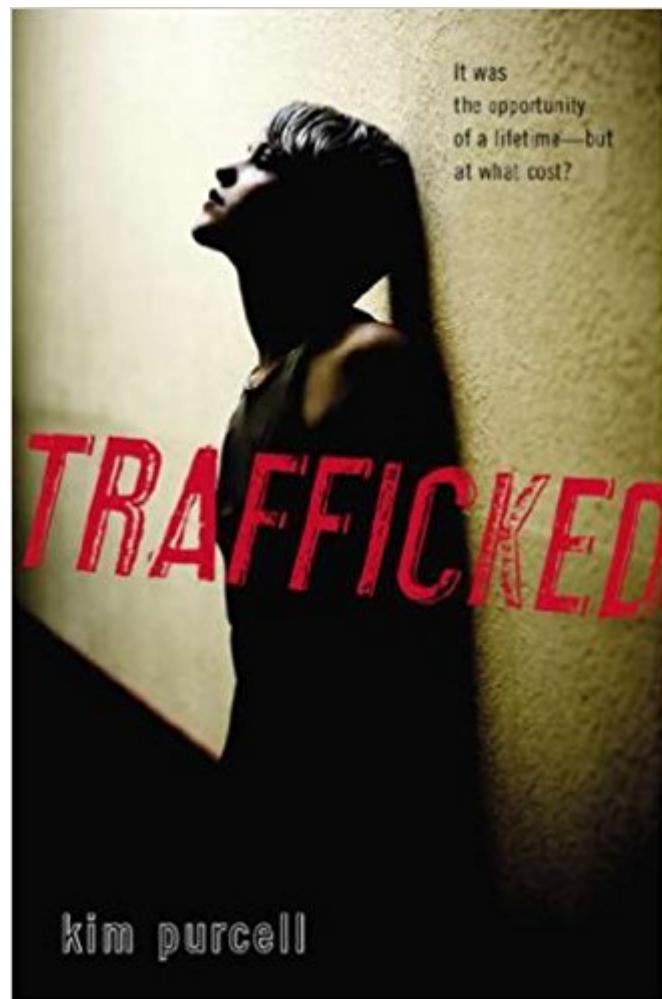


The book was found

# Trafficked



## **Synopsis**

Hannah has struggled ever since her parents were killed and her beloved uncle vanished. So when she's offered the chance to leave Moldova and become a nanny for a family in Los Angeles, it seems like a dream come true-and at first it is. But after weeks of working sixteen-hour days and not being able to leave the house, she still hasn't been paid. As things go from bad to worse, Hannah realizes that things are not at all what they seem and she finds herself doing things she never imagined herself capable of. But as she begins uncovering the family's crooked history, she may be exposing more than she bargained on-and putting her life in danger.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

Praise for Trafficked by Kim Purcell: "... chillingly credible and unflinchingly revealed ... Hannah herself, compelling and believable, keeps readers focused on her plight and that of other de facto slaves worldwide." *Kirkus* "Many reluctant readers won't be able to put down this riveting novel ... The characters ring true and as the plot reaches a crisis point, readers will be drawn in by the suspense of Hannah's captivity." *School Library Journal* "Purcell's well-researched look into human trafficking has the slow pull of a dawning nightmare ... Gritty, realistic, and eye-opening." *Booklist* "An eye-opening debut novel about modern-day slavery in America." *Horn Book*

Kim Purcell is a novelist, journalist and teacher. She lives with her husband and two daughters in

Westchester, New York.

I read the Kindle version of this book in less than 24 hours. I want to say I enjoyed it immensely, but that seems almost disrespectful to Hannah, the 17 year old protagonist of this well written book. No one wants to enjoy a tale of a girl so used and abused and vulnerable and real. And yet, I loved her spirit and determination. Told through Hannah's all seeing, oh-so-young eyes, we feel her confusion and fear as she struggles to determine which of the adults in her new American life are worthy of her trust. Ultimately, it is only the advice from her grandmother, left in Moldova, that Hannah can fall back on - to follow her instincts. This looks like it might be the first work of fiction from the author.

Let's hope she brings us more.

Trafficked was a breath of fresh air. I haven't read a contemporary on this topic, and I think that Ms. Purcell did a wonderful job portraying it. I felt for Hannah, the main character so much. She didn't come from a life of privilege, she'd lost her parents, and she thought that a new start in the US would be good for her. Little did she know what would await her. The family that she ends up with seemed normal enough at first, but you quickly realized that there was a lot brewing under the surface. Sergei, the father, her supposed uncle, shows her unexpected kindness here and there, but he is still a part of the whole scheme. Then there is Lillian, who is a good mom when she wants to be, but so untrusting of her husband, and then the work that she forces Hannah to do-- the hours, the chores, not getting paid, keeping her in the house, among other things. It painted a grim picture, and I felt so much for Hannah, but also admired her because she kept showing resilience, and a will to figure things out. She also was so good with the kids, Michael and Maggie, befriending and caring for them in such a tender way. It of course, had to get to a pretty dark place before things could turn around for Hannah, and while I was def glad to see her story had an ending that didn't break my heart, what does break my heart is that people--teen and children are still living like this all around the world, and even in our country. Bottom Line: Chilling dive into human trafficking.

The reviews pretty well nail this great new book - it is about an important and neglected topic, and the story is super engaging. Hannah is a well-developed character that we come to care deeply about, both for her naivety and her resourcefulness as well as the terrible danger she has managed to get herself into. The other characters are compelling as well, and while there are a couple of truly despicable people, most others are a mix of human characteristics and not stereotypes, which helps us to understand, if not forgive, the harmful choices some people make in complicated

circumstances. I was fortunate to read it in one sitting on a train trip, an unusual luxury. This highlighted for me the careful way that the plot built incrementally, generating an intensity and suspense that qualify this as a page -turner. Thus, while one reviewer is correct in that " ultimately, not much happens" I understood this as a plot device that allowed the author, through the careful illumination of the "everyday business as usual" of being a domestic slave, to bring us to a point where we are not only deeply curious about what is going to happen, but also deeply sympathetic to Hannah and her sisters in the world who toil under tedious, unbearable, and inescapable circumstances. Yes, there were a few notes in this composition that might have been fleshed out further, but in all, this is a very worthwhile read -

Hannah is a seventeen year old from Moldova who has lost both her parents in a bombing. She is brought to the United States by an agent and believes she will make \$400 per week watching children and going to school to learn English and finish her education. This book shows slowly but surely how Hannah learns the real truth behind her trip to the United States. She toils long days doing housework and watching Maggie and Michael while their mother studies to become a doctor. Her husband Sergey is involved in some kind of shady business. Hannah is not allowed outside, she must speak only Russian to the children and the family is not paying her. As Hannah remains isolated, she uses her inner grit and determination to survive this slave existence.

This was an intense but rewarding read. Some students in my book club were disappointed that it wasn't about sex trafficking, but I believe the kind of trafficking that is described in this novel is common and just as disturbing. I was completely caught up in the main character's harrowing journey. It's a long book but reads quickly.

I was wondering how Kim would be able to write a book for young adults about human trafficking that is both realistic and okay for young adults to read. She has done it. The story is so gripping and well written that I finished the book in one day. Her main character's plight is awful enough to give a glimpse into the horrors of human trafficking, but her particular story is not so awful that I would be uncomfortable giving this book to a young girl. This story has complex characters that help explain how these crimes are committed by people who don't see themselves as monsters. This is an excellent piece of fiction, but also an important book because it brings light to a very real and present worldwide problem.

## Awful book

Really enjoyed this book and had an anxious feeling for Hannah throughout the whole book. Good young adult read; not too graphic for the younger readers but shows them slavery still exists in our world today

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