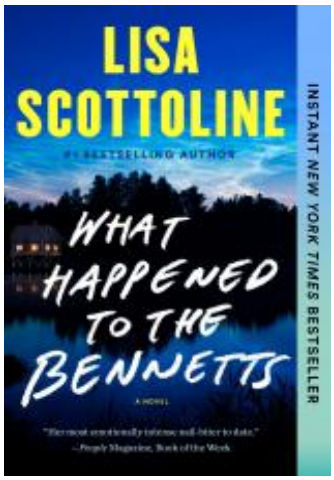
What Happened to the Bennetts

by Lisa Scottoline



About the Book

From #1 bestselling author Lisa Scottoline comes a pulse-pounding new novel.

Your family has been attacked, never again to be the same.

Now you have to choose between law?and justice.

Jason Bennett is a suburban dad who owns a court-reporting business, but one night, his life takes a horrific turn. He is driving his family home after his daughter?s field hockey game when a pickup truck begins tailgating them, on a dark stretch of road. Suddenly two men jump from the pickup and pull guns on Jason, demanding the car. A horrific flash of violence changes his life forever.

Later that awful night, Jason and his family receive a visit from the FBI. The agents tell them that the carjackers were members of a dangerous drug-trafficking organization --- and now Jason and his family are in their crosshairs.

The agents advise the Bennetts to enter the witness protection program right away, and they have no choice but to agree. But WITSEC was designed to protect criminal informants, not law-abiding families. Taken from all they know, trapped in an unfamiliar life, the Bennetts begin to fall apart at the seams. Then Jason learns a shocking truth and realizes that he has to take matters into his own hands.

Sometimes justice is a one-man show.

Discussion Guide

1. In the novel?s early chapters, Jason reflects a lot on his old life and lost home. What do you think this novel is trying

to say about the suburbs and their importance to the American family?

2. Several characters in the novel cite their everyday ?superpowers.? Jason?s lipreading, or Allison?s texting without looking at the keyboard, for example. How else do you think this novel explores the heroism of everyday people?

3. How do you think the events of the novel would have unfolded differently if Allison had survived the attack?

4. If the FBI advised your family to join a WITSEC program, would you go? Why?

5. If you were to join a WITSEC program, who would you most regret not being able to tell? Why?

6. If you had to leave your home suddenly, which objects would be the most poignant for you to leave behind, and why?

7. Discuss the different ways in which Jason, Lucinda and Ethan experience their grief. Do you think that these differences reflect the underlying cracks in Jason and Lucinda?s marriage?

8. What was your favorite quote or passage, and why?

9. The novel has many twists and turns. Did you guess any of them ahead of time? If so, at which point, and why?

10. The book features many different parent-child relationships. Jason and his father, Lucinda and her mother, Allison and Jason, Allison and Lucinda, Junior and Big George. Did one or several relationships strike you as healthier or happier than the others, and why?

11. Do you think Jason?s motivation to take action into his own hands went beyond the desire to protect his family from Milo? What else do you think might have affected his decisions?

12. What do you think this novel is trying to say about various forms of justice? Legal, emotional and interpersonal?

13. What do you imagine will happen to the Bennetts after the novel?s end? How do you see Jason, Lucinda and Ethan changing in the wake of these incidents?

14. Lisa Scottoline believes that novels build empathy, nurture the self and connect us by the truths they contain. Did this novel change the way you think about family, justice or the American dream?

Author Bio

Lisa Scottoline is the #1 bestselling and Edgar Award-winning author of 38 novels. She is the President of Mystery Writers of America and has been named a Thriller Master by International Thriller Writers. A former trial lawyer, she graduated from the University of Pennsylvania and its law school, where she taught Justice & Fiction, a course she developed. Lisa also co-wrote a series of humorous memoirs with her daughter, novelist Francesca Serritella. There are 30 million copies of Lisa?s books in print, and she is published in 35 countries. She lives on a Pennsylvania farm with an

array of disobedient pets, and she wouldn?t have it any other way.

What Happened to the Bennetts

by Lisa Scottoline

Publication Date: August 9, 2022
Genres: Fiction, Suspense, Thriller
Paperback: 416 pages
Publisher: G.P. Putnam's Sons
ISBN-10: 0525539751
ISBN-13: 9780525539759