



Asylum Harbor

Traci Hohenstein

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Amber Knowles, a beautiful high school senior and Florida governor John Knowles's daughter, has everything going for her until she disappears during a cruise to the Bahamas. After an extensive search of the ship SeaStar, it's clear that Amber has vanished without a trace. When Governor Knowles receives the distressing news, he asks for Rachel Scott's help. The teenager's disappearance represents every parent's worst fear, and Rachel, founder of Florida Omni Search, knows only too well what losing a daughter feels like. Her three-year-old, Mallory, went missing five years ago. As she works with FBI special agent, Drake Reynolds, Rachel discovers an organized crime ring linked to the cruise line. The last person known to see Amber aboard ship was an incognito DEA agent, who also has vanished. Where is he? And where is Amber? Finally, where is Mallory? Traci Hohenstein's Asylum Harbor draws inspiration from the disappearance of Natalee Holloway in 2005 and delves deeply into the mysteries and suspense of missing-person investigations and organized crime detection. The first in a series, Asylum Harbor introduces Rachel Scott and her team and compels readers to follow Florida Omni Search and all their investigations.

Asylum Harbor Details

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From Reader Review Asylum Harbor for online ebook

Joyce says

Typical genre stuff. There is a young girl, daughter of a rich Governor, who disappears from a cruise. He and his wife call in the heroine who heads a missing persons agency to assist the FBI in locating her. Lots of action, lots of "suspense". Good beach reading.

Amanda says

it is really good

Betty says

Nice quick read. The first entry in Hohenstein's Rachel Scott series offers some suspense. But part of the reason that it's a fast read is that it gets a bit repetitive in the second half.

Rachel Scott formed a private search-and-rescue business after her young daughter goes missing. She's retained by the governor of Florida after his daughter disappears from a cruise to the Bahamas. Hohenstein introduces Rachel (although it wasn't necessary to go through the full details of her daughter's disappearance twice, the second version almost a cut-and-paste of the first description).

The groundwork was laid for the series, complete with brief introductions to some of Rachel's team, setting up a bit of tension with law enforcement officials who are likely to appear in later books, and introducing a potential new team member and possible romantic interest.

Good enough to warrant reading the next book in the series.

Patricia Kowalczyk says

Good mystery

Good mystery occurring on a cruise ship. Makes me think twice about cruising. A little confusing at times as several agencies worked to solve the mystery

Maureen Fisher says

5-Stars. Asylum Harbor is a page-turner with a whirlwind pace. It had me hooked from the first page to the

last. Rachael Scott is a well-rounded and sympathetic character—a woman whose child disappeared without a trace. To deal with her grief, she now helps hunt down missing persons, in this case, a high-profile politician's teenaged daughter, who disappeared from a cruise ship. Was Amber the victim of foul play or did she fall overboard during the night? Chilling suspense, sexual tension (I hope Shawn makes another appearance in the next book), gut-wrenching emotion, all intertwined by a smooth and skilful writing style. I loved every word of Asylum Harbor, and look forward to reading more by this author.

Bob says

The Daughter of the Florida Governor goes missing from a cruise ship while on a after high school vacation. Rachel Scott who runs a private volunteer organization the searches for missing kids is asked by the Governor to assist the FBI and local police in the Bahamas in the search. The investigation turns up disturbing information about the cruise line and crosses paths with a DEA investigation before resolution is reached. A reasonable tale and while not outstanding it was a decent read.

Joy Novel Thoughts says

Rachel founded Omni Search Floria, after her daughter went missing as a young toddler, to help others find missing children and loved ones.

She just finished solving a big case of a missing boy scout in the everglades, when she gets a call from the Governor of Florida about his 18 daughter going missing from a cruise line. Rachel sets out with FBI agents Drake and Phipps to find her. While searching for her they get help from a reporter from the Sun, Stacy and undercover DEA agent, Mike. Rachel is immediately attracted to Mike, which is strange for her because she has never found herself to anyone like him before and he is completely opposite of her ex husband.

This is a quick read with short chapters. You will root for Rachel and her team to find Amber and hope she finds her daughter. The romance is not a big part of the book, but you will still feel the attraction between Rachel and Mike.

Britney says

Good start

This is a quick easy which kept my attention. It maybe a simple but thats why I like it. Sometimes you just need to read something that doesn't require a lot of thinking.

Michelle Dean says

Good, easy read!!

I really liked this book because it was centered around the coast. Can't wait to read another one by this author.

Betty says

A real

exciting novel set on a cruise ship. Kidnapping and drug happened on the ship. It involved a Governor's daughter because of her involvement with a DEA man who was trying to find out where and how the drugs were being stowed on the ship and sent to the U.S.

Carol A. Weiss says

Good but not great

the basic premise was good but towards the end the story seemed a little chopped up and seemed to end abruptly.

Kim (Wistfulskimmies Book Reviews) says

This is the story of Rachel Scott. Her daughter went missing five years ago and she has been searching for her ever since. On meeting other parents whose children have also gone missing, she decides to sell up her Real Estate firm and set up Florida Omni Search. This is an organisation dedicated to searching for missing children. In this novel Rachel is personally asked by the Governor of Florida to search for his daughter. She has gone missing while on a cruise liner with two of her girlfriends. Thus begins a frantic search to find her before it's too late. With so little information to go on, can they find her?

I enjoyed this, it was a nice easy read, nothing complicated about it. Having read another Rachel Scott novel by the same author - Burn Out - I knew what to expect. I was not let down. The pace started slowly as we were introduced to the various characters but as the search for Amber began in earnest the book took off and left me panting! Amber shone as the victim and Rachel's determination and drive to find her was admirable. She will stop at nothing to find her own daughter and it is this motivation she uses to find others.

A great book with a great ending. Give it a go - you will love it.

Books n All Jill Burkinshaw says

I read the prequel novella and book 1 and wasn't particularly impressed but thought the author could improve going forwards so I downloaded this book.

The story is okay Girl disappears on a cruise, ship is being used to smuggle drugs.... The disappointment was the book itself the writing is immature it reads like something you would read from a teenager there were typos bad grammar and silly mistakes. In one chapter Drake gets out his mobile phone to show a witness some photos and lays all the photos out on the table???? I haven't seen that functionality on even the latest smartphones. I got about 10% through and gave up.

I did eventually pick it up and finish it but my rating stands there are a few gripping chapters but overall disappointing

Heather says

I try to save one stars for the truly dreadful books, but 2 is too generous here. It would have been a decent short story, but there was so much padding added that could have been written by a 12-year-old that slowed it down. Literally every character that was introduced was followed by a 1-2 sentence description of their looks: hair, height, clothes, eye color. Every few chapters the entire story of how Rachel Scott became a finder of lost people was reintroduced as if it had never been brought up before. Continuity problems happened in the same paragraph (I think my favorite was when the detective took out his cell phone to show a witness photographs, then later in the same sentence spread the photos out on the table). The worst part, though, was how every character - and every situation they faced - was a cliché, so it was pretty easy to see where everything would go.

The only redeeming feature is it was short enough to not waste much more time on!

Nancy says

Great series. Strong characters that you get involved with. You care about what's going on in their lives.
