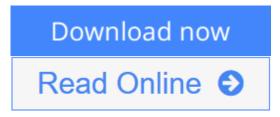


## **Vanishing Acts**

By Jodi Picoult



#### Vanishing Acts By Jodi Picoult

How do you recover the past when it was never yours to lose?

Delia Hopkins has led a charmed life. Raised in rural New Hampshire by her beloved, widowed father, she now has a young daughter, a handsome fiance, and her own search-and-rescue bloodhound, which she uses to find missing persons. But as Delia plans her wedding, she is plagued by flashbacks of a life she can't recall...until a policeman knocks on her door, revealing a secret about herself that changes the world as she knows it -- and threatens to jeopardize her future. With Vanishing Acts, Jodi Picoult explores how life -- as we know it -- might not turn out the way we imagined; how the people we've loved and trusted can suddenly change before our very eyes; how the memory we thought had vanished could return as a threat. Once again, Picoult handles an astonishing and timely topic with under-standing, insight, and compassion.



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#### Vanishing Acts By Jodi Picoult Bibliography

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#### **Editorial Review**

#### From Publishers Weekly

Delia Hopkins was six years old when her father allowed her to be his assistant in the amateur magic act he performed at the local senior center's annual Christmas pageant. "I learned a lot that night," recalls Delia, who is now 32, at the start of Picoult's absorbing new novel (her 12th, after *My Sister's Keeper*). "That people don't vanish into thin air...." She has come to know this even better as an adult: she makes her living finding missing people with her own search-and-rescue bloodhound. As she prepares for her wedding, however, Delia has a flash of memory that is so vivid yet so wildly out-of-place among the other memories from her idyllic New Hampshire upbringing that she describes it to a childhood friend, who happens to be a reporter. Soon, her whole world and the world of the widowed father she adores is turned upside down. Her marriage to her toddler's father, a loving but still struggling recovering alcoholic, is put on hold as she is forced to conduct a search-and-rescue mission on her own past and identity. It will cut to the heart of what she holds to be true and good. As in previous novels, Picoult creates compelling, three-dimensional characters who tell a story in alternating voices about what it might mean to be a good parent and a good person, to be true to ourselves and those we love. Picoult weaves together plot and characterization in a landscape that is fleshed out in rich, journalistic detail, so that readers will come away with intriguing questions rather than pat answers.

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#### From Bookmarks Magazine

What better title than *Vanishing Acts* to describe a search-and-rescue worker who turns out to be a missing person herself, as well as the daughter of an amateur magician who makes people disappear? Reviewers praise Picoult (*My Sister's Keeper* \*\*\*1/2 July/Aug 2004) for her cleverness and her abilities as a storyteller, but her tendency to hang her narratives on Issues-with-a-capital-I has limited appeal. Her 12th novel seems particularly overcrowded with themes and subplots addressing the nature of identity, parental and platonic love, Native American mysticism, prison conditions, alcoholism, memory, and much more. The story is told in first-person narratives presented in alternating chapters by the book's five main characters, but this contrivance quickly wears thin. All in all, *Vanishing Acts* is a somewhat muddled effort from the best-selling author.

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#### Review

- "[R]ichly textured and engaging."
- -- The Boston Globe
- "Picoult is a solid, lively storyteller."
- -- The New York Times
- "What is it about a Jodi Picoult novel that wraps the reader tighter than a spider's silk in the...intricacies of story? Never more gripping is the master plotter than in this, the story of Delia Hopkins."
- -- Jacquelyn Mitchard, author of The Deep End of the Ocean
- "Picoult creates compelling...characters...in a landscape that is fleshed out in rich, journalistic detail, so that readers will come away with intriguing questions."
- -- Publishers Weekly

"[A] masterpiece."
-- Romantic Times

#### **Users Review**

#### From reader reviews:

#### **Christopher Milbrandt:**

The publication with title Vanishing Acts contains a lot of information that you can learn it. You can get a lot of advantage after read this book. That book exist new know-how the information that exist in this publication represented the condition of the world now. That is important to yo7u to understand how the improvement of the world. This book will bring you inside new era of the positive effect. You can read the e-book in your smart phone, so you can read that anywhere you want.

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#### **Cynthia Sharma:**

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#### **George Gentry:**

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