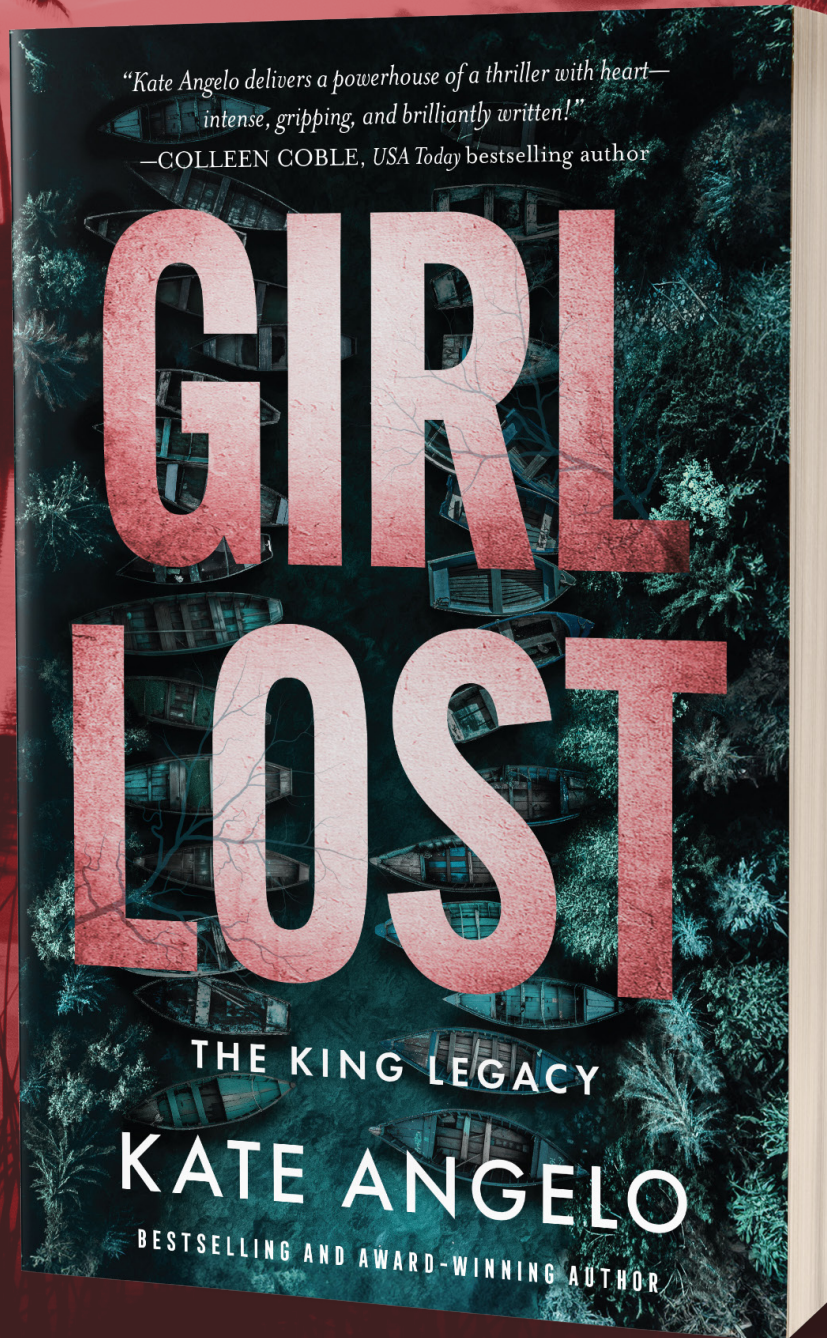


BOOK CLUB GUIDE



*"Kate Angelo delivers a powerhouse of a thriller with heart—
intense, gripping, and brilliantly written!"*

—COLLEEN COBLE, *USA Today* bestselling author

GIRL LOST

THE KING LEGACY

KATE ANGELO

BESTSELLING AND AWARD-WINNING AUTHOR

Dear Book Club Coordinator,

Thank you for considering *Girl Lost* for your book club choice.

This story is deeply personal to me. Like Luna, I grew up surrounded by addiction, carrying responsibilities too heavy for a child, and ultimately ended up in foster care. It took years before I understood that God could redeem even the most painful parts of my past and use them to help others find healing.

Girl Lost weaves together suspense, romance, and the timeless story of redemption. It explores the scars we carry, the families we form, and the grace that meets us when we think we're too far gone. Inspired by the parable of the lost sheep, this book is for anyone who's ever felt unseen, unloved, or unworthy, and for those who would go to any lengths to bring them home.

I hope your book club will find *Girl Lost* not just entertaining, but meaningful and that Luna and Corbin's journey will stay with you long after the final page.

If you'd like to schedule a live Zoom Q&A session with me, you can email me at hello@kateangelo.com and include "Book Club Zoom Request" in the subject line.

Blessings,

Kate Angelo

Kate Angelo
KateAngelo.com

P.S. As my gift to you, I've posted a never-before-seen scene from *Girl Lost* on my website. Download your exclusive scene at [KateAngelo.com/girl-lost/!](http://KateAngelo.com/girl-lost/)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. Character Development:** How does Luna Rosati's character evolve throughout the story? What are the key events that shape her journey, and how do her experiences influence her actions and decisions?
- 2. Themes of Redemption and Forgiveness:** Many characters in *Girl Lost* hit emotional walls where the choice to forgive becomes pivotal. How does forgiveness or the refusal to extend it change the trajectory for characters like Luna, Corbin, and Trinity? What does the story say about the relationship between forgiveness and healing?
- 6. Role of Family and Community:** The story highlights the importance of family and community support. How do the relationships within the Kingdom MMA Gym community impact the characters' lives? How do relationships in your life provide strength and support during difficult times?
- 7. The Shepherd and the Lost Sheep:** The parable of the lost sheep is referenced multiple times by Stryker and Corbin, emphasizing the worth of even one person who has strayed. How does this parable echo throughout the story? Consider Stryker's commitment to the Warrior Program and his pursuit of kids like Liv and Trinity who were rejected or overlooked by others. In what ways does Corbin's decision to forgive his father and his pursuit of faith and reconciliation reflect the shepherd's journey? How does this spiritual metaphor shape your view of redemption in the story?
- 8. Seeking the One: Stryker's Mission and Legacy:** Stryker lives out his faith by going after the "lost ones," both physically and spiritually. How do his courtroom interventions, his care for Liv and Trinity, and his mentorship at Kingdom MMA embody servant leadership? Discuss whether you view Stryker as a spiritual shepherd figure and how does his legacy affect Luna, Corbin, and the others even while he's in a coma? Have you ever had a "Stryker" in your life?
- 9. The Ethics of Innovation:** The Chiron BioInnovation Center operates on the bleeding edge of scientific advancement but crosses serious ethical lines. How does the novel raise questions about bioethics, consent, and the cost of "saving lives"? Do Dr. Forest and Elizabeth truly believe in their cause, and how does this belief blind them to the harm they cause?
- 10. Coping Mechanisms & Emotional Walls:** Compare and contrast the coping mechanisms and emotional walls built by Luna Rosati and Corbin King due to their past traumas. How do their individual struggles with control, forgiveness, and vulnerability manifest, and how do their roles as partners in the investigation challenge or reinforce these mechanisms?

- 11. Power, Control, and Surrender:** Many characters are trying to take control—whether it’s Luna trying to protect herself emotionally, Corbin trying to control outcomes, or Dr. Forest trying to control life and death. What does the story say about the illusion of control? When do characters finally find peace, and what must they surrender to get there?
- 12. The Intersection of Justice and Mercy:** Luna and Corbin are constantly balancing a need for justice (finding the perpetrators) with a call to mercy (restoring those who’ve fallen). How do they wrestle with these dual roles, especially in how they treat Trinity, Abercorn, and even Damien Sullivan? What does the story suggest about where accountability ends and grace begins?
- 13. Names, Legacies, and New Identities:** The Bible often shows God giving people new names after transformation. How does the theme of reclaiming or redefining identity play out in *Girl Lost*? Think about Luna reclaiming her maternal identity, Corbin choosing to break away from his father’s legacy, and Summer’s discovery of her biological roots. How do names, roles, or legacies shift throughout the book?
- 14. Forgiveness as a Turning Point:** Many characters hit emotional walls where the choice to forgive becomes pivotal. How does forgiveness, or the refusal to extend it, change the trajectory for characters like Luna, Corbin, and Trinity? What does the story say about the relationship between forgiveness and healing?
- 14. Who Are You Without the Mission?** Luna and Corbin are both high-functioning professionals trained to suppress emotion and focus on objectives. What happens when the mission becomes personal? How do they respond when the lines between personal redemption and professional duty blur?
- 16. Trauma as a Catalyst for Growth:** Instead of simply showing trauma as damaging, *Girl Lost* explores how it can propel characters toward courage and connection. How do Luna, Corbin, Trinity, and even Summer confront and transform their trauma? Which characters stagnate under its weight, and which grow because of it?
- 17. Faith in Crisis:** Faith isn’t simply a backdrop in *Girl Lost*, it’s wrestled with, lost, and reclaimed. How does faith evolve for Luna and Corbin over the course of the story? Discuss the quiet but powerful moments where faith reenters their lives.
- 18. From Betrayal to Belonging: The Rebuilding of Family:** The novel explores a layered definition of family—chosen, biological, adoptive. How do Luna, Corbin, Summer, and Trinity wrestle with brokenness and reconciliation in their family dynamics? How does the concept of belonging contrast with blood ties? What does the story suggest about how true family is formed?
- 19. The Ending as Restoration:** The epilogue offers a picture of healing. How did your perception of the characters shift from the beginning to the end? Do you believe they’ve truly found peace, or is this just the beginning of another journey?

Q&A WITH KATE ANGELO

***Girl Lost* is the first book in The King Legacy series. What was the inspiration behind The King Legacy series and what can readers expect in future installments?**

The King Legacy explores the lives of people who've been shaped by broken pasts, forged through fire, and still carry the scars—physically and emotionally. Each book is inspired by a parable from Scripture, paired with a unique STEM-based mystery or crime that challenges the characters' core beliefs. The heart of the series is about characters who carry deep wounds and learn that their past doesn't get the final say—God does.

And honestly, it's a question I've wrestled with personally: Can someone burdened by shame and regret still walk in purpose? I believe they can, if they let God redeem their story.

Readers can expect high-stakes suspense, slow-burn romance, characters who feel deeply, and stories that balance grit with grace. Every installment will reveal a new facet of the King Legacy and the people who orbit it—flawed, brilliant, and fiercely determined to protect the ones they love.

Your protagonist, Luna Rosati, found acceptance and a family during her childhood. But an unexpected pregnancy drastically changed the course of her life. Can you share some insight on what Luna's life looks like in the present day?

In the present day, Luna is a brilliant but emotionally guarded woman who's buried her past like just another alias. She's channeled her trauma into excellence, thriving in intelligence work. But beneath the layers of competence is a woman still carrying the weight of choices made long ago—especially giving up her daughter for adoption.

She's lived her life believing that chapter was closed until a mission gone wrong forces her to ask herself—now that her daughter is old enough to choose, would she want to meet her birth mom?

Luna makes the difficult choice to reenter a world she deliberately left behind. What inspired you to explore a character who must face her past so directly?

Because it's real. We all have parts of our past we've boxed up and tried to bury. For Luna, that "box" includes regret, shame, grief, and love that never died. Forcing her to reenter that world—and walk the same hallways, face the same man, reopen the same wounds—created both emotional tension and spiritual transformation. I wanted to explore what healing really looks like when running isn't an option anymore. And while she's not looking for a second chance at her old life, the story has other plans.

Can you tell us about the research process for creating Luna's world as a CIA counterintelligence officer?

I read declassified CIA case studies and insider memoirs, and I talked to people with backgrounds in intelligence, psychology, and cyber-forensics. I wanted Luna's world to feel authentic without getting bogged down in jargon. Much of her role in the CIA involves reading people, breaking down patterns, and identifying inconsistencies—skills she excels at but also uses to protect herself emotionally. That duality was fun (and heartbreaking) to write.

The disappearance of Luna's mentor Stryker is a pivotal moment in the story. What role does this event play in Luna's overall journey?

Stryker wasn't just a mentor. He was the father figure Luna never got to keep. When he disappears, it pulls her back into the world she left behind, and into the lives of people she once called family. Some are thrilled she's home. Others are still hurting from when she walked away.

But this moment becomes a turning point. It's not just about finding Stryker. It's where God begins to peel back the layers of self-protection she's wrapped around her heart. And when she's forced to work with Corbin King, the man who broke that heart, God uses the mess to help her uncover what she thought was lost for good.

Special Agent Corbin King and Luna share a complicated past. Please explain how the two were connected in their earlier years and how they reconnect as adults.

Luna and Corbin met as teenagers in a group home for juveniles. They connected quickly, deeply—and irreversibly. When Luna got pregnant, Corbin panicked. He broke up with her, left her to face the pregnancy alone, and tried to bury the shame under success. Years later, when they're forced to work together on Stryker's case, all the old feelings surface—love, guilt, betrayal, longing. Their reunion is anything but smooth, but neither of them ever truly moved on.

***Girl Lost* is a personal story to you. How did your own experience in foster care influence the way you approached themes of belonging and family in *Girl Lost*?**

Girl Lost is deeply personal. My early years were shaped by violence and neglect, and I entered foster care as a teenager. I was told I'd end up just like my mother. For a long time, I believed it. I tried to rewrite the story on my own—made vows, chased success, tried to prove I was nothing like where I came from.

There's a little of me in both Luna and Corbin. Luna hides her hurt behind control. Corbin tries to fix everything himself. I've been there. But real healing didn't begin until I stopped trying to save myself and let God step in. He didn't just rescue me—he restored what I thought was lost.

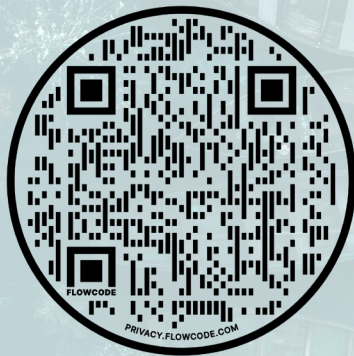
Writing *Girl Lost* gave me the chance to explore what happens when the family you build is stronger than the one you lost. I wanted to show the beauty that can rise out of broken beginnings.

How did you balance writing authentic emotional trauma with the fast-paced demands of a thriller?

Very carefully. Emotional trauma doesn't hit in long-winded flashbacks or dramatic breakdowns. It shows up in silence, in hesitation, in the way someone avoids eye contact or how they say one thing but mean another. I focused on showing those layers while still keeping the tension and pacing that readers expect from romantic suspense. Deep character work and high-stakes action can co-exist—you just have to thread them together like heartbeats in a chase scene.

AN OPEN BOOK

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