



Beneath the Mask of Sanity

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Bentley Grimes is a killer not content with just taking a victim's life, he also wants to experience emotions. When he kills George Braddock, Bentley infiltrates the Braddock household by befriendng his victim's oldest daughter, Katie. He witnesses their misery searching for that indefinable trait that makes him different from the rest of the world.

Frank Miles is a detective with his own demons, and his own obsession, catching George Braddock's murderer. The three, Katie, Frank and Bentley are all on a collision course for each other, none of them knowing the secrets that each hides in their souls.

Beneath the Mask of Sanity Details


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Author : Mark Phillips

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From Reader Review Beneath the Mask of Sanity for online ebook

Bob says

well, there's not a lot to say about this book. it's not awful. the plot is decent and keeps moving pretty well. the ending was ok. not a lot of superlatives in this review, are there? not only was the story not terrific, the thing really needs a good proofing and editing. there are spelling errors throughout the whole book and the formatting is poor. this was just good enough a book that i managed to read the entire thing without tossing it out. that's the best i can say about it.

Rashmi Pant says

A hard hitting book, not for the faint of heart. A ruthless serial killer depicted well. The killer is not satisfied with a single kill, but likes to go back and kill the entire family. The story overall is well told, except for some leaps in logic and some misspellings.. which I think can be forgiven, given that the book engages the reader right to the end. I enjoyed it.

Mark says

Mark Phillips may be a good storyteller. But he'd be a better writer if he used spellcheck, dictionary.com, and an editor. While I was riveted by the progression of this tale, i was distracted by his misspellings, malapropisms, typos, and errant punctuation. And while I'm a fan and client of Kindle Direct Publishing, direct-to-digital is no excuse for lack of discipline.

Sarah Roberts says

Beneath the Mask of Sanity is a gripping psychological thriller that pushes the limits of a reader's comfort level - as any good thriller should. This story takes you on a journey through the experiences of the killer, the victims, and the law enforcement personnel involved. Fast paced and captivating, Beneath the Mask of Sanity is sure to make your heart pound.

The language and imagery are at times jarring, but they mirror the horrific nature of the main character, Bentley Grimes. The characters are well crafted, each with his own voice and personality. Aside from a few technical misses, this book is well written and structured in a way that pulls the reader in from beginning to end.

This is a must read for lovers of psychological thrillers and anyone with a strong constitution looking for a well-executed descent strong into the brutal world of a serial killer.

Trease says

It Captured Me!

Very interesting! Although there were a few typographical errors, the story itself was good. It would be beyond tragic if a person like the main character existed but the story was great.

Michael Ronn says

I don't typically read psychological thrillers, so this was a different read for me. Bentley Grimes is an instantly interesting character, and it was worth reading to see what he would do next. I thought that the opening of the book was very well done, too.

I didn't catch hardly any typos, either, and kudos to the author for that. My only recommendations were that 1. the book was a bit long. I don't think it was because of the writing, but instead the chapter numbering. It made it feel longer than it was. And 2. I would have also liked to see a TOC.

But this is a good read and worth checking out if you like psychological books.

Michelle says

Good book

You people should just read this book yourselves and write your own review on this novel yourself and I really enjoyed reading this book very much so. Shelley MA

Carol Phillips says

Beneath the Mask of Sanity is an intense book. It keeps you reading because you have to know what is going to happen next. I'm a slow reader and I finished it in just a few days because I couldn't put it down.

Lorena Garcia says

Why the dog...?

Why the dog...?

Don't read this book if you're a dog lover...although the part is not long the author gives gruesome details that I'm sure most would not like to read. I know it's what most serial killers do but this particular part should have been left out.

Jack says

Decent serial killer story

OK, need to get the criticism out of the way first. This book cries out for a proofreader. I can take a few gaffes in any story, but this one was pretty bad. Having said that, I have seen worse. Much worse. Phillips spell checker works at least most of the time, but sometimes, many times in this book, a word might be spelled correctly, but it's the wrong word. "Connivance" instead of "convenience" for example. Another one I noticed was there were two chapter 95's. As I said, it needs proofread.

All right, that's out if the way.

I did really like the story. It flows well and isn't too much of a stretch of the imagination. Thrillers are better when they are believable. This one was pretty good. Pretty graphic and the killer was really cruel. A couple of the killings were kind of taboo for mainstream authors, but that's ok. High body count and lots of blood here.

The author has potential if he'd hire himself a half decent proofreader!

Zoeytron says

I want to make it clear that I really liked this story, the pacing of it, the characters, and the hideous nature of the mind set of the serial killer. Dark and unsettling tales are a great favorite of mine, and based on story alone, this was good.

Unfortunately, the myriad malapropisms almost sullied the whole effect. A 'connivance' store when it should have been a 'convenience' store, a police 'precinct' was labeled police 'prescient'. A short fat man who 'wattled' when he walked, um, did you mean 'waddled', perchance? And my favorite, the young man who undoubtedly 'unshouldered' his backpack was written as having 'unsoldered' his backpack. Yikes. And ouch. Although these may bring a rueful smirk or a giggle, this is not okay. Was it auto-correct run amok? Unknown.

Leigh Podgorski says

Gory. Graphic. Fierce. Explicit. Beneath the Mask of Sanity by Mark Phillips is not a read for the faint of heart or for anyone not ready for a jagged splintered journey into the heart and mind of a serial killer and the wake of his destruction.

Phillips has created serial killer Bentley Grimes and set him upon a swath of monumental carnage. Traipsing behind is detective Frank Miles, determined to catch his prey while fighting his own demons, and at the center of Grimes' butchery is the Braddock family: Dad, George who just happens to stop to give the hitch-

hiking killer a ride, wife and mother Sheila, and daughters Katie and Karen. These six people are set upon the road to Hell.

Phillips uses much imagery of Heaven and Hell as well as an interesting interlude on Jesus as Savior in the novel to haunting effect. Grimes is indeed a soul lost in Hell, and he takes us along with him in his ever spiraling deeper descent.

About half-way through this journey, the twists start coming—some of them sharp and steep and totally unexpected.

If graphic psychological thriller is your game, this effort by Mark Phillips will not disappoint.

Paul Penney says

Proofreading is still a thing, right?

It angers me that an author can publish a book when it has not been proofread for stupid errors. If your published work has 'first' spelled 'fist', 'funeral' spelled 'funereal', and 'Sheila' spelled correctly and as 'Shelia' on the same page, something is wrong. I don't know how many errors were there in total, because I wasn't halfway through the book when I got sick of the mistakes and gave up on it. How can this be published? Really?

Rebecca says

Disclaimer: I received a copy of this book in exchange for my honest review.

Meet Bentley Grimes. He's a serial killer with a thirst for the big score. Families.

Now meet Katie Braddock. She was a normal teenage girl until her father was murdered, leaving she and her mom, and her younger sister Karen, to try and salvage their lives without him. But when Katie turns to new boy Brandon, she's unwittingly opening the door for the killer.

Meanwhile, Detective Frank Miles is on the hunt for George's murderer. He's becoming obsessed with finding Bentley, content to stop at nothing to capture him ... before Bentley comes back for the rest of the family.

BENEATH the MASK of SANITY is a great thriller. It will have you on the edge of your seat hugging your pillow, and if you're anything like me, you're also going to find yourself throwing that pillow and grinding your teeth. Bentley Grimes is one villain you won't find yourself feeling bad for.

To note, there are some formatting and grammatical issues I'd like to see cleaned up in a new edition, but overall I thought it was a very well put together and entertaining story.

Robert C. smith says

Enjoyable Mystery

Enjoyable Mystery

Other than getting a bit too far out on some tangents, Author Mark Phillips writes a fairly fast paced novel with lots of twists and turns. He does a good job of bringing it all together in the end, although not a totally "happy ending."
