



DAVID BELL

Bestselling Author of *Since She Went Away*

BRING  
HER  
HOME

BOOK CLUB KIT





On the surface I have little in common with Bill Price, the protagonist of my new novel, *BRING HER HOME*.

I'm not the father of a missing teenage girl. My wife is alive and well and sitting next to me as I write this, not dead from an accident as Bill's wife is. I'm employed by a university, but I teach creative writing instead of working in IT as Bill does. In fact, I'm pretty sure the IT department laughs at me every time I come to them with a computer problem.

So why did I write an entire book about this guy who isn't me?

Well, maybe Bill and I aren't so different. We don't share those superficial things listed above, but there are similarities between us. No, I've never had a family member fall victim to a violent crime. But I have had family members stricken out of the blue by terrible diseases. My wife is still alive, and, like Bill, I'd be wrecked if anything ever happened to her. I have siblings I dearly love, but I don't see or talk to them as much as I should. Bill reconnects with his sister when tragedy strikes, but he's not so good at the day-to-day business of long-distance familial bonds.

In other words, Bill is like a lot of us. Imperfect. Striving. Trying his best in always difficult times. I think a lot of readers will see themselves in Bill. They'll recognize his triumphs, and, maybe more than anything else, his shortcomings. None of us is perfect after all, and, sometimes, when pushed to our limits, we display our worst behavior. But sometimes, when pushed to our limits, we also show our very best selves. And that's what Bill does as he goes as far as he can to find out what happened to his daughter.

I think stories about regular people pushed to their limits are the best kinds of stories. I hope you think *BRING HER HOME* is one of those.

And I hope you see yourself—or someone you know—in these characters. As far as I'm concerned, we're all in there.

Thanks for reading,  
David



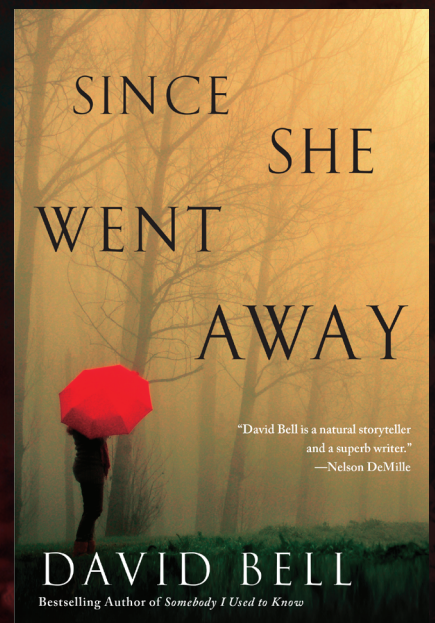
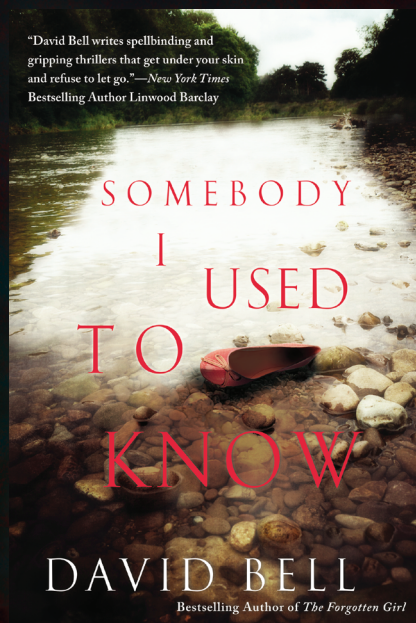
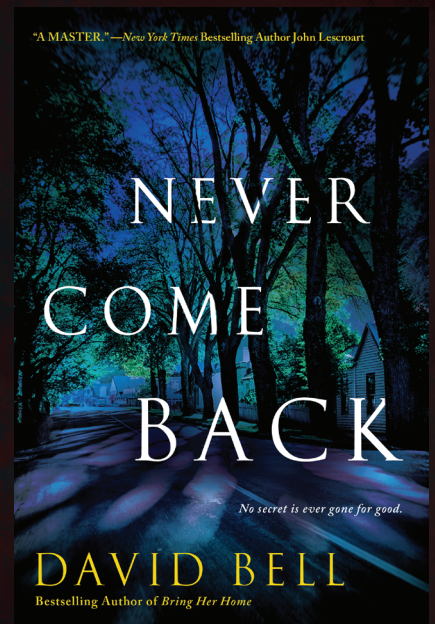
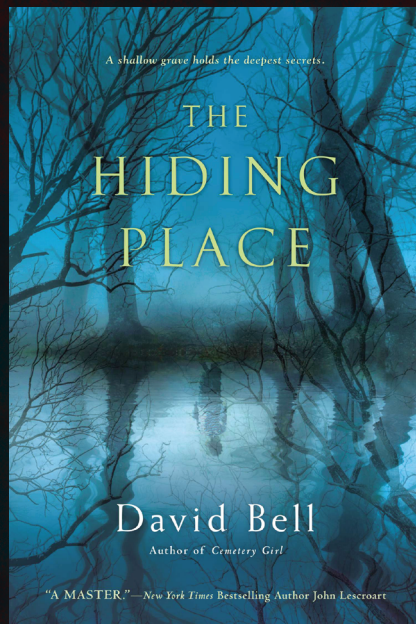
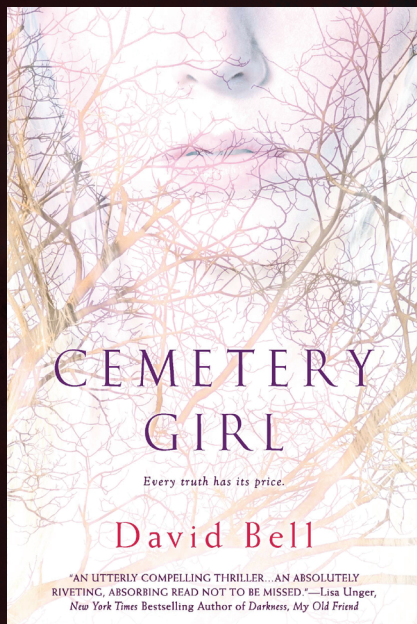
# Questions for Discussion

- 1 Bill alludes to difficulties he had with Summer before she disappeared. Do you think this was typical teenage rebellion, or was it exacerbated by her mother's death?
- 2 The reader learns that Bill once grabbed Summer, leading her to call the police. Do you think the police made the right decision when they chose not to press charges? Did finding this out about Bill make you feel differently about him?
- 3 Bill thinks of Adam as one of his closest friends. Why do you think Bill was so drawn to Adam?
- 4 Bill turns to his sister, Paige, in times of crisis, even though their relationship is sometimes contentious. Do you think their sibling relationship is typical?
- 5 Taylor has a difficult time turning over her daughter's dental X-rays to the police. Do you understand why she hesitated to learn the truth?
- 6 Candy seems to imply that Summer was a bad influence on her daughter, Haley. Do you think this is true? Is it normal in a teenage friendship for one kid to be more of a leader than the other?
- 7 Bill and Julia were having difficulties in their marriage. Do you think their marriage would have survived had Julia lived?
- 8 Do you believe Doug when he says that he would never have hurt Emily and only wanted to help solve the crimes?
- 9 Were you surprised to learn that Adam had been in the house on the day Julia died? Do you understand why Summer kept that a secret from her dad?
- 10 Do you think Bill and Summer made the right choice to have Julia's body exhumed for an autopsy? If it was your mother or spouse or sister, would you have wanted to know the truth?
- 11 Teena and Brandon, while not as deeply involved in the crimes as the other teenagers, still kept secrets and showed poor judgment. Would you want to see them prosecuted for their roles in the crimes?
- 12 At the end of the novel, Bill briefly contemplates destroying the recordings of Julia's voice from the day she died. Why do you think he thought about that? Do you think he made the right choice in keeping them?



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