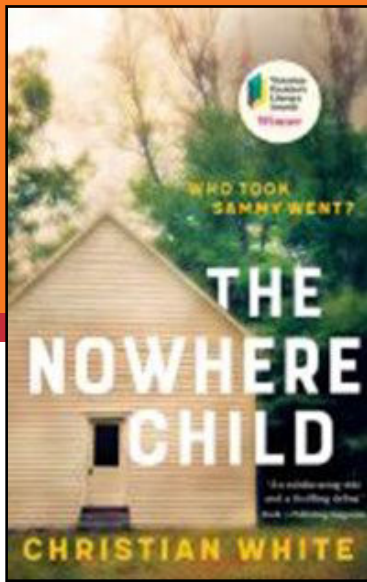


Nowhere Child

By Christian White

First published in 2018



Genre and Subject

Detective and mystery fiction

Missing persons

Synopsis

Her name is Sammy Went. This photo was taken on her second birthday. Three days later she was gone. On a break between teaching photography classes in Melbourne, Kim Leamy is approached by a stranger investigating the disappearance of a little girl from her Kentucky home twenty-eight years earlier. He believes Kim is that girl. At first she brushes it off, but when Kim scratches the surface of her family history in Australia, questions arise that aren't easily answered. To find the truth, she must travel to Sammy's home of Manson, Kentucky, and into a dark past. As the mystery of Sammy's disappearance unravels and the town's secrets are revealed, this superb novel builds towards an electrifying climax.

Author Biography

Christian White is an Australian author, screenwriter and producer. His debut novel, *The Nowhere Child*, won the 2017 Wheeler Centre Victorian Premier's Literary Award for Best Unpublished Manuscript. Since publication *The Nowhere Child* has been shortlisted for major awards including the Australian Book Industry Awards' General Fiction Book of the Year and Matt Richell Award for New Writer of the Year, and the Indie Book Awards' Debut Fiction Book of the Year. Rights to *The Nowhere Child* have been sold in 17 international territories, and acquired for a major screen deal.

His second novel, *The Wife and the Widow*, was released in September 2019 in Australia and January 2020 in the US. It became an instant bestseller and won the 2020 Ned Kelly Award for Best Crime Fiction.

Christian's third novel, *Wild Place*, was published on October 26, 2021.

Christian co-created the television series *Clickbait*, with Tony Ayres (*The Slap*), which went straight to number 1 on Netflix in 41 countries, including Australia, the US and the UK.

Discussion Starters

- What was your initial reaction to the book? Did it hook you immediately or take some time to get in to it?
- This book is set both in both Kentucky and present day Melbourne. How do these two locations enhance or take away from the story?
- What specific themes does the author emphasize throughout the novel? What do you think he is trying to get across to the reader?
- What are the major conflicts in the story?
- How did you feel about the characters? Who did you like or not like and why?
- Which character/s did you feel the most connected or drawn to? Why?
- What moral/ethical choices did the characters make? What did you think of those choices, where they justified? How would you have chosen?
- The book is centrally about Kim and her journey to discover her roots. How would you react if you were in the same situation?
- How do characters change, grow or evolve throughout the course of the story? What events trigger such changes?
- As the characters change through the book does your opinion of them change? How?
- What feelings/emotions did this book evoke for you?
- Did you like the way the book alternates between the present day and thirty years ago? What does this method of writing bring to the story?
- Is the ending satisfying? If so, why? And if not, why not...and how would you change it?

If you liked this book, you may also like...

- *The Widow* by Fiona Barton
- *The Good Girl* by Mary Kubica

Author biography from Christian-white.com

Discussion starters from www.litlovers.com

Read-a-likes from [Novelist](#)