Staff pick: Laura

It’s hard to break away from reading “The Chain”

*“You are not the first. And you will certainly not be the last.”*

As Rachel is driving to an oncology appointment, she receives a call: a woman tells her that she has kidnapped her daughter – every parent’s worst nightmare. In order to get her back, she must not only pay a hefty ransom, but commit the same horrible act as this woman – find a victim, kidnap them and allow The Chain to continue by making the same demands in a dreadful phone call to a new, unwilling parent.

Those behind The Chain know that parents will do anything for their children, and so their scheme has been able to go on for years, without a hitch. Past victims of The Chain live in a constant state of fear, as they can be called upon to assist in any future ploy. But Rachel is a breast cancer survivor -- she can do anything -- and she chooses to not give up – not only to get her daughter back, but also to break The Chain, once and for all.

As I listened to this audiobook, narrated so well by January LaVoy (a given, since she has kept readers on their toes by narrating more than 200 audiobooks), I kept asking myself “What would I do in this situation?” In today’s share-everything world, it’s an original premise that could happen to anyone – making it all the more frightening. It’s a read that will keep your pulse racing until the very end.

*By Adrian McKinty, available in audiobook or ebook from Overdrive or in house at the library*