



Fear Collector

Gregg Olsen

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"You'll sleep with the lights on after reading Gregg Olsen."--Allison Brennan

Ted Bundy. America's most notorious serial killer. For two women, he is the ultimate obsession. One is a cop whose sister may have been one of Bundy's victims. The other is a deranged groupie who corresponded with Bundy in prison--and raised her son to finish what Bundy started. To charm and seduce innocent girls. To kidnap and brutalize more women than any serial killer in history. And to lure one obsessed cop into a trap as sick and demented as Bundy himself. . .

Praise for Gregg Olsen's novels

"Wickedly clever! Twisted."--Lisa Gardner

"Olsen writes rapid-fire page-turners."--*The Seattle Times*

"Grabs you by the throat."--Kay Hooper

Fear Collector Details

Date : Published December 24th 2012 by Pinnacle (first published August 1st 2011)

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Author : Gregg Olsen

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Genre : Thriller, Mystery, Crime, Suspense

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From Reader Review Fear Collector for online ebook

T.M. Smith says

Oh goddamn, this book freaked me out! It was like those scary movies you watch, under the blanket, with one eye covered and one peaking at the T.V. Olsen has his own unique style of storytelling, a style that allows him to weave multiple lives of multiple characters together leading you to that ever pressing question.. who did it?!

Taking on the notorious Ted Bundy story, Olsen did a fantastic job of transforming us into each characters mind. Going back and forth we look through the eyes of the killer, Bundy, a kidnapped girl, Peggy and Grace. Even the secondary characters get their due, adding to the suspense of the story and giving it credence. My personal favorite was Grace, now a cop, but born in the shadow of her sister whom her mother believes was a victim of Bundy's. When bodies start turning up in the same style as the notorious serial killer, Grace and her partner delve into the case.

Fear Collector is a suspenseful, well written novel that will have you turning on all the lights, and double checking the locks as the sun goes down. I love Olsen's attention to detail and the way he drops bread crumbs early on in the story, and allows his characters to pick them up as we flow toward the ending. I'm sad that this is a stand alone novel as I still had a few questions at the end, but overall this is a splendid scary as hell read! I give this one 4/5, but that's just my two cents.

Holly says

Wow, what a firecracker of a novel! Kept me reading. A great story with wonderful, believable characters. Can't wait to read more of Mr. Olsen's novels!

Marianne Stehr says

I have always been a huge fan of Gregg Olsen's work both fiction and non fiction, this one is no exception. Taking a piece from the real world and placing it in an exceptionally thrilling fictitious world worked wonderfully. The book is somewhat of a slow mover at the beginning, however stay with it, it picks up quickly and is sure to send you into a sleepless night!

Rodney says

Fear Collector was a great read. I really loved it. I was drawn into the story from the very beginning as Tacoma Police Detective Grace Alexander is working a case that draws her into her past. Women are being murdered in a way that is reminiscent of serial killer Ted Bundy. Another girl, Emma Rose, goes missing and

Grace is determined to find her before she becomes the next victim. At the same time she's trying to find the remains of her sister who many believe, including their Mother, was a victim of Bundy. Her Mother's obsession became Grace's as well and she wants to prove once and for all whether her sister was a victim of Bundy or if she died by someone else's hand.

Of course there are a lot of reference's to Ted Bundy in this book. I don't know how much was fact or fiction but it was fascinating to read about. I love Gregg Olsen. Every book is better than the last and Fear Collector is no exception. Amazing! Read this book. You won't regret it.

? Kimberly says

Fear Collector delivered a suspenseful thriller about the ripple effect of Ted Bundy a notorious serial killer. Olsen takes us up close and personal into the lives of police detective Grace Alexander, her mother and an obsessed woman who loved Ted and thinks she is raising his son.

Grace was born after her sister's murder. Her mom believes Ted Bundy murdered Tricia but her body was never recovered and he denied any involvement. Grace grew up completely in Tricia's shadow and entered law enforcement in search of answers. Peggy loved Bundy, she obsessed about him and raised her son to be just like his daddy. When girls start showing up dead, and the bones of a female wash up along the river; Grace and her partner Paul Bateman search for clues. The tale that unfolds was suspenseful as Olsen gave us multiple perspectives from the killer, Bundy, a kidnapped girl, Peggy and Grace.

Olsen did a great job of taking us into the psyche of all of the characters. While I understood Grace's mother, I also mourned for the loss of Grace's childhood. The killer's perspective and Peggy's was deliciously creepy and kept me reading late into the night. Bundy and his letters sent chills down my spine. I found it interesting that I was able to identify with each character good or evil. The characters were well fleshed out making the tale seem all too real.

The world building was excellent as Olsen weaved this suspenseful tale. He brought all of the key players to life. Even secondary characters help build the suspense and added believability to the case. I really enjoyed the multiple perspectives and even the letters between Bundy, and the victim's parents. The tale weaved back and forth with the different characters, but always in a forward motion, slowly allowing the reader to recreate events, draws conclusions and watch the depth of the characters unfold. The conclusion while not a surprise did have a little clever twist. The author provided an update on all of the characters after the tale ended and I enjoyed reading about what became of each of them and felt it added to the realism.

I want to thank Kensington for providing this ARC in exchange for my unbiased review. Caffeinated Book Reviewer

KC says

This has a great plot story with a back story regarding Ted Bundy. This is the first time I read Gregg Olsen and really enjoyed his writing.

Chris says

this is a very good read. who would think up this story only gregg olsen. very well written. a must read.

Haley ~ YA-Aholic says

Well, I have to say reading this book at night was a stupid idea on my part! This book had me peeking out my window to make sure no body was out there to get me, it gave me the creepy chills and has made me twice as paranoid as I already was. Gregg Olsen is an author that knows how to get in your head and give you chills that's for sure. This book gave me those type of chills where you feel someone is watching you, but when you turn around no one is there. That is how Fear Collector made me feel.

I for one am an avid watcher of the ID (Investigation Discovery) channel, I watch that channel all the time, I watch documentaries on serial killers, and woman who one day snapped and killed their husbands etc. I love watching shows like that, there has never been a documentary that I have watched and thought it was getting under my skin and creeping me out, does it disgust me or maybe upset me? Yes. But they have never made me feel uncomfortable, Fear Collector made me uncomfortable.

When I finished Fear Collector I couldn't really understand why it got under my skin and freaked me out, and then I realized what it was. It was getting inside the head of the killer that freaked me out. When I watch documentaries it's all people that are knowledgeable about that person or people that are professionals such as a psychologist etc. You never hear from the killer themselves, and if you do you still don't know what was going through their head while they did the horrible things they did, in Fear Collector you get a sneak peek into the killers mind, and it's a creepy place that I didn't like being in.

Gregg has proven to me now after reading 2 of his novels that he is hands down a very talented writer. Fear Collector has a good number of characters and yet the book flowed nicely. I never got confused with names or what was going on, the whole book was written amazingly. Although it was a fairly long book, I felt like I flew through it very quick cause I just couldn't put it down! I needed to know what was going to happen.

This is my first adult true crime fiction/mystery/thriller and it definitely made a good first impression. If you are someone that enjoys true crime fic, or are someone that maybe wants to give it a try, I highly recommend Fear Collector, just don't forget to leave the light on!

Susan Lucy says

It took a little while to get into because it jumped about a bit, when I did get into it really enjoyed it and it ended with a twist (great read).

Bandit says

I'm always on a lookout for good stand alone psychological mystery thrillers. This one sort of kind of falls

into that category, depending on the flexibility of one's definition of good. It's more like decent. Reminded me of when I tried another one of these type of things by O'Brien, also prolific, also stand alones, but something flat to the writing. **Fear Collector** was superior of the two by far, Ted Bundy is a more interesting subject and the final plot twist was very nice, but there was an undeniable blandness to characters and even actions, like they were being reported on, more so than explored. Plainly here the plot was the driver and the uninspired, more often than not two dimensional scenery outside the window went by the wayside. But again, perfectly decent entertainment and a quick read.

Vivian says

Grace Alexander is a Tacoma, Washington police detective. She's married to an FBI agent. She also grew up in the shadow of an older sister she never knew. An older sister her parents are sure was a victim of Ted Bundy. Most children grow up hearing stories about family members and gazing at family pictures. Grace grew up hearing stories about a notorious serial killer and being quizzed on his life. Grace wasn't abused or unloved, but she knew that her parents' primary focus was on her missing sister Tricia. Now that Grace is a police officer, she knows that she must always try to bring some closure to her mother and find out what exactly happened to Tricia.

Ted Bundy is dead but his legacy lives on in more ways than can be believed. Grace and her partner, Paul Bateman, are currently investigating the disappearance of several young girls from the Tacoma area. When the body of one missing girl is found on a beach, presumed to be a drowning, remains of another girl are also uncovered. These remains are older but not ancient and just may be the remains of a presumed Bundy victim.

Fear Collector is a story that provides multiple stories that are deftly woven into one master picture of horror. One story is of Grace and her mother and their search for definitive information on Tricia's disappearance. Another facet of this story is Grace and her job, specifically the investigation into the missing girls -- all remarkably similar in looks. Then there's the story of Emma Rose, one of the missing girls, as she struggles to survive in captivity. Seemingly minor stories include those of a real estate developer and his son, an aging professor that knew Tricia, a retired police detective and expert on Bundy, and an obviously delusional woman and her ties to Bundy and Tricia. Just when you think you know where the story is going, there's a twist that pulls you off into what appears to be another direction. Mr. Olsen kept me on the edge of my seat, constantly wondering is this bit of information important in solving the serial killer mystery or is it simply another piece to the puzzle, if so which puzzle. **Fear Collector** is a story that literally grabbed me from the first few pages until the very end . . . and what an end! If you enjoy mystery-suspense-thriller reads, then this is one book you want to read.

Ren Rabbit says

As my laptop is broken at present I can't write as extensive a review as I'd like. So in short: This was an extremely convoluted and lengthy read.

The timeline was all over the place. Despite enough background information the characters remained two-dimensional due to the unemotional language the author chose to portray them with. I wanted to empathize with **Grace** for example and it should have been easy since she is the protagonist who shares her innermost

thoughts and musings with; alas, never really her feelings.

Halfway through the book I grew annoyed with her endless stream of mental vomit about what **Ted** *might* have once upon a time done, said, why he became what he became... it just never stopped and led absolutely nowhere because...*none of us will ever truly know!!!*

The blurb basically teased that the reader would be thrown into a story of suspense, action and right into the mind of **Ted's** son and his hybristophile mother. But not only does that not happen (except the killer once relying to us he just wants to "be cool." I mean...really? THAT'S the best you can do, **Mr. Olsen**? Killers just wanna be "cool?" :-/), the suspense and action just wouldn't come either.

I feel that this was sort of a filler book. It reads as if the author had pieced a story around his own musings regarding **Bundy**. He somehow wanted to publish them but didn't quite know how.

Of course I may be wrong but that's how this book read to me.

I put this book down once in favor of another. When I picked it up again I forgot it on the train and had to re-purchase it because I hoped...I just hoped it would at some point live up to its promise. But honestly, I just didn't like it despite a few single and relatively insignificant elements.

The only reason I "slept with the lights on" (>blurb) was because I fell asleep while reading...

Carmen says

Far too repetitive and long winded for its own good. A great concept that never really makes good on the promise. The narrative was choppy and confusing and at times too earnest to make some sort of statement. It takes a lot for me to give up on a book and this is one I just couldn't finish.

Dawn says

Did you ever read a book by one of your favorite authors and were totally confused and disappointed by their latest new release? Well that's what I thought of Gregg Olsen's new book. He has written lately a couple new teen books and my daughter loved them. (Envy and Betrayal) but I think in the process he got a bit long winded on the writing of his newest adult thriller. This is the story of Grace as a young child and a detective this also is the story of Ted Bundy's son who stepped into his father's shoes by killing young women. This story flips between three diffent scenes over and over and quite honestly loses your interest. If this was a shorter and to the point story it would of been an okay book. Disappointed but I will look for his next because his past books were very good.

Jool says

Gregg Olsen books are always great!! This one is no exception. An intricate plot that brings back memories of the Ted Bundy days. The current day killings mimic Bundy's exactly. What the reader finds out is that Ted Bundy's son is being groomed to become even greater and more prolific than his famous father.

Read it to find out more!

