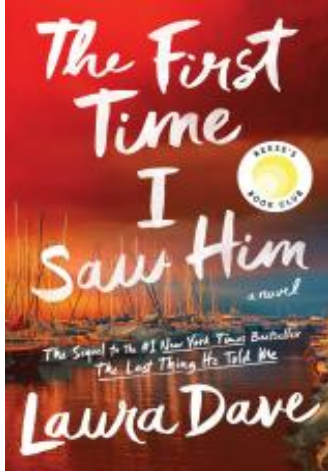


The First Time I Saw Him

by Laura Dave



About the Book

Laura Dave continues Hannah Hall's pulse-pounding journey in this riveting and deeply moving sequel to the #1 *New York Times* bestselling blockbuster and Apple TV+ show, *THE LAST THING HE TOLD ME*.

Five years after her husband, Owen, disappeared, Hannah Hall and her stepdaughter, Bailey, have settled into a new life in Southern California. Together, they've forged a relationship with Bailey's grandfather, Nicholas, and are putting the past behind them.

But when Owen shows up at Hannah's new exhibition, she knows that she and Bailey are in danger again.

As a thrilling drama unfolds, Hannah and Bailey are forced to go on the run in a relentless race to keep their past from catching up with them. Hannah risks everything to get Bailey to safety --- and finds there just might be one way back to Owen.

A gripping, rich and deeply evocative novel about the power of forgiveness, *THE FIRST TIME I SAW HIM* picks up right where the epilogue for the "genuinely moving" (*The New York Times*) *THE LAST THING HE TOLD ME* left off, giving readers the eagerly awaited and absolutely exhilarating sequel to Laura Dave's global blockbuster.

Discussion Guide

1. How has Bailey and Hannah's relationship evolved over time? In what ways is their relationship different from *THE LAST THING HE TOLD ME*?

2. Consider the epigraphs that open each section. How do they relate to the themes of the book? Why do you think they were chosen?
3. Despite the years apart, Owen still wears his wedding ring, and when approached by a woman, he tells her, "I'm married." (p. 9). What does that tell us about his feelings toward Hannah? What does this choice communicate about his character?
4. When we flash back to Nicholas' first meeting with Frank, Nicholas describes him as seeming like a "smitten family man" rather than "the head of a crime empire." (p. 82). What does this description tell you about Frank's character? Does it impact your impression of the organization?
5. In what ways has Hannah grown into her role as Bailey's parent?
6. We follow Hannah and Bailey from California to Paris to the South of France. What role does the setting play in their journey? Why do you think these places were chosen?
7. "Isn't that how it happens? You add it all up (you can't begin to add it up) and you don't just love someone. You *know* him." (p.155). Hannah thinks this after Nicholas tells her and Bailey his plans to travel to Èze to meet with Frank. What does this quote tell you about what love means to Hannah?
8. Owen finally reunites with both Bailey and Hannah. How do these reunions differ?
9. We learn a lot about Nicholas's past --- why he chose to participate in the organization and how he walks away from it. What would you have done in his position? Would you have made similar choices? Why or why not?
10. Second chances play a big part in Hannah, Bailey and Owen's story. Do you believe in second chances? If so, under what circumstances?

Author Bio

Laura Dave is the #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of several novels, including *THE LAST THING HE TOLD ME* and *EIGHT HUNDRED GRAPES*. Her novels have sold more than six million copies and have been translated into 40 languages. *THE LAST THING HE TOLD ME* was the Goodreads Mystery & Thriller of the Year for 2021 and is now a series on Apple TV+, cocreated by Laura. She lives in Los Angeles with her husband and their son.

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Publication Date: January 6, 2026

Genres: Domestic Thriller, Fiction, Mystery, Suspense,
Thriller

Hardcover: 288 pages

Publisher: Scribner

ISBN-10: 1668002965

ISBN-13: 9781668002964