



Chase Darkness with Me: How One True-Crime Writer Started Solving Murders

Written by Billy Jensen

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Chase Darkness with Me: How One True-Crime Writer Started Solving Murders

By Billy Jensen

Chase Darkness With Me

Have you ever wanted to solve a murder? Gather the clues the police overlooked? Put together the pieces? Identify the suspect?

Chase Darkness With Me Book Tour

Journalist Billy Jensen spent fifteen years investigating unsolved murders, fighting for the families of victims. Every story he wrote had one thing in common—they didn't have an ending. The killer was still out there.

Chase Darkness With Me Review

But after the sudden death of a friend, crime writer and author of *I'll Be Gone in the Dark*, Michelle McNamara, Billy became fed up. Following a dark night, he came up with a plan. A plan to investigate past the point when the cops had given up. A plan to solve the murders himself.

Chase Darkness With Me Audiobook

You'll ride shotgun as Billy identifies the Halloween Mask Murderer, finds a missing girl in the California Redwoods, and investigates the only other murder in New York City on 9/11. You'll hear intimate details of the hunts for two of the most terrifying serial killers in history: his friend Michelle McNamara's pursuit of the Golden State Killer and his own quest to find the murderer of the Allentown Four. And Billy gives you the tools—and the rules—to help solve murders yourself.

Chase Darkness With Me Tour

Gripping, complex, unforgettable, Chase Darkness with Me is an examination of the evil forces that walk among us, illustrating a novel way to catch those killers, and a true-crime narrative unlike any you've read before.

True crime is having a moment. Growing up, I used to sneak read True Detective magazine under the covers. But now, those of us who are true crime fans can admit to our fascination without sounding too weird.

What drives an interest in true crime? Contrary to what some may believe, fans do not derive voyeuristic pleasure out of the misery of others. Investigative journalist Billy Jensen's driving force is empathy for the victims and their families and the desire to make the monsters pay for their crimes. True crime is having a moment. Growing up, I used to sneak read True Detective magazine under the covers. But now, those of us who are true crime fans can admit to our fascination without sounding too weird.

What drives an interest in true crime? Contrary to what some may believe, fans do not derive voyeuristic pleasure out of the misery of others. Investigative journalist Billy Jensen's driving force is empathy for the victims and their families and the desire to make the monsters pay for their crimes. The focus of his work, and this book, is justice, not gratuitous details.

Jensen details his early work as a journalist and what drove him to crime investigations. He is unflinchingly honest about his frustrations and failures, as well as his successes.

He writes about his friendship with Michele McNamara, who was investigating and writing a book about the Golden State Killer at the time of her untimely death. The author, along with Michelle's husband and her research assistant, finished the book, *I'll Be Gone in the Dark* (a book I highly recommend). Michelle's death was the catalyst for the author to take his work to the next level.

Along with DNA databases, crowdsourcing on social media is a game changer, and allows for average citizens to assist in identifying victims and catching the criminals. I found this section of the book to be most interesting. If you've ever wanted to become a citizen detective, the author has a section at the end of the book with instructions, complete with a list of rules, tips and cautions.

This was a compelling buddy read with Marialyce. The author's persistence, passion and dedication shines through. This is a must-listen for fans of true crime.

An Audible Original, the hardback will be published in August, 2019.

For this and other duo reviews please visit the blog <https://yayareadslotsofbooks.wordpress.com> ...more

Chase Darkness With Me Release Date

Part true crime memoir, part DIY cold case solving instruction manual, Chase Darkness with Me: How One True-Crime Writer Started Solving Murders is a unique read that stands out in a sea of true crime novels. Billy Jensen has truly seen it all, and it was refreshing to read about horrific murders from a tender, caring, and emotional standpoint. Highly recommended!

I reviewed a digital version of this book. The author was a friend and colleague of Michelle McNamera's until she passed away while working on her true crime book, *Will Be Gone In The Dark*. He is one of several who helped her husband to finish the book and get it published. This is his story, telling how he went from just reporting on stories to getting so frustrated that he jumped in and started solving them. He and Michelle had plans to work together at it as soon as she sent off her book manuscript to the publishers, which sadly never happened as she passed away.

It tells how Jensen began in murder solving. How he fumbled and got advice, and learned and kept on. Like most anything, the more you do it and learn about it, the better you get at it. Then, at long last, he solved his first case and that made a huge difference in his confidence. After his regular job, he'd been working on Michelle's book at night.

Jensen eventually developed his own system for getting tips online by targeting certain areas and then focusing on them with information and requests. He solved his 2nd case which came with police recognition and hugs from the victim's mother and sister, which really really meant the most. After that, he was really on his way.

This would be of interest to true crime fans as you can follow along and see how a writer becomes a crime solver. It has multiple cases that are interesting all through the book, some solved and some being worked on yet. Fascinating stuff as law enforcement and others tweak their skills to come up with new ways to solve crime in this new age. Advance electronic review copy was provided by NetGalley, author Billy Jensen, and the publisher.

My BookZone blog:

<https://wordpress.com/block-editor/po...>

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Chase Darkness With Me Amazon

4.5 stars

Sometimes a tragedy can spur one onto doing something, of taking a stand, of getting involved. With the death of his friend, Michele McNamara, the author of *I'll Be Gone In the Dark*, a book I read and so enjoyed, Billy Jensen becomes involved in the concept and tracking of killers who got away.

With the advent of DNA tracking, many, who were previously living among us, though that was denied the ones they killed, were fated to be found. While Ms McNamara died before the Golden State killer was identified, her relentless and exhaustive research on him was the catalyst to spur Mr Jensen on to taking up the gauntlet pursuing other killers. Jensen was also one of those who assisted in completing Michelle's book after her untimely death. 4.5 stars

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With the advent of DNA tracking, many, who were previously living among us, though that was denied the ones they killed, were fated to be found. While Ms McNamara died before the Golden State killer was identified, her relentless and exhaustive research on him was the catalyst to spur Mr Jensen on to taking up the gauntlet pursuing other killers. Jensen was also one of those who assisted in completing Michelle's book after her untimely death.

Through the use of the internet, social media platforms and research, Jensen has helped to solve a number of cases, bringing to justice those who had escaped the consequences of their crime. He presents us with how he was spurred on by his love of true crime stories started early on by the stories his father shared with him and later as a journalist, tuned off by the intrusion into the lives of the bereaved. He turned to the concept of crowd sourcing to catch, to ferret out, and find the perpetrator, bringing to some families a closure of their circle of grief.

The book is fascinating, even providing a how to guide to become your very own investigative detective and help the police to ferret out a possible murderer. I definitely recommend this book to those who enjoy true crime stories and the audible version I listened to narrated by the author was done so very well. Perhaps now with the internet, social media platforms and of course the use of DNA, many more will be brought to justice and the families of those who lost their loved ones will be able to know that while their loved ones have lost their lives, those who killed them might no longer walk among us free to live their life, a life they denied others to have.

According to some statistics, one third of the murders in the United States go unresolved. For many, especially the families of those who were murdered there is no ending, no resolution, no justice until the killer or killers is found, tried and brought to justice. For Jan and I, listening to this book was an eye opening experience as Billy Jensen took us on his journey to bring some resolution to the families, and

perhaps in a small way allow justice to be served on those who chose to kill.

For both our reviews and a look at the author you can go here:

<http://yayareadslotsofbooks.wordpress...>

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Billy Jensen, who finished Michelle McNamara's *I'll Be Gone in the Dark* following her untimely death, talks about his love for true crime and how he became involved in investigating unsolved murders.

Jensen provides a really fascinating insight into how he carries out his own investigative journalism and lays down the tools - and rules - to help you get involved yourself. I'm not 100% convinced that it's a good idea to encourage people to get involved in trying to solve crimes on their own. There Billy Jensen, who finished Michelle McNamara's *I'll Be Gone in the Dark* following her untimely death, talks about his love for true crime and how he became involved in investigating unsolved murders.

Jensen provides a really fascinating insight into how he carries out his own investigative journalism and lays down the tools - and rules - to help you get involved yourself. I'm not 100% convinced that it's a good idea to encourage people to get involved in trying to solve crimes on their own. There's a difference between helping out where you can and then leading your own investigation... It's perhaps just a good idea to get involved where it's appropriate.

Jensen's passion for catching the bad guys who think they got away with it really shines through. Most of the crimes covered were ones I already knew about, which was unfortunate, but I liked hearing about more of the backstory into how they were solved.

3.5 stars! Definitely recommend to all true crime fans, especially if you're already a fan of Billy Jensen. ...more

Chase Darkness With Me Pdf

Body In Cat Litter - Say What?! Billy Jensen has seen it all!! 4 stars ⭐️⭐️⭐️⭐️

By now, you all know I live for true crime and so when Billy Jensen (friends with Karen and Georgia from MFM and he helped finish Michelle McNamara's book) came out with his own book, I was all over it!

Jensen is an incredible storyteller and his road to becoming an investigative journalist is pretty cool. Chase Darkness with Me is an autobiographical view into Jensen's start. He shares personal stories from his upbringing. Body In Cat Litter - Say What?! Billy Jensen has seen it all!! 4 stars ⭐️⭐️⭐️⭐️

By now, you all know I live for true crime and so when Billy Jensen (friends with Karen and Georgia from MFM and he helped finish Michelle McNamara's book) came out with his own book, I was all over it!

Jensen is an incredible storyteller and his road to becoming an investigative journalist is pretty cool. Chase Darkness with Me is an autobiographical view into Jensen's start. He shares personal stories from his upbringing, his college years, and how he became an advocate for cold case victims. Some of the cases he's been a part of are surreal! Like the one about a body being covered in a mountain of cat litter (I'm not joking ☺️). It's nuts. And this tell-all isn't holding back!!

It's only available on audio right now. And I would definitely recommend this to any My Favorite Murder listener! 🙌

NOTE: if you have listened to Jensen's and Paul Holes' podcast The Murder Squad, some of this book will sound repetitive. At first, I was like «wahhhh» because I'm a brat. But then I had to applaud Jensen because these are the cases that truly cultivated his drive and the fact that he's getting answers for so many families is FREAKING RAD! 🙌🙌 ½ ...more

RTC as per the publisher's request - but let's let the foreword (by Karen Kilgariff of My Favorite Murder) speak for me in the meantime:

It's a movie plot come to life. After years of difficult, thankless work, a reporter obsessed with justice gets the rare satisfaction of seeing justice finally served. Who doesn't want to read that immediately?

Chase Darkness With Me Barnes And Noble

4.5 stars

If you like true crime, especially in the form of investigative journalism, this audiobook is for you! I was initially drawn to this story because of Billy's association with Michelle McNamara in the amazing *Be Gone in the Dark* book from 2018. Billy worked closely with Michelle on her Golden State Killer case and after her death he was instrumental in helping to finish and get her book published.

In his new audiobook, Billy tells of how he developed a love of true crime and justice 4.5 stars

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In his new audiobook, Billy tells of how he developed a love of true crime and justice from an early age. he describes some pretty crazy bedtime stories of crimes and criminals that his dad used to share with him. Rather than scaring him, Billy pinpoints those early stories as instilling a fascination and hunger within himself to explore crime and those who commit it

Believe me when I say this is one of the most engaging, insightful audiobooks I've ever listened to! Billy goes in depth in how he uses crowdsourcing (think Facebook and Twitter) to catch criminals and it's absolutely fascinating. The murder of Marcus Gaines that Billy worked on was not only sad and frustrating to hear but incredible in terms of how it turned out. This crowdsourcing feels to me very timely and tremendously important in terms of the possibilities it offers for solving more murders and finding more missing people. In fact, Billy's discussion of the "digital posse" seemed so accurate for the future of crime and criminal justice.

Told with empathy, compassion and energy, Billy's dedication and passion for truth and justice came through loud and clear. I highly recommend this audiobook!! ...more

My thanks to Audible for allowing me free access to this audio book in exchange for an honest review. All opinions are my own and are not influenced by the publisher. This audio book is currently an Audible Exclusive.Â

True crime can be a touchy subject. What are the ethics of consuming someone else's tragedy as entertainment? Jensen's work and the way he works to essentially crowd-source murder investigations means that this book necessarily tangles with some of the thornier ethical questions su My thanks to Audible for allowing me free access to this audio book in exchange for an honest review. All opinions are my own and are not influenced by the publisher. This audio book is currently an Audible Exclusive.Â

True crime can be a touchy subject. What are the ethics of consuming someone else's tragedy as entertainment? Jensen's work and the way he works to essentially crowd-source murder investigations means that this book necessarily tangles with some of the thornier ethical questions surrounding true crime. The overall impression is of a man with deep respect for the wishes of families searching for answers about their loved ones; there is no hint of voyeurism or sensationalism.Â

Chase Darkness with Me explores Jensen's early work as a journalist, working at the beck and call of news organizations and being told what to cover. After experiencing the shame and discomfort of being pressed to pester a grieving family for an interview, he decided to do things his own way, which would not involve sitting idly on the sidelines. Jensen began digging into unsolved crimes, using social media ads to blast targeted areas with surveillance footage, sketches of suspects, or whatever else he had to work with.Â The method is simple but effective. Jensen walks the listener through the twists and turns of the cases he was able to help solve with the aid of the public and social media.Â

Michelle McNamara, author ofÂ I'll be Gone in the DarkÂ and friend of Billy Jensen, also plays a role in this book. Jensen was one of the writers who helped to completeÂ I'll be Gone in the DarkÂ from Michelle's notes after her sudden death in 2016. Chase Darkness with MeÂ touches on Jensen's friendship with Michelle and his efforts to ensure that her tireless research into the then unsolved case of the Golden State Killer was not wasted. Michelle McNamara unfortunately passed away before police ever made an arrest in the case, but Jensen was able to see his friend's work come to fruition in 2018 with the arrest of James DeAngelo. (The official stance of police is that Michelle's book did not have an impact on the case, but Jensen and many of Michelle's fans have their doubts.)Â

The book is as much a call to action as it is storytelling, with an addendum outlining the do's and don'ts for readers who may want to do investigative work of their own. Jensen's rules place the wishes of the victims' families at the forefront and also emphasize the importance of backing off when police have a suspect in their sights; the last thing anyone investigating a crime wants to do is give the culprit a heads-up that they're being watched closely and cause them to run. While extra-judicial investigative work is necessarily controversial, Jensen clearly adheres to a strict set of guidelines which maximize his chance of being an asset rather than a liability.Â

Chase Darkness with MeÂ is true crime at its best, told with utmost care and compassion for the victims of each case. It's not true crime writing in the typical sense, as the author has inserted himself into these stories in a much more direct manner than most writers, but I think the writing is stronger for it. Each case is intensely personal to Jensen and this absolutely shines through in the final product.

You can read all of my reviews on my blog, Jenna Bookish!

Facebook | Instagram | Tumblr ...more

Chase Darkness With Me Epub

4.0 Stars

This is exactly the kind of true crime book that I love reading. Within each chapter, the author outlines a variety of interesting cases and shares how he uses social media tools to attempt to find justice for the victims. Some of the cases in this book have answers, while others still remain unsolved. It was fascinating to learn how he uses simple methods like posting information to Twitter and Facebook in order to try to solve major crimes. This book also partially reads like a memoir

4.0 Stars
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Jensen is also one of the authors who helped to finish Michelle McNamara's popular true crime book, *I'll Be Gone in the Dark*, so a lot of this book deals with his relationship with her and the Golden State Killer investigation. I would personally recommend reading *I'll Be Gone in the Dark* first in order to get the most out of this book.

Finally, the book ends with a call to action where the author outlines the steps to become an amateur true crime investigator and ally with law enforcement agencies. Honestly, I found that section to be incredibly motivating and I am now considering ways that I utilize my own passion for true crime in a tangible way within my local community.

This was such an addicting read with just the right amount of information to keep me engaged, without bogging me down with too many details. I would highly recommend this book to anyone who loves true crime non fiction books like *I'll Be Gone in the Dark* and *True Crime Addict*.

Disclaimer: I received a digital copy of this book via Netgalley. ...more

CW: descriptions of murders

Billy Jensen is definitely a hero to me.

When I read this book, I kept talking about what he was doing to my half-interested parents. (They're not that into true crime, sadly.) How he helps solve crimes by geotargeting ads so people in that location near the crime, who may have seen something they didn't know was important, would be able to give tips.

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I first heard about Billy from My Favorite Murder. I remember hearing him talk about what he does. Then I read "Be Gone" CW: descriptions of murders

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I first heard about Billy from My Favorite Murder. I remember hearing him talk about what he does. Then I read "Be Gone in the Dark," which I thought was a pretty average true crime book, but has grown on me as I think about the legacy it's created. Michelle helped catch the Golden State Killer. She created her legacy by inspiring so many people to help with cold cases that they took an interest in. And it's heartbreaking that she wasn't around to do it.

Now all of these people who worked with her are coming to talk about what they do, Billy included.

I loved reading about the cases he worked and just how passionate he is. Didn't matter what time or day it was. He was constantly working to help families get closure about what happened. I think that's so admirable. And he's so right in his addendum about this. It will become time-consuming because you won't want to rest because the family can't rest. Your relationships will suffer because of that, so you have to find really awesome people who accept this.

In my own life, I equate that to social work. There are definite boundaries in social work but you still get involved. I still think about past patients they had and hope that they're doing okay. Social work can be life-consuming because there's such a great need for it and not enough services for those people who need it. And if you're not careful, it will be a 24/7 job and you still won't be able to help everyone you want to.

The cases he covered were more unknown than known for me. I don't watch Crime Watch Daily, so I don't really see all the little cases that they cover that, perhaps, aren't as well-covered as others. I liked being able to see the cases and read about all the ones that slip through our fingers because they just weren't interesting enough to last longer than a news cycle or two.

I think that the only con for this was that it didn't draw me in as much as I wanted. I loved that he started with his childhood and how his father inspired him, but it took me a while to really get into the story. I think that whenever I reread it -- because I'm sure that I will -- I'll pick up on the things that I missed during this first read.

Overall, a really good true crime story that covers cases most of us aren't familiar with and talks about how we can all use technology to help solve cold cases. ...more