



## The 37th Hour

*Jodi Compton*

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## **The 37th Hour** Jodi Compton

In a suspense novel of astounding power and depth, Jodi Compton unleashes a haunting tale of secrets and betrayal...and of one woman's search for her missing husband that spirals into a dark journey strewn with bitter truths and damaged lives. Here debut novelist Compton introduces an extraordinary character: Detective Sarah Pribek, a woman of strength, complexity, and instinct, a woman caught in an unimaginable nightmare...

## **The 37th Hour**

On a chilly Minnesota morning, Sarah comes home to the house she shares with her husband and fellow cop, Michael Shiloh. Shiloh was supposed to be in Virginia, starting his training with the FBI. A seasoned missing-persons investigator, Sarah is used to anxious calls from wives and parents. She's used to the innocent explanations that resolve so many of her cases. But from the moment she learns that he never arrived at Quantico, she feels a terrible foreboding. Now, beneath the bed in which they make love, Sarah finds Shiloh's neatly packed bag. And in that instant the cop in her knows: Her husband has disappeared.

Suddenly Sarah finds herself at the beginning of the kind of investigation she has made so often. The kind that she and her ex-partner, Genevieve, solved routinely -- until a brutal crime stole Genevieve's daughter and ended her career. The kind that pries open family secrets and hidden lives. For Sarah this investigation will mean going back to the beginning, to Shiloh's religion-steeped childhood in Utah, the rift that separated him from his family -- and the one horrifying case that struck them both too close to home. As Sarah turns over more and more unknown ground in her husband's past, she sees her lover and friend change into a stranger before her eyes. And as she moves further down a trail of shocking surprises and bitter revelations, Sarah is about to discover that her worst fear -- that Shiloh is dead -- may be less painful than what she will learn next...

In a novel of runaway tension, Jodi Compton masterfully weaves together the quiet details of everyday life with the moments that can shatter them forever. At once a beguiling mystery and a powerful rumination on family, friendship, and loss, **The 37th Hour** is a thriller that will catch you off guard at every turn -- instantly compelling and utterly impossible to put down.

*From the Hardcover edition.*

## **The 37th Hour Details**

Date : Published January 25th 2005 by Dell (first published December 30th 2003)

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Author : Jodi Compton

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## From Reader Review The 37th Hour for online ebook

### **Plum-crazy says**

Reasonable thriller which although it held my interest I didn't find particularly gripping. The story covers the disappearance of Detective Sarah Pribek's husband Mike Shiloh with "flashbacks" to the murder of Kamareia the daughter of Sarah's ex-partner Genevieve (work partner that is!). Shiloh is a loner & Sarah finds she didn't know her husband as well as she thought.... I can't say I cared enough about the characters to empathise with them.

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### **Jenn says**

A little ho-hum, I'm actually surprised that I finished this book. I think it was the fact that no one knew where Shiloh was and I really had to know. But to me, there was no climax. There was no "aha" moment. It was just a story where characters walked in and out and really made no great impression on me. I see Jodi Compton has written some other books since this one. I don't think I'll be picking any of them up, unless I'm looking to fill book count and I get it cheap/free. There are much better thriller/mysteries out there and I'd advise you to give it a miss if you are looking for something you'll enjoy.

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### **Tricia says**

If this story is supposedly about a missing man there sure is a lot of wasted writing about many other characters. I gave up after 8 chapters.

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### **Maggie says**

This was an enjoyable fast moving novel set in the twin cities. It is about two female cops after the violent rape and death of Kamariera Genevieve's daughter. Her killer got off on a technicality . Genevieve of off on a long term leave. All of a sudden her work partners husband vanishes with no trace. Neither of the officers are actively searching revenge on Kamarieras killer but a series of events add up to make a very startling ending.

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### **Jenn says**

I struggled through this book a little. It did pick up about 3/4 of the way through. Sarah is a detective, her husband Mike Shiloh is going to Quantico to join the FBI. Her partner is on leave after her daughter was raped and beaten and died on the way to the hospital. Her killer got off on a technicality and her partner can't deal with it. When Sarah realizes Shiloh never made it to Quantico and is actually missing, she starts looking into his family. The ending revealed Shiloh tried to run over the killer of her partner's daughter but couldn't. He crashed and wandered through the woods for days. He admitted to stealing the car and must serve 24

months in jail and will never be a policeman again. The killer is dead by Sarah and her partner's hand. It is being investigated at the end, but her partner is leaving for Paris which will leave Sarah alone to face the music.

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### **Pat says**

I was right with my guess as to what would happen but I had to read 90% of the book first. The only reason I read this was to see how far off the mark I was with my initial guess. Well it turns out I wasn't very far off but there was a twist I hadn't anticipated, well not for more than a brief thought.

it was mildly interesting. I think this probably needed better editing and polishing. The idea was fairly good and the author wrote a hell of lot better than I expected after reading her acknowledgements at the beginning

"...Lastly, I wish to thank my father for .....: my sister, whose opinion I seek first on story and character:and a teacher who learned me and a lot of other kids how to read."

*Learned me? Really?* The first time I read that, I very nearly threw the book in the rubbish but I couldn't bring myself to do that to a book, that would be sacrilege! (The book had been given to me, I didn't buy it or borrow it!)

I only started reading this as a light intermission between the fantasy books I'm reading such a lot of - just every now and then I like to ring the changes a little - and it was the only non fantasy I had at the time. This really isn't to my taste and I doubt I'd read this author again.

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### **Margaret says**

Sarah Pribek Shiloh investigates missing persons, and is recently married to fellow detective, Michael Shiloh. Sarah discovers that Michael is missing when he finds clues that led her to suspect he never made to the the FBI training facility in Quantico, VA. At the same time Sarah's work partner is on leave after her daughter was brutally murdered. Throw in the fact that Sarah actually knows very little about her new husband and finds the police not too anxious to look for a man who might have left on his own. Sarah decides she has to investigate on her own, the clock is ticking, hence the title *The 37th Hour*. Along the way, Sarah learns more about her husband and makes some decisions that she didn't see coming and will effect everything. I feel this book could have been so much more. There were several side stories that everytime you got involved with that aspect of the book, you were pulled back to Sarah's missing husband and his problems. Seems everyone in the book was troubled.

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### **Denise says**

This was a fairly simple "who done it", but it was written well enough to keep my attention and keep me reading to see where it would end up. This is the first book for this author and I would definitely recommend it as entertainment reading.

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### **Sherrill Watson says**

Sarah Pribeck Shiloh is a cop who finds missing persons. Then her husband, Mike Shiloh, goes missing, and, while she is aware she knows very little about him, she has no idea to what extent. It is a relief to have the title to rely on, to know he would be found, but the totality of her lack of knowledge was a little unbelievable after five years of dating him -- even after only two months of marriage.

Step by step, though she was from time to time immobilized with grief, Sarah learns about his last days and about him, from family that he's shut out of their / his life, and why. In the meantime, she has an issue of her own: Genevieve, her former partner, has a daughter who was killed and though she and Genevieve know Shorty killed her, they can't prove it. It develops that husband Shiloh had a sudden clue . . .

I found it strange that the FBI would accept him without checking on his background, but that wouldn't have made this story.

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### **Cindy says**

Not bad. Interesting, different. I read another review that said there were a lot of other storylines introduced that didn't have anything to do with the plot line. It's true, there are. But I didn't find it too distracting, although I did skim through some parts, and skipped some paragraphs completely. The end was predictable enough, but there was a part of it I didn't want to be right about. I don't know if that counts as a spoiler, but I'll hide the review anyway.

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### **Linda says**

Recently promoted Detective Sara Pribeck is also a new wife. While she's known her husband Shiloh for five years, what she doesn't know about him probably exceeds what she does. Their marriage is only two months old when he disappears, after having encouraged her to make an overnight visit to her traumatized partner, Gen.

Naturally, Sara sets out to find her husband, and she hasn't many clues to follow. Bit by bit, it becomes evident that the murder of partner Gen's teenaged daughter, which happened in the recent past, is somehow connected to what happened to Shiloh.

The 37th Hour gets off to a strong, promising start, but fails to fulfill that promise with a slow middle and a weak, rather rushed conclusion. Threads raising questions about relationships, morals, revenge, and forgiveness wind up muddled and unresolved, and the book's final chapter leaves the reader hanging. A sequel seems likely, but author Compton would do well to strengthen her plotting skills before publishing again.

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### **Charlene says**

Not so much suspense for me, but really unusual story, with some unpleasant family relationships on both sides.

I may try to read the second book before I decide whether I want to follow this sheriff's investigator character. It would be interesting to see if there is resolution from the end of this author's debut book.

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### **Jenna Walker says**

You think by the title of this book that its all the meat of it will take place in an hour.. the 37th hour. It was all in the time period of 6 days. Almost leisurely investigating which in this case wouldnt be plausible seeing as how it is her husband who is missing. I did like a lot of the way she wrote things and the words she used to describe things.. and they say that when tramatic things are happening in your life things that happened not too long ago seem like a century ago.. well Compton did a wonderful job at writing that feeling.. the beginning of the book almost seemed like it wasnt part of the book, like it was a prequel. this book was an easy read and not as dark as you expect it to be.. i did not feel that anxious feeling i get when i read other missing persons books. that feeling where things need to be done quicker before something happens to them. i didnt get that suspense. Over all this book was less of a mystery or missing person book than it was just about how she met this guy and his and her life up until then. it was more of a quest to learn more about this man who was a independant type than it was a quest to find where he is. I was disappointed. But it wasnt without entertainment. i liked reading it, its just not the kind of book it says it is.

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### **Rita says**

Easy read but fairly good! A lot of meaningless info throughout. BUT THE BOOK IS MISSING LAST PAGE (s?)!!!!

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### **Christine says**

Interesting read until the end, did not like the ending at all.

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