully woven until finally they all come together at the end. I just couldn't wait to find out how it was going to end. I've not read any of Lisa Jewell's books before but I'm certainly going to now.

### **Glenda Worth**

*Easy to read, great story and a real page turner! 'I Found You' is the story of 'Frank' a name which is given him by Alice's family when they find him on the beach in the rain having lost his memory.*

*Lisa Jewell writes of a man who knows nothing not even his name and he doesn't know why he has come to the beach in East Yorkshire.*

*Alice takes Frank in and slowly his life is revealed while family life including the three dogs moves chaotically alongside.*

*Meanwhile in London Lily Drew has reported her husband missing after only having been married for three weeks. She is left stranded in a country where she knows no-one and then the police inform her that her husband did not exist either.*

***Are the two stories linked, and if so how? As the book draws you in various possibilities come to mind and I found I just wanted to know the outcome and had to keep on reading til the end!***

### **Phylippa Smithson**

*Right from the opening page I was hooked on this enthralling unraveling of memory loss and the journey to recover it. When a stranger comes into the lives of Alice and her 3 children on a remote beach in N Yorkshire, it is not just that he is someone they have never met before, but he is someone who does not actually*

*know who he is, even his name. Alice's youngest christens him Frank, as everyone should have a name.*

*In parallel to Alice providing Frank with a platform to find himself, we switch back in to time to a family holiday in the same village spoilt by the presence of a 19 year old man wanting to befriend the family and in particular 15 year old Kirsty, sister of 17 year old Gray.*

*Then forward in time to Lilly, recently married to Carl who she learns, when he disappears, is not the man he had led her to believe.*

*What links the three seemingly separate stories is what drives this absorbing story. **It is also to the author's credit that it flows to such an extent that I finished it in 24 hours.***

***Perfect for a holiday read.***

### **Sue Burton**

***Great story line and a thoroughly page turning read. This book and the characters had me hooked from page one.*** *The story was brilliant and it had a fantastic ending.*

### **Jo-anne Atkinson**

*Addictively good writing despite itself!*

*Alice lives with her three children and three dogs in a small seaside town in Yorkshire. One day she finds a man on the beach who claims to have forgotten everything about himself, she invites him to stay until he remembers his life. In Surrey, Lily's new husband has disappeared leaving her alone in a new and strange country. How are these two events linked to each other and to a tragedy from over twenty years ago?*

*I have never read any of Lisa Jewell's works before, mainly because I associate her writing with the worst excesses of 'chick lit', therefore I was slightly skeptical about this book. In many respects my fears were justified but that is not to say that 'I Found You' is not a really enjoyable book. The story is overwritten as the plot is somewhat gothic and becomes rather silly towards the end. It is completely unbelievable in just about every respect but I couldn't stop reading! There is a huge market for this sort of book, it is a perfect middle-of-the-road holiday read, not too long or complex and with an escapist plot. **Lisa Jewell knows her market and will not disappoint them.***

## Nicola Kingswell

*A missing husband and a missing memory, both triggered by a past best forgotten. Boho single mum Alice spots a stranger on the beach outside her East Yorkshire cottage. When he doesn't move for the entire day, despite the driving rain, she offers him a coat. It turns out 'Frank' as her daughter nicknames him, has arrived on the train from London in only the clothes he is wearing, and without any memory. Alice, with a history of waifs and strays, invites him to stay. Frank starts to experience memory flashbacks that are disturbing and scary.*

*In London, newlywed Lily's husband of 3 weeks doesn't come home for work as expected. Her whirlwind romance starts to unravel fairly quickly. As Lily investigates her husband's disappearance, Lily realises he isn't the man she thought he was.*

*How are Frank and Lily's stories entwined, and what made Frank flee London without his past?*

***I really enjoyed this novel.*** *The switching viewpoints, from Frank to Lily to Alice to the past kept the story moving quickly and was very engaging. I wanted to know more about Alice, but I'm quite glad this was kept sketchy as this wasn't her story. A real page turner, quite dark and gritty at times, but ultimately uplifting.*

## Joy Finlayson

*'I Found You' is saturated with drama, tense as memory comes to light, and shocking in its implications. **I was only disappointed that I needed to break up my reading with a night's sleep!***

*When single mum Alice sees a man sitting on the beach outside her home despite the inclement weather, she, perhaps foolishly, invites him in. Surprised to discover that he has no memory of his name or of his history, Alice's children name him Frank. At the same time, Lily, a wife of only three weeks, can't get the police to take her seriously when her husband fails to return home. With both Alice and Lily struggling to piece together the events leading to their missing man, their lives collide and a painful past comes to light.*

*Lisa Jewell has once again outdone herself in her latest novel, 'I Found You'. **Combining backstory, present day action and multiple perspectives, she has created a story that will immediately draw you in.** Once you*

*are there, you won't want to leave. It takes skill to write a novel that appears so effortlessly told, where the characters begin to really mean something to you, and where the conclusion could never be fathomed beforehand. However, Jewell manages all of this and more.*

*'I Found You' is saturated with drama, tense as memory comes to light, and shocking in its implications. It is a perfect summer read; it isn't light in theme, but as soon as you begin reading, you want to keep going. I was only disappointed that I needed to break up my reading with a night's sleep!"*

joyisabella.com

### **Cheryl Kinney**

***Interesting & gripping read. I have read a number of Lisa Jewell's books and have really enjoyed them, especially her more recent books that have a darker more thriller aspect to them.***

*I Found you is a really good read, that kept me guessing till the end, I could not put this down and kept reading till late so I could finish.*

*The story follows two women and a man with no memory, there are flash backs, which give clues to who the man may be. I kept changing my mind about which man he could be from these.*

*There is a hint of something dark and horrible happening, this tension builds up throughout the book and finally breaks at the end.*

*The main characters are Alice (and her slightly mad family) & Frank they are likeable and I was really rooting for the budding relationship to develop into something more.*

*Once his memory starts returning in little pieces there is a sad story behind its loss that is really tragic but I feel that the end brought closure for the characters and they could begin to move on.*

*I really enjoyed this book, another great read from a brilliant author!*

**@cheryl\_bookworm**

### **Joy Bosworth**

***I'd not read Lisa Jewel before – but I certainly will again.***

*This had more meat than some chick-lit type books with humour throughout, although it was very funny. It would have stood up just as that but there is a*

*really gripping mystery centering around a man on a beach without a memory.*

*Alice Lake is not the modern, sophisticated working mother, she's a shambles and has what she refers to as "Badger hair" from hairdressing disasters, but what she also has is a big heart and buckets of common sense.*

*The man on the beach is included in her posse of disposed dogs and is cared for and taken walks. She's a lovely outlook on life. Instead of berating noisy teenage friends of her son she simply shouts "Food" and they traipse down to collect plates full – crisis averted. She is at her best with her own dog, a former lodger's abandoned dog and her parent's elderly poodle.*

*Interwoven with this is a compelling tale of events from the nineties which may or may not be related to the man's amnesia. Unlike a lot of funny novels it doesn't fail at authentic mystery, it's just that humour lightens the tension.*

***I loved every bit of it and strongly objected to real life making me leave off reading!***

### **Humaira**

*I was gripped right from looking at the front cover. It was only amount of hours, a bit of sleep and a tiny break for food that proved this. The whole premise was so intriguing and intrigued me even more as I read on. **I literally couldn't put this book down for the life of me, even when I had so much to do; 'I Found You' basically put my life on hold.** An absolute honour to be captivated by such astounding writing!*

### **Shriya Khambhaita**

*Two different lives that consist of mystery and lies East Yorkshire - Alice is a single mother who invites a homeless man into her home. He soon becomes a lodger that starts to pull her heart string back and forth. Their relationship grows overtime when she is on a mission to find out what, why and how?*

*Surrey- Newly wed Lily is also wondering what, why and how?*

***I really liked the plot for Alice and Lily because they both seemed like realistic characters. My first novel by Lisa Jewell. I will be reading more of her work.***

@Shriya\_Kham

## **Genevieve McAllister**

***All families are dysfunctional to some degree: Lisa Jewell writes about them with consideration and understanding.***

*Family relationships are central to Lisa Jewell's latest novel where Alice meets a mysterious man with memory loss on the beach by her house and takes him in, to the alarm of her friends and children. The growing relationship between Alice and 'Frank' is interwoven with the story of Gray's family holiday in the same Yorkshire coastal town back in 1993, and the present day disappearance of Ukrainian Lily's new husband from Surrey.*

*The storyline of I Found You is compelling and driven forward by the central mystery: who exactly is the stranger on the beach? The narrative shifts between a number of the characters so the reader gets to understand how it feels to be the different people and allows glimpses of how the plot links them together.*

*The novel also cleverly combines two genres; a slow-burning love story counterbalanced with crime. While I felt the ending was a little rushed and far-fetched, with some of the most dramatic action just referred to in passing, this still didn't detract from the strength of the novel. All families are dysfunctional to some degree: Lisa Jewell writes about them with consideration and understanding, presenting their differences not as weaknesses but simply as what makes us unique.*

@genmcallister

## **Victoria Emerson**

***I absolutely loved this book.***

This is definitely a long read but well worth the effort.

The story is told from three different angles that I thought worked very well.

The characters were great and the level of suspense throughout the book was aimed at just the right level.

## Emily Curnow

***I loved this book and sped through it like a steam train on a mission.***

*The characters were believable and well defined. I swung from adoring 'Frank' to being frightened at the prospect of who he really was and what he has done. The author keeps the suspense until the very end in an unexpected finale. Set in an idyllic seaside town, you cannot help feel that you are walking along side the characters, wanting to offer advice and solve the mystery. A highly recommended novel that will get the readers heart racing.*

## Tanya Thurling

Ah *I loved* this book. Alice Lake finds a man on the beach. Lost and with no memories she takes him in. Somewhere else Lily Monroe's husband fails to come home. Where is he? What happened to him? ***The book flits back and forth between past and present, building up a story that will have you guessing and second guessing***, then questioning again the identity of this man 'Frank' as you go on the journey to finding out who he is, and what truly happened all those years ago. I loved the characters in this book, Alice being my favourite. Wild-haired, scatty, forgetful, and winging it as a single parent, but with a heart of gold. I love that her house is like a home for waifs and strays and that she seems to collect other people's pets as she goes along. Her best friend Derry: feisty, a little controlling, but a fierce and loyal friend. Frank. You can't help but love the little lost soul that is found on the beach, but as the back-story progresses you will have mixed emotions. And you will find yourself believing in him one moment and the next despising him. I can't say much more without giving it away but honestly give this book a try.

## Angie Rhodes

***Just when you think Lisa Jewell's last book was the best she has written she comes along merrily to blow that assumption clear out of the water. Once again, Lisa has come along with a book to keep you awake at night!***

Alice Lake is a single mum to three children, Jasmine, Kai and Romaine. They live in East Yorkshire, and she makes art from old maps, and sells them on the Internet, and now and again lets her spare room out, well every penny helps. One stormy afternoon, she finds a man sat on the beach, and asks him his name and

how long he has been there. He has no idea what his name is, or how he got there, Alice can not do anything but help him, even giving him a name, "Frank" lets him stay in her cottage, and together they look for clues, as to who he is. In Surrey, Lilly Drew is missing her husband...married for three weeks, she realises, she knows nothing about him...all she knows is he didn't come home, and there is nothing in their new flat with anything about his life before he met her. No paper trail. Not even a number for his Twenty years of secrets and lies, two women, and one man, and the fact that Lily's husband never existed according to the police. This is one to keep you turning the pages, quicker than you can blink!

### **Evelyn Love- Gajardo**

***This was a real page turner-I couldn't put it down.***

It's told from the point of view of three characters and it takes a while to know how at least two of them are connected. It continually moves between the three stories and you just have to keep reading to find out what happens. It kept me guessing for quite a while, but I was very satisfied with the ending. I don't want to say too much about the plot in case I give anything away, but I would highly recommend this book as a holiday read when you have plenty of reading time and no reason to stop!

### **Emily Wright**

***Lisa Jewell's evocative storytelling interweaves romance and intrigue with long buried secrets, creating a glorious treat of a read which pulled me along in its slipstream.***

Alice offers the hand of friendship to a stranger with memory loss, promising she will help the man, nicknamed Frank, to find himself. Meanwhile, Lily is attempting to trace her missing husband, Carl. As she delves into his life it becomes clear the man she loved is not what he appeared. Both men need finding, but how and why are they linked? Lisa Jewell juggles the tantalising threads expertly, keeping the reader in suspense by teasing out snippets of information and questions. The portrayal of the characters is honest, down to earth and fleshed out. Nobody is picture perfect; each has little quirks and foibles, making them easier to relate to. I was glued to the book, at no point losing interest or wanting the plot to move faster. For me, the pace was just right, quick enough to compel me to keep up yet detailed and clear so I wasn't left in a tangled web of confusion. Frank's memory loss becomes a coming of age style narrative.

He develops from being a blank canvas into someone who has survived a tragic past, making him determined to give his all to the future. Full of heartfelt emotion, *I Found You* celebrates the memories which are unique to each of us, and how they help us to find our true selves.

### **Edel Waugh**

This story is about two women and one man called Carl. There is Alice , an eclectic mum with a trusting nature and the new wife of Carl called Lily who is young and a little too trusting . The story gets you from the beginning , with an unknown man who is proving very intriguing to himself ( yes himself) and Alice who happens to come across him. Carl's wife is desperate to find her husband who has not come home and the authorities are no help at all so she decides to investigate herself ! ***This was a great story and mystery - I read it all in one sitting.*** The story does not give up all its secrets easily, but gives us hints as we read along making it hard to resist. I was trying to guess how it would all tie together by the end so there was no way I was putting this book down until I knew, and I was glad of it. Who needs sleep anyway haha. This book will make you question just how well you really know those closest to you.

### **Becca Jayne**

**‘I Found You’ is definitely one of Lisa’s best novels and I can’t recommend it highly enough to anyone who’s looking for a unique mystery with family and betrayal elements.** Five star worthy completely. Lisa Jewell books have always been a hit for me. Not only are her stories always realistic and compelling, but are attentive to detail and characters. In her latest novel, ‘I Found You’, it tells many different stories in one. First, there is Alice, who lives by the sea with her three children and who makes a living by making art. While she’s working one day, she notices a man who has been sitting on the beachfront all day in the rain. Another is about a young woman called Lily is recently married to an older man and they share a substantial age gap of over fifteen years. But one night, her husband doesn’t come home. The third story that intertwines is a jump back in time to 1993 revolving around a close family who rent the same holiday cottage every year. But when they are out one day, a handsome stranger becomes obsessed with their lives. Everywhere they went, he appeared—much to the chagrin of Gray, the son of the family. But they don't know just how dangerous he is.

Fast paced in parts, enthralling and edge-of-your-seat mystery has met it’s match

with 'I Found You'. I was hooked in by the shocking twists and turns in present and past day, and how the mystery all tied together—in a way that I didn't see coming. 'I Found You' is definitely one of Lisa's best novels and I can't recommend it highly enough to anyone who's looking for a unique mystery with family and betrayal elements. Five star worthy completely.

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