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The Keeper of Lost Things

by Ruth Hogan



About the Book

A charming, clever and quietly moving debut novel of endless possibilities and joyful discoveries that explores the promises we make and break, losing and finding ourselves, the objects that hold magic and meaning for our lives, and the surprising connections that bind us.

Lime green plastic flower-shaped hair bobbles --- Found, on the playing field, Derrywood Park, 2nd September.

Bone china cup and saucer --- Found, on a bench in Riveria Public Gardens, 31st October.

Anthony Peardew is the keeper of lost things. Forty years ago, he carelessly lost a keepsake from his beloved fiancée, Therese. That very same day, she died unexpectedly. Brokenhearted, Anthony sought consolation in rescuing lost objects --- the things others have dropped, misplaced or accidentally left behind --- and writing stories about them. Now, in the twilight of his life, Anthony worries that he has not fully discharged his duty to reconcile all the lost things with their owners. As the end nears, he bequeaths his secret life's mission to his unsuspecting assistant, Laura, leaving her his house and all its lost treasures, including an irritable ghost.

Recovering from a bad divorce, Laura, in some ways, is one of Anthony's lost things. But when the lonely woman moves into his mansion, her life begins to change. She finds a new friend in the neighbor's quirky daughter, Sunshine, and a welcome distraction in Freddy, the rugged gardener. As the dark cloud engulfing her lifts, Laura, accompanied by her new companions, sets out to realize Anthony's last wish: reuniting his cherished lost objects with their owners.

Long ago, Eunice found a trinket on the London pavement and kept it through the years. Now, with her own end drawing near, she has lost something precious --- a tragic twist of fate that forces her to break a promise she once made.

As the Keeper of Lost Objects, Laura holds the key to Anthony and Eunice's redemption. But can she unlock the past and make the connections that will lay their spirits to rest?

Full of character, wit and wisdom, THE KEEPER OF LOST THINGS is a heartwarming tale that will enchant fans of THE PARTICULAR SADNESS OF LEMON CAKE, GARDEN SPELLS, MRS. QUEEN TAKES THE TRAIN and THE SILVER LININGS PLAYBOOK.

Discussion Guide

While no guide is available at this time, be sure to check out our fiction discussion questions, which may help you in your group's discussion of the book.

Author Bio

Ruth Hogan is the author of several bestselling novels, including THE KEEPER OF LOST THINGS. She lives north of London in a chaotic Victorian house with her husband and a much-loved pack of rescue dogs.

Critical Praise

?From the attention-grabbing opening paragraph, to the joyful conclusion, Ruth Hogan has stirred together a charming fairytale in which the people may be more lost than the things; and generosity and compassion may be the key to finding a way home. Also there are dogs. Delightful.?

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