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Things are going well for young filmmaker Evan Casher -- until he receives an urgent phone call from his mother, summoning him home. He arrives to find her brutally murdered body on the kitchen floor and a hitman lying in wait for him.

It is then he realises his whole life has been a lie. His parents are not who he thought they were, his girlfriend is not who thought she was, his entire existence has been an ingeniously constructed sham. And now that he knows it, he is in terrible danger. Evan's only hope for survival is to discover the truth behind his past.

Panic Details

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Author : Jeff Abbott

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From Reader Review Panic for online ebook

Jim says

This might have been better if I'd read it & could skim more, but the writing wasn't great. The story line was pretty good, though. Not exactly a new plot, but it was different enough to keep it interesting.

Unfortunately, the author was another who succumbed to putting a silencer on a revolver or else turned an automatic into a revolver - I forget which, but it doesn't really matter. I won't go out of my way to read another by this author.

The reader wasn't bad. Not great, but I'm VERY picky about readers. His voices weren't the best, but he wasn't irritating at all.

Robert Knotts says

Overall a good story. Did find some of the discussions and the planning the main character was a little long. He tended to dwell on things a little too much and whined a little too often. But I enjoy the author's other books (Sam Capra) so I kept with it.

Laritza says

Good action. I would call it a good pass time book. Nothing to write home about. The one big but is that the author brings up Colombia and Bogota in relation to some drug traffic deal that has ABSOLUTELY NOTHING TO DO with the plot. I wish people would quit referring to Colombia only for the bad and begin to see the beauty of the country and the REAL people. Plus the cartels don't exist anymore. All of the drug lords are in prison, they are GONE for ever. Every other book I read makes reference to Colombia and the bad things this only shows how ignorant of the world these authors really are. I had given this book two stars but I am taking one off, it might serve the author good to do some reading and research before writing.

Cláudia Teles says

It was an Ok book. It was (and I hope I won't be misinterpreted when I say this) so American. Like: the nobody with a boring life turns out to be the hero of the whole story killing the bad guys (even though he has no actual shooting or fighting training) and discovering the truth about his past thus improving his relationship with his estranged father and mysterious girlfriend.

"The unknown white hero that saves the day and gets the girl" could very well be the title.

What a cliché.

But it was entertaining. Like a Sunday afternoon movie.

Jayne says

I didn't think the title quite fit the story. The events that unfolded would certainly cause you to panic, but such an emotive title gives you certain ideas and expectations which if you are lucky, match.

I was not so lucky. That's not to say that it was a dumb book. Not at all. Just that it took me a little longer to get into the feel of the book, because of the title.

It's a good enough read.

Bilge B says

Matru?ka bebe?i gibi s?r içinden s?r ç?kt? ?a?k?na döndüm. Aksiyon filmi izler gibi bir kitapt? çok be?endim.

Biraz edit hatalar? var ama editör ba?tan savma çal??m?? sanki.

Chloe says

The premise of this one sounded good - a young guy receives an urgent summons home phone call from his mother and returns to find his mother murdered and his life turns upside down. So, we have an intriguing mystery on our hands! The young guy discovers pretty fast that someone is trying to kill him too! Panic stations = lots of action!

The issue I had (and couldn't stop thinking about) is, here's this young guy ... he's film maker with no police experience, hey, he's hardly even fired a gun. But, that doesn't seem to be a problem because he becomes the hero ... and even tells the CIA what to do! And they do it! Implausible much? Hmmm

Other than that, it was an OK read, lots of action as mentioned but nothing out of the box.

Karine P says

Enfin fini!

Une couverture et un résumé qui laissent penser à un genre de thriller. Finalement, c'est un roman à saveur pseudo policière / scénario de film d'action poche.

Je l'ai lu juste pour savoir jusque où ça allait me taper sur les nerfs!

Joodith says

Okay - so the premise is that a young guy (attractive, of course - we can't have an ugly hero, can we!) who's been living a normal, not too exciting life, is suddenly thrown into a world of violence and chaos. Out of the blue he receives a whispered phone call from his mother telling him to go to her house - a good two to three hours drive away. He does so only to find his mother dead on the kitchen floor, he is then attacked by the unknown assailants and so his nightmare begins.....

If there's one thing I can't stand it's blow-by-blow accounts of fights - not necessarily because of the violence portrayed but because it's all so unnecessary and almost cartoon-like - I can almost see the Biffs, Splats and Wallops leaping off the page. It's boring!

There is nothing new in the plot, the writing is clunky, and the characters cliched. In fact it has the feel of a writing competition about it. It has that Jackson Pollock approach to it....throw enough at it and some of it will stick.

No, no, no, not for me - I was almost having a panic attack reading it, and actually gave up halfway through.

Mark Soone says

Wow, this was super cool! I have never even heard of Abbott until I saw his name on the inside cover of a book about a month ago...It called him one of the most prominent thriller writers..Now I know why! I would call this the best espionage thriller I have read since "The Last Spymaster".

This book is way more action and plot driven than character driven. The main character/protagonist Evan is really the only character that I felt I got to know. There was so much duplicity, multi faceted deceit and layers upon layers of subterfuge, that I never really knew who any one was, what side they were on (if there is such a thing), or what they stood for. Abbott did do a nice job of tying together all of those loose pieces at the end, but for the most part the secondary characters are weaved into and out of the story, some to reappear others to never resurface. The action however is almost non stop....It hits a bit of a lull in the middle, but quickly accelerates again.

Readers who are expecting deep characters, vivid descriptions and tons of details might find this a little shallow or be disappointed....If you are looking for an action packed, non stop thriller though this is a pretty good read....maybe comparable to Verticle Run by Garber in this vein of action type thriller.

I would recommend it to any one wanting a fast, light, action paced thriller!

Claire says

A rather lack lustre novel I'm afraid. I gave up and decided not to finish it as everytime I went to read it I found something else to do instead. The characters seemed extremely one dimensional and tbh I didn't really care about Evan or what happened to him. Jargo and son felt panto-evil and the not for children warning on the front cover leads me to believe they shouldn't read it so as not to put them off reading for life!

Elizabeth A says

Update: I completed this book yesterday evening. I continued to love *Panic* until the last couple paragraphs. It just seemed...somewhat anti-climactic.

Almost immediately (& throughout the story) I correctly guessed many character relationships but this did not detract from the suspense, nor even come close to telling the whole story [of the character/s].

At one point, approaching final chapters I almost wished the subtle twists & turns would stop. If I'd read this in a different frame of mind, I may have at times found it "too much". Even the most forgiving soul would cease trusting after so much deceit.

I'm loving this book! I hadn't heard of this author until I found him shelved with Robin Cook at the library.

Kerry says

Proclaimed as "One of the year's best books" on the cover, I was obviously expecting something very good. However on the contrary, I was bitterly disappointed. 2005 was clearly a very bad year for publication.

If you're a fan of the fast-paced and simplistically written novels of Dan Brown, then you'll like this. The pace of the story is so fast that you've barely come to terms with what's just happened, before you're being transported to a completely different world altogether, within the space of 2 pages. Incidentally, the characters are weak and hard to like, and it's a book that's difficult to really lose yourself in. The story additionally keeps on twisting and turning into the farfetched until you find yourself lost altogether and not really caring what ridiculous twist the story is going to take next.

Definitely not recommended. Watch the film instead, if/when it inevitably comes out!

Filipa says

Finalmente, acabei *Pânico*. Muito a custo, na verdade. Hoje à tarde, obriguei-me a acabar este livro.

Não é que não seja um bom livro, porque eu gostei da história em si, dos personagens e de todas as intrigas - estava tudo verdadeiramente bem construído.

Mas é uma escrita algo difícil de ler - é preciso estar com cabeça e disposição para o ler. É um livro pesado, cheio de pormenores, de factos novos a entrarem e que precisam de ser processados. Existe qualquer coisa sempre a acontecer.

Talvez este livro não tenha sido a melhor escolha para iniciar este autor. Mas agora que já está, nada a fazer.

Comparando este autor ao James Rollins, sem dúvida, prefiro o James. Têm estilos de escrita bastante distintos e o de James é muito mais fácil de se ler e são histórias mais dinâmicas. Apesar de terem bastante movimento e acção, são intrigas menos pesadas.

Talvez esta apenas, não fosse a melhor altura para ler um livro destes. Porque sinto, que este livro poderia ter

sido melhor aproveitado noutras circunstâncias.

Em resumo, gostei e não gostei desta experiência.

Licinia says

Foi o primeiro livro que li deste autor, e gostei (ainda bem porque comprei logo 3 livros do autor). Em "Pânico" os capítulos levam-nos logo em suspense para o capítulo seguinte. A história está sempre em crescendo porque estamos sempre a descobrir mais e mais sobre o mistério que enreda o assassinio de Donna mãe de Evan personagem central. É uma trama fácil de acompanhar e envolvente e com um pouco de romance também.

Michael says

Evan Casher probably led a sheltered life. It all changed when he got a call from his mother. She needed to see him right away. When he got to her home, she had been murdered and the killers then tried to kill Evan but Evan is rescued by a stranger who says he's a friend of Evan's mother.

Steven Jargo, an information peddler, is the man who killed Evan's mother. Dezz is Steven's son and Carrie Lindstrom is the girl Jargo has pretending to be Evan's girlfriend so she can get the files he has on his computer.

The man who rescued Evan, Gabriel tells Evan that he's in danger and that his mother hired Gabriel to get her out of Austin. He tells Ev that Jargo is a freelance spy. Evan doesn't know who to trust and runs from Gabriel.

Slowly, Evan is learning that the life he was used to is made up of lies. Nothing about his family was true. By checking on some names in his father's passports he finds info about a family who disappeared years ago. That story mentioned a concerned neighbor. Evan calls the neighbor and asks the woman to look at the photos of his mother in the news and see if she is the person who lived next door to her. In this way Evan learns his identity as Robert Peterson.

Next Evan gets in touch with a person called Shady that owed Evan a favor. He calls Jargo and finds that he's holding Evan's father and they arrange to meet in return for the missing files. Then Evan calls a person who told Evan he was with the CIA nicknamed Bricklayer and tells him of the meeting with Jargo.

It is a complicated plot but it moves along swiftly. At the next meeting, we learn something about Carrie Lindstrom that is a significant plot twist. Does Carrie really love Evan or is she a clever plant?

The plot does get a little complicated and it was difficult to know who were the good guys and who were not. However, it was still full of action and suspense.

Jennifer Stevenson says

I Read this book last year when i went to college, and i couldnt put it down!
I was reading on the bus, at my Breaks, even sneeking looks during boring classes!
Its a real page turned and is ace for people who love reading crime storys.
The beast thing about this book is that you tend to find crime books about a cop, but this one is about a boy who finds out his life has been a lie! and he slowly it reveals that his parents arnt who thay say they are, and are infact up to there necks in trouble. Even his girlfriend is employed my a gang who kills his mother!
Its a real good book and i highly recomend it to anyone whos lookin for a change when it comes to crime storys.

Zézinha Rosado says

Brutal!

Foi o primeiro livro que li deste autor, mas ainda bem que já tenho as restantes obras por ele publicadas na estante à espera para serem lidas, porque se forem semelhantes a esta são realmente brutais!
Uma escrita muito fluída e emocionante, que nos faz ter vontade de andar a correr atrás das personagens de um lado para o outro.
A acção não tem momentos mortos, é sempre vivida debaixo de grande adrenalina.
Gostei muito deste livro.

Ferien_uk says

I bought this because I thought it would be easy reading, so I guess I wasn't really expecting a lot from it. It pretty much met my expectations. I would describe it as an average thriller, fairly unoriginal with plot twists you could see coming from a mile off. I only finished the book because I hate leaving books half-read, otherwise I could have easily given up on it without feeling the need to know what happened to Evan or his father. Evan has no experience in this world, yet manages to frequently escape capture, blackmail the bad guys, kill a man with his bare hands, use a gun, steal cars, negotiate deals etc etc with people who have been doing all those things a lot longer than he has. It just wasn't believable, and I didn't grow attached enough to any of the characters to care what happened to them. However, I wouldn't describe the book as disappointing, as it was exactly what I expected it to be. Overall, I would describe the book as 'average'.

J Jahir says

excelentísimo libro en letras mayúsculas. Ha sido de los mejores libros en este subgénero que he tenido oportunidad de leerlo. Creo que los libros buenos llegan a veces solos a ti sin que tú te los esperes. y éste me llamó altamente la atención al verlo posteadó en un grupo de libros en facebook, y dije: de acuerdo, esto me lo tengo que leer... y no me arrepentí. me lo quemé en una sola tarde, y no podía parar de leerlo. y en 3 horas lo acabé. absolutamente recomendable.
