



## The Disappeared

*Sibel Hodge*

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# The Disappeared

Sibel Hodge

**The Disappeared** Sibel Hodge  
**The Widow. The Secret. The Liar.**

## **The Disappeared...**

On a routine flight from Africa to England, Dr Mason Palmer is tragically killed when the light aircraft he's travelling on crashes and disappears in dense bushland.

## **The Widow...**

Ten months later, Nicole Palmer is still trying to block out the grief of her husband's sudden death. Until one morning she receives a photo of Mason through the post, along with a cryptic message. A message only he could've written.

## **The Secret...**

But when Nicole tries to find out if Mason is really alive and what actually happened to him in Africa, everyone she turns to for answers ends up dead.

Determined to find the truth, Nicole uncovers a conspiracy that spans the globe, and discovers there are powerful people who are prepared to kill to keep her silent.

**Who's lying? Who's watching Nicole? And can she expose their murky secrets before they catch up with her?**

**Sibel Hodge is the international bestselling author of multiple thrillers including *Look Behind You* and *Duplicity*. *The Disappeared* is a twisty and suspenseful mystery thriller which will appeal to fans of authors like Caroline Mitchell, Mark Edwards and John Marrs.**

## **The Disappeared Details**

Date : Published January 10th 2019 by Bloodhound Books

ISBN :

Author : Sibel Hodge

Format : ebook 365 pages

Genre : Thriller, Mystery, Suspense, Mystery Thriller

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## **From Reader Review The Disappeared for online ebook**

### **Between The Pages Book Club (Gemma M) says**

This is such a great story. I lost myself into it. I was beside Nicole the whole way, even if I didn't agree with some of the things she did. Parts can be a little sensitive for the reader and dark, but it also highlights that child slavery was and is probably still being used today. Shocking!

The police and DI was starting to get on my nerves at times in this book! How did it take them so long? And why did he think he was always right? But all ends well. I don't want to say too much as I don't want to be a 'spoiler' as it is a brilliant read with an interesting storyline. I devoured it in two days.

This is the first book I have read by Sibel and it won't be my last. Some lovely characters and some awful evil characters. Best of both worlds. Brilliantly written. Fast paced as I just wanted answers and a easy read. Highly recommend. Not what I expected but throughhally enjoyed it. A well deserved four stars from me. My first read of 2019! You can tell the author has put a lot of research and time into this one.

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### **Claire says**

I honestly don't know where to start with my review for The Disappeared. As with many of Sibel Hodge's books, I don't want to talk too much about the plot for fear of spoiling the story! #nospoilers.

My heart went out to Nicole. Losing her husband has to be devastating but to not get the closure of a funeral must be a feeling like no other. And then to receive a photo of her late husband, is it a very cruel joke or a glimmer of hope? I wanted to know the truth!

I devoured the book within 24 hours. The pace at which the story unfolds kept my attention gripped to my kindle. Hodge has a way of writing a book of many layers which starts off as one type of book but the more I read and peel back the layers, the story twists and turns into another book entirely.

Yet again Hodge has written a thought provoking read and she's made me realise I do actually read conspiracy thrillers! I don't know how much truth there is to the backdrop of this story but it definitely made me ponder the possibilities!

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### **Sue says**

THE DISAPPEARED is a dark gripping mystery thriller by international bestselling author of multiple thrillers; Sibel Hodge.

Calling all husbands...come home!

Dr. Mason Palmer was at Lagossa Airport in rural Africa on route to the capital, Galao, on his return flight to the UK. He was nervous and hiding something. Just when he was about to board, he was detained by officials. He needed to play along, and deny everything...in order to get out.

“I know what you did. I know who you are.”

Nicole’s husband, Mason, died in a plane crash in Africa ten months ago. He was a doctor working for an international medical NGO, that had set up a clinic there.

Nicole Palmer, a primary school teacher and the grieving widow is still trying to block out the grief of her husband’s sudden death. Until one morning she receives a photo of Mason through the post, along with a cryptic message. A message only he could’ve written.

But Mason was dead? But they never found the plane.

Was someone playing a malicious prank on her? Who would do this to her?

But Nicole needs to find out the truth and put closure to everything. She is determined to find out if Mason is really alive and what actually happened to him in Africa, but everyone she turns to for answers ends up dead. Who can she trust?

What Nicole uncovers is a conspiracy that operates globally, and they will kill to keep her silent.

This is well written suspense thriller mystery, that I couldn’t read fast enough. I applaud this author for not been deterred from handling sensitive subject matter. I highly recommend this novel.

Many thanks to the author, and the TBC Reviewer Request Group (FB) for my digital copy.

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### **Chloe says**

This is a gripping fast read with lots of mystery and twists and turns . The tension in this book does not let up for a second . The author handles a tough beautifully and takes us in an emotional rollercoaster . Will highly recommend

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### **Sharon says**

When Sibel Hodge publishes a book then you know that you are not going to get “just any old read” you know that you are going to be taken on an exhilarating journey and have a strong moral, ethical lesson and an intriguing social commentary at the same time. But don’t worry this isn’t done in a “lecturing” kind of way, it fits neatly into the plot and will poke and prod at your mind for a long time after you have turned the last page.

The Disappeared tells the story of Nicole Palmer whose husband, Dr. Mason Palmer, has been declared dead following a plane crash on a flight from Africa. But something happens to make Nicole believe that her husband is very much alive and she is determined to find out what has happened. What follows is a taut and terrifying journey taking us from the UK to Africa and a body count that just keeps growing! We uncover lies and secrets so terrible that they will be seared into your heart. I don’t want to say anything about the plot as there is too much to give away, trust me, you will be gobsmacked, heartbroken and furious when you put this book down! I wish that Sibel Hodge’s books were just flights of fancy but sadly I know that they are

based very much on research and truth and that is what makes them so powerful.

Some might argue that fiction has no place in giving his social and ethical lessons, I very much disagree, it is the power of the written and spoken word that effects change and if reading fiction which has a strong element of fact entrenched stops you and makes you think then it is a job well done.

The Disappeared would translate into a box office hit in the world of cinema, it has it all, thrills, danger, conflict and some form of resolution for the characters

A strong powerful read that will grab you by the throat and shake your thinking all ways round!

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### **sue says**

This authors books never disappoint me. I always know I'm in for a good read once I sit down and start each one of her new releases.

Each book and plot is very different from her last, that's what excites me.  
Her last book was about the dark side of the Internet which kept me enthralled.

This one is very different, it starts out like a cat and mouse chase but ends up much much much more satisfying than that.

Corruption  
Lies  
Deaths  
Murders  
Sabotage  
Disappearance  
Abduction  
Then.....

Justice.

But.....  
Justice comes at a price. A steep price.

It's the dark side of political corruption  
It's human greed.

Slavery.  
Child slavery.  
And production.

Exposure too comes with a price. A deep price.

A fabulous and explosive read.

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### **peggy says**

#### **OMG THIS BOOK IS AMAZING!!!!!!**

I was so excited when I downloaded this book and put it to the top of my lengthy TBR list. This book grasp you by the throat and never lets go. If you want action, tension and suspense then this is the book for you. It is packed to the rafters. I finished this book in the wee hours, I could not sleep. I needed to know. As the author herself says that this is a work of fiction but based on true life. I was amazed, appalled and bloody well flabbergasted. How can something I adore cost so much in human lives ???? I devoured this book and the story takes off like a rocket from page one. This is another easy five stars from an author who has already written many five star books. This book is now added to this authors shelf. A very very happy reader. This book is a must read and highly recommended.

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### **Mark says**

Your husband is killed in a plane crash in Africa....

You have 10 months of mourning

You then receive a pic of him taken in Barcelona with a message only you will understand on the back of the pic

He's alive??

But he cant be!

Can he???

Nicole is then on a desperate hunt to find Mason and what has happened to him....its a psychological thriller that ticks every box BUT theres a difference...the characters and story are fiction but the reasons for Masons disappearance are based on something that is very real in todays world and the author has done vast research into the subject ( I ummed and ahhh'd as to wether to mention what it is but decided against!) suffice to say it will shock and make you uncomfortable and like me I guarantee you will want to do a bit of further reading on the subject ( links in the Authors notes at the end ), so it really is an unusually clever read with a brilliant story that also educates,

I found it fascinating!

The story is a full on adventure, its impossible to not be drawn into it and feel every bump and scrape as the main 'stars' go on

an adrenaline fuelled race against time around the globe, facing danger at every turn....you will be there with them as the real truth unfolds

Dark, harrowing yet in parts gentle I loved every exciting page and once again showed the authors enviable skills at telling a good, believable and 'different' story

10/10 5 Stars

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### **Mandy White says**

Sibel Hodge - you never ever disappoint! I was so incredibly lucky to receive an advanced copy of this book

from TBC on Facebook and the author. I have been a big fan of this author for a while now and this book has absolutely cemented her place in my go to writers for suspense reads. This book is amazing - and so well written. What shocked me was after reading the authors notes at the end is that it is based on real life events. My goodness, some of the events of this book made me so mad and to think that they are really happening.

10 months ago Nicole Palmer became a widow. Her husband, a doctor in Africa, Mason was killed in a plane crash but no body has ever been found. When opening her mail before work one morning she receives a photo of Mason she has never seen before, along with a note that only her husband could have written. Is Mason still alive? This begins a roller coaster of events that put her life in danger but she needs to know the truth.

I could not put this book down and highly recommend to readers of this genre.

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### **Berit??? says**

#### **A compelling fast and furious story of intrigue, secrets, and deception!**

Make sure your seatbelt is tightly fastened for this addictive fast-paced story! A story of betrayal and scheming... A menagerie of genres, thriller, action, adventure, mystery, and political intrigue... A game of cat and mouse that will take you from the UK to Africa to Spain to Switzerland and back....

Nicole is a widow of 10 months, her husband died in a plane crash in Africa... Mason was in Africa working as a doctor when he met his unfortunate demise.... but is he really dead? The body was never recovered and now Nicole has received a picture that supposedly was taken just a few days ago... but where has he been this whole time? And why has he not contacted her? Nicole is determined to get answers, but the more she digs more and more questions pop up...

This book will give you whiplash with all the twists and turns.... what appeared as a simple game of hide and seek turned into so much more... Nicole was very likable and you had to admire her Moxie! She was somebody just like you and me, who found herself running for her life, and not only searching for her husband but for answers.... The ending to the story was brilliant, bold, and satisfying! And trust me you will never look at chocolate the same way again!

If you like a little action adventure with your thriller this is a must read! Absolutely recommend!

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\*\*\* many thanks to Bloodhound Books for my copy of this book \*\*\*

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### **Pat says**

Sibel Hodge is fast becoming one of my favourite authors, particularly for her more recent books. And you never know what to expect as they are all so different. How lucky am I to have read a few 5 star books lately?

Nicole Palmer is still emotionally distraught after losing her husband, Mason, 10 months ago. Mason was

working as a doctor in strife ridden Narumbe (fictitious country in Africa) when the light plane he was on disappeared without a trace and its four passengers were declared dead even though the wreckage was never found. An envelope arrives in the mail with a hand written address. Inside a photo of Mason sitting outside a cafe in Barcelona holding a local paper dated two days ago. On the back is written a message that includes a saying meaningful to the couple and an admonition not to tell anyone.

Nicole is understandably concerned and confused. She contacts everyone she can think of to see if they have heard anything further about the crash. Nada. She contacts the administrator of the international aid organisation, Isabelle, also nada. From cell phone records she learns that Mason called Isabelle a few minutes after his flight supposedly took off. She doesn't know what to think. The next day brings another message asking her to meet him. Now she is thinking he must, after all, somehow, still be alive. But if he is why has he not contacted her before? She goes to the meet but the man who arrives is not Mason and he grabs her and bundles her into a van. Then the story really takes off.

It becomes clear that something very fishy is going on in Africa and those involved will stop at nothing to ensure it remains a secret as billions are at stake. Wow, move over Matthew Reilly and Matt Hilton, this girl writes a mean action thriller. No more clues about the plot except to say it's a cracking, fast paced story with international intrigue and very high stakes.

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### **Jacob Collins says**

The Disappeared is a tense roller-coaster of a read from Sibel Hodge. Right from its intriguing opening, I was captivated by Nicole and Mason's story which is quite a powerful one, and it can also be quite eye-opening. This is a novel that will make you think about what is going on in the world at the moment, and it wouldn't surprise me at all if events in this book were actually happening right now; it does make my blood boil to think that such crimes are being hushed up by corrupt governments across the globe.

In the opening pages, we meet Nicole who is grieving for her late husband Mason ten months after his plane went down, there were no recorded survivors. Nicole has never had closure, as the area in Africa where the plane crashed is in rebel territory making it too dangerous for government officials to go in and investigate and recover the bodies and the wreckage. Nicole fears that she will never be able to bury her husband and that his bones will remain lost in the African wilderness. But she is about to receive startling information that will change everything she thought she knew in a big way.

This is a story with plenty of intrigue and with some callous characters who you will be very happy to see taken down and destroyed. From the start, I had a lot of questions surrounding the mystery that Nicole has now found herself plunged into, what had really happened to her husband and what was he involved in? Like the police officers, I had more than one scenario playing around inside my mind. Nicole is a character who I became invested in, and I really wanted her to succeed in what she is trying to accomplish in this book.

This is quite an emotionally charged read, especially when you begin to learn the truth about what has been going on Mason's world, prior to the events which are happening now. This plot is very hard to talk about without giving any of it away, so I'm not going to go into any further detail, but be prepared to be shocked and appalled by events which quickly unfold. I flew through The Disappeared as I wanted to see just how everything was going to come together in the end.

The Disappeared is a story about greed, corruption and lies which culminate in a painful truth. Sibel Hodge

is a new author to me, and after reading this book, I will definitely be keeping an eye out for more novels by her. If you're looking for a quick, action-packed read, with heroes who you can root for, then I would definitely recommend this book.

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### **Linda Strong says**

I barely know where to start with this review. This book is phenomenal .. it has a little bit of everything that's sure to please all those who like to read thrillers / mysteries. I was impressed by the credibility of the story and the characters ... and then I discovered that this story was based on a true story. The author has been diligent in her research.

It starts with a man racing to the airport ...he must leave, he must leave ... that's all that's running through his head. He has seen something ... something that will haunt him for the rest of his life. And just as he is about to go through the gate, a hand lands on his shoulder.

Ten months later, Natalie is still grieving the loss of her husband, He went down in an airplane and bodies were never recovered. Today she has received a picture ... of her husband taken just a few days ago. Is this a hoax? Somebody's idea of a joke? Is the picture photo-shopped?

And if he really is still alive ... where has he been all the time? Why hasn't he contacted her? Why would he choose to disappear?

Natalie goes on the hunt for her husband .. or what really happened to him. What she discovers is worse than any nightmare she has ever had.

This is very well written, especially tackling a very sensitive subject. This is not my first book I've read by this author, and it definitely won't be my last. This is an author to follow.

Many thanks to the author / TBC Reviewer Request Group (FB) for the advanced digital copy of **THE DISAPPEARED**. Opinions expressed here are unbiased and entirely my own.

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### **Joseph - Relax And Read Reviews says**

Over the last few years, author Sibel Hodge has written a number of brilliant, edge-of-your-seat suspenseful thrillers that keep the reader hooked from start to finish. 'The Disappeared' is no different. Actually, I think this is one of her best to date and I'm so glad to have picked up this book as my first one of 2019 as it has surely set me on the right mood and track for this year's reading.

***"Mason Palmer didn't know he had less than two hours to live when he walked into the ramshackle building."***

And this, the first sentence of the prologue, has sucked me up into a roller-coaster vortex from the get-go, and if it weren't for real life getting in the way, I would have devoured the whole book in a couple of sittings.

The suspense in this book starts high at the beginning of the story and remains high till the end. This has kept me intrigued and interested by the evolving story throughout... the plane crash, Nicole receiving the mysterious photograph (with a message only her husband could have written) ten months after he perished in the plane crash, chilling murder scenes, abductions, disappearances, corruption, organised crime, heartbreak scenes, heart-pumping scenes, lies, secrets and much more. My blood pressure went through the roof and my heart just couldn't keep up with the adrenaline pumping through my veins!

The sense of danger in this book is almost tangible. It looms everywhere and all the time. I really feared for Nicole's life and a myriad questions invaded my mind. Is the photograph just an elaborate hoax to hurt her? Or is it genuine? Someone wants to seriously hurt Nicole and stop her in her quest to find the truth, but who are these people? What do they want? And why have they come after her now, ten months after her husband's death? And where is Mason? Is he dead or has he somehow miraculously survived the plane crash? But how can that be possible?

I really like this author's 'voice', her writing style, the way she develops the plot and portrays all those vivid scenes and life-like characters. I thought everything was very realistic. It's evident that the author has done extensive research, mostly on one shocking aspect of the plot I can't mention so as not to give away spoilers. And she has succeeded in making me feel all sorts of emotions: sadness, anger, fear, pity, joy etc. I was really satisfied by the whole plot and the beautiful ending.

Well, this electrifying book gets a resounding 5 stars from me as it's just brilliant and I really enjoyed every moment I passed engrossed in its lines. If I were to read it again, I would do so in a heartbeat without hesitation, and I highly recommend it.

With kudos and thanks to the author for an ARC of this book which I voluntarily accepted to read and review. ?

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### **Joanne Robertson says**

I've enjoyed Sibel Hodge's books in the past so I was keen to read her latest thriller. It's a little different from the previous books that I've read by her and I have to say that I wish that I had read the notes at the rear of the book before I'd started as I would have liked the info about the real life events the book was based on before I read it. It certainly added a newly created depth to the action packed thriller that I had just finished and left me with some thought provoking reflections to consider.

From the first few pages it's obvious that someone is determined to prevent Nicole's husband from returning home to her. So when Nicole hears that her husband has been killed in a plane crash into the ocean, it is more of a shock to her than it is to us the reader. But in a further plot development, a few months later she receives a photo in the post that confirms with a dated newspaper that Mason is in fact still alive but in hiding, in fear of the people who tried to kill him. And as Nicole goes to find her husband, no one she comes into contact with is safe from those that need to silence Mason.

Sibel Hodge has created a current and relevant plot line for her thriller that unravels at one heck of a pace! It's an action packed piece of fiction that brings the characters together in a storyline that's actually based on

factual events. This makes it even more important to take the time to understand the politics running in the background. Having a strong and believable female lead character like Nicole helped to raise the level of tension so that the reader actually cares about the outcome for her and Mason but also gives a personal perspective on a political and cultural issue that I'm sure many people haven't been aware of. It certainly increases awareness of the trail that leads back from an everyday product which I am sure none of us think about when it's in front of us.

A well written and thought provoking thriller.

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