



Killing Wall Street

Sanjay Sanghoee

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KILLING WALL STREET is a timely thriller about the terrible consequences of corporate greed and the unimaginable power of working class rage.

Catherine is a working class single mother whose life is spiraling out of control. Her husband has left her, her daughter thinks she is a failure, her job is in jeopardy, and her savings have evaporated after the financial crisis. When an arrogant banker whom she is dating betrays her trust and threatens to ruin her completely, she decides that she has had enough, and plots a shocking revenge against the system that has victimized her.

Special Agent Michael Sands, a rising star in the FBI, is fresh off a terrorism case when he is put in charge of an unusual investigation. Someone is killing high-profile CEOs, bankers and lawyers connected with a multi-billion dollar merger, and the killer is a step ahead of law enforcement every time. When Wall Street begins to panic at the murders, the race is on to catch the phantom killer. But as Michael investigates, he discovers that the victims were all hiding a deadly secret – one that involves a conspiracy of the highest order and which threatens to corrupt and destroy our democracy forever.

The stakes keep escalating for both Catherine and Michael as they encounter the frightening reality of financial power, and are confronted with impossible moral choices at every step.

Killing Wall Street Details

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From Reader Review Killing Wall Street for online ebook

Florry says

I've enjoyed reading Killing Wall Street and I find it full of action, intriguing and entertaining book. I like how Cathy's actions are described and I found myself whispering to her to stop or what to do sometimes.

I like how Michael solved the case in the end and I have to tell you that I didn't expect this final. It's an easy reading book, where I found some interesting explanations about the financial system, corrupt greed people and struggling people.

I also found some interesting quotes. Here are just some of them:

“People will accept almost anything if you apply enough pressure on them. Eventually they will realize that it's in their best interests.”

“The thing about some friendships: they are evergreen and even after a long hiatus you can recapture the chemistry.”

“Instincts and feelings are universal – we have them whether we are short or tall, thin or fat, poor or rich, jobless or gainfully employed, housewives or athletes.”

“Old ties are hard to break.”

“You would be surprised what you can do if you believe you are doing the right thing.”

“It's always been about money. Greed isn't modern invention; it's been around since Judas accepted his thirty pieces of silver. But that doesn't mean that people like you should sell out!”

“Every moment of your existence is different when you have enough money to tell people to go to hell. Take orders from no one, fear no one...try and imagine that. That's what money really buys – a life without fear.”

“money? Yes, sadly we value little rectangles of green paper more than people, but I think the money is useless if we don't use it to help each other.”

Thank you for the great book and I wish to read more from this author!

Som Chivukula says

From the first page of KILLING WALL STREET, it's obvious that this is not the usual James Patterson machine-generated thriller. In fact, it's closer to the quirky tv show DEXTER than to those types of stories. The protagonist, a single mom named Cathy, is going through a severe mid-life crisis when the financial crisis hits (I assume the author set this sometime in 2009 but it's not exactly clear). A series of misfortunes strike Cathy at the same time and she snaps. And boy does she snap!

In darkly humorous vignettes, Cathy talks to us about her life, her feelings...and her murders. Slowly, methodically, but with an element of hidden urgency, she starts killing corporate America types (including some Wall Street types). What's fun about these scenes is that no two murders are alike and it's interesting to watch someone who is not a killer go to the edge of the precipice. Anyway, while Cathy “collects the trash” (as she calls it), and FBI named Michael tries to solve the case, but with no clues to go on, he starts concentrating on the victims – trying to find a common link. He eventually finds that link, and it involves a big financial conspiracy. This part is more like a regular thriller but to Mr. Sanghoee's credit, he weaves Cathy's first-person narrative and Michael's third-person narrative together seamlessly to move the story forward in a simple, cohesive way.

There are two very big twists in this novel that I really don't want to give away but suffice it to say that they both jolted me. I have not read Mr. Sanghoee's other books yet but am looking forward to doing it. I hope they are as expectation-defying as this one!

Patti says

Cathy has an estranged husband and a married lover, who is powerful in more ways than one. When she tries to end their relationship, he gets violent, and she gets even. Since her financial situation is deteriorating by the minute, she goes on a rampage to take out a few of his corporate criminal cronies as well. Meanwhile, FBI agent Michael Sands is trying to piece together the clues from these murders, knowing from an elevator video that the killer is an inept woman in a blonde wig and sunglasses. Believable? Maybe not, but I couldn't wait to find out how the author would wrap this up, and I wasn't disappointed. I have to say that I don't completely approve of a comedy about a serial killer, but sometimes you just have to roll with it and not take things too seriously. In fact, I rather enjoyed the chatty tone in which Cathy describes how she bumps off each of her victims. She ultimately makes a name for herself in the social media as the Robin Hood killer, because her victims really are bad guys in the financial world, but her motives are pretty shaky, since she has no idea what dastardly deeds they're really up to. Michael's investigation, on the other hand, is stymied, even after he's uncovered the link between the victims. I wanted Cathy to get caught before she could do any more damage, but I never wanted her to have to pay for her crimes. Is that bad? She's engaged in a vendetta that's not really that personal, and she likens her situation to that of *Thelma and Louise*, where one crime mushrooms into a pile of dead bodies. There are a few twists, one of which was so obvious I'm embarrassed that I didn't pick up on it sooner. I hate to read a book where the ending feels like the author painted himself into a corner and then had to bluff his way out, but the ending here feels right, whether it was the author's plan from the start or not.

David Ketelsen says

In *Killing Wall Street* Sanghoee uses Catherine, a 40-year old assistant manager at a NYC athletic club as his protagonist. She thinks of herself as curvy and still attractive but she sees that time is marching by and worries about ending up alone--which causes her to be in a loveless affair while she yearns for her estranged husband.

Pillow talk from her married lover, an unscrupulous M&A banker with no morals and a quick temper, lead Catherine into a quixotic quest to stop an impending financial deal that would potentially hurt tens of millions of average people. Her solution? Murder the people spearheading the deal!!

Can a somewhat deranged and drunken middle aged woman murder Wall Street elite while being pursued by an up-and-coming FBI agent? And get away with it? Read *Killing Wall Street* to find out. Expect several huge surprises along the way and prepare yourself to find out just how far one woman can go to avenge us all against the powers that be.

Anirudh Parthasarathy says

Killing Wall Street is a thriller novel written by the former investment banker, Sanjay Sanghoee. It features

Catherine, a struggling single mother caught in the economic crisis and ends up facing a pay cut. Totally frustrated, she decides to direct her frustration on the system that has put her into this position, and begins by targeting a particular merger involving a series of frauds and vested interests. On the other side is FBI agent Michael Sands, who is investigating the murders of high profile people in the corporate world.

The author narrates Catherine's story in first person, something that I liked as I could easily analyse her character owing to that. Her outburst at the present system expressed through excellent analogies was something that I particularly enjoyed in this novel. Moreover, the author had hidden so many aspects of her life brought out at the right time, adding to interesting twists in the tale. Michael Sands too, was an interesting personality who threw away an aristocratic life in order to create his own identity. The characters were my favourite part of the novel. Added to that, Catherine's meticulous planning of her murders (a middle aged person learning technology particularly was described very well along with her increasing confidence and efficiency in execution following each murder).

On the other hand, it was a naïve notion from Catherine that killing those involved in ONE corrupt merger deal could reform the whole financial system and create a better tomorrow for her daughter. Moreover, a couple of important things were left unexplained, creating a loose end (I can't reveal it; it'd end up as a spoiler). The ending of the novel was rather shocking (although not exactly abrupt or bad) and you'd lose all the respect that you had for Catherine all along (and yet again, I'm not at liberty to disclose why).

To conclude, I'd say that I thoroughly enjoyed reading this novel and it is always good to read a novel from an author who is from the same field as you'd get the facts straight from the horse's mouth. This book would be thoroughly enjoyed by those who love crime novels based on events in the financial circle. Weighing the pros and cons as stated earlier, I'd award this book a seven on ten.

Rating – 4/5

Have a nice day,
Andy

Monica says

Killing Wall Street is not just about banking or bankers. It's about corporate greed at every level and about the very real pain that results from it for the average man or woman. This book is about consequences at every level - for the main characters, Cathy and Michael, for the bankers, CEOs and others who don't play fair, for the corrupt politicians out there, as well as for the system itself. The plot line is simple - Cathy is a single mom who gets screwed by the financial crisis that nearly bankrupts her, and in response she decides to hand out her own justice to those who are culpable. In the process, Michael, a cop, is given the task of piecing together bewildering clues to find the killer and uncovers a seedy conspiracy that reaches the highest levels. The crimes are great fun to read because of Cathy's darkly humorous first-person voice, and the financial plot is credible (probably because the author is a banker himself). In the middle of all this we get to witness a woman going through a midlife crisis and all the challenges that come with being a single parent. It makes Cathy three-dimensional and as a woman myself, I found it refreshing for someone to spend as much time detailing his female protagonist as much as concentrating on the 'thriller' aspect! It all leads to one big twist and then one more, and then you realize what a huge price almost everyone in the novel has paid for their choices. As I said, this book is about consequences. RECOMMEND!

Amber says

This book was pretty decent for the thriller, murder genre. Not much of a mystery as we are getting a good portion of the story from the murderers view point.

The story is told from mulitple viewpoints, mainly the murderer and the cop that is looking into the case. Occassionally we are given some other viewpoints but merely for a page or two to help push the story along or give us some plot detail that we would not have if not from their viewpoint.

The writing was good and the story itslef was pretty interesting. Occassionally there were a couple rough switches between who was speaking but it was easy to catch up and figure it out. I loved all the twists that the story threw out at us, but when I got to the end a lot of it became a "seriously? This wouldn't fly in the real world". This part is hard to talk in detail about without giving away the ending or the twists. But needless to say it kinda hurt the book overall for me.

Lynne says

When my husband first saw this book in my review stack he looked at me questioningly and commented "This doesn't sound like the type of book you'd normally read." I assured him it sounded interesting to me. Though certainly has a point considering I *do* read mostly young adult, fantasy, science fiction books along with the occasional contemporary chic lit. But I also like to throw something serious in the mix every once in a while that makes me have to sit up and pay attention while I read. y'know, something with a little meat on its bones ... sometimes even a little gristle too.

As it turns out, Killing Wall Street by Sanjay Sanghoee was all that and then some.

I found Killing Wall Street quite interesting in fact, and really well written. The majority of the book is like being on a roller coaster, the pacing is steady and exciting as it goes from one intense point to the next intense point and then just as you're catching your breath, here comes some unexpected twisty turn that makes this story even more suspenseful and crazy. And while I didn't really like the ending - I didn't particularly hate it either (honestly, I don't know how else I would have preferred for it to have ended - I just know when it was over, it left me feeling ambivalent rather than satisfied).

I thought the plot was great though and I found the story continuously interesting throughout, reading every chance I got during a busy week because I couldn't wait to see what would happen next and so, I did love the ride overall.

I really liked the main character in this book. Catherine is a typical middle-aged, divorced mom of an angst teenaged girl. She struggles to survive on what she earns doing a job she doesn't really like. During an affair, Catherine learned the inside secrets of a really corrupt Wall Street merger of a major Insurance company and a huge credit card company - a merger that should never take place - and one that would adversely affect everyone who has or uses a credit card. And now, faced with a severe pay cut from her employer and a major hit on her bank account after she loses her credit card, Catherine feels she has to do what has to be done to get by.

The first murder was unexpected and accidental-ish ... and by unexpected I mean not actually premeditated, after that though, it starts the ball rolling and Catherine becomes a vigilante for everyman, of sorts, and we follow her trail of death and spiral of destruction while the body count grows one by one, as she picks off the greedy group involved in the merger - from one end of Wall Street to the other, CEO's, bankers and lawyers and even popular politicians are in her line of fire. The newspapers and reporters have dubbed the mystery killer as Robin Hood, but in Catherine's mind, she's the peoples trash collector - just takin' out the trash.

On the other hand is Michael Sands, the second main character. He is the lead FBI agent assigned to the 'Robin Hood' case. With a job promotion hanging on the horizon, he has a lot to prove: to the father he can never seem to please, to his estranged ex-wife who he's still in love with and to himself as well. Most of all though, he knows he needs to nail the Wall Street Killer ... before they strike again. And it's proving to be a lot harder to catch the killer than anyone could imagine.

I really enjoyed the cat and mouse dance between the killer and the investigator. The POV slipped mostly back and forth between these two, however there were times when the story would be from the victims' POV. It was really nicely done and I appreciated how the author fleshed out the characters before they got knocked off.

As a general rule, I do not follow what happens on Wall Street nor am I very familiar with the typical terms and jargon of Wall Street, etc. so I worried the subject matter might be over my head for that reason, however - thankfully - without 'dumbing it down' this book was written in such a way that not only did I completely understand what was going on surrounding the corrupt merger that is at the crux of the killings, I feel I might have actually learned a little something along the way.

I would recommend *Killing Wall Street* to adult readers interested in the Occupy Wall Street movement and to anyone who enjoys a really fantastic detective thriller.

I received a copy of this book through a Goodreads first reads giveaway. Thank you Goodreads and author Sanjay Sanghoee for the opportunity to read and review this book. (you can find more information about this book and the author at <http://www.killingwallstreet.com/>)

midnightfaerie says

Killing Wall Street was not exactly what I was expecting. I think I was expecting a more vigilante sort of super hero vindication and instead I got a more in depth drama about the life of this woman and her family. Don't get me wrong, there was still a lot of high action and espionage type activities, revolving around the world of finance, which in and of itself was fascinating, there was just more depth of character than I anticipated. I think that's a good thing. It gave greater insight into why the characters did what they did.

First of all, let's talk about the action. I'm a big adrenaline junkie when I'm looking for books to relax with, and although this wasn't a car chase kind of action, it had the suspense revolving around the corporate financial corruption which, for me, can be even more exciting. I don't know a lot about the world of finance but Sanghoee did a wonderful job of detailing the intricacies of the field enough to make the plot flow nicely. Sometimes authors are so busy explaining, the plot ends up choppy or lagging, and this didn't happen with *Killing Wall Street*, which I liked.

Second, I always find it interesting when a male has a female protagonist. For some reason, I still like to think us girls are these unexplainable phenomenons that men just can't understand, but that's just not that

case. Sanghoee did an excellent job with Cat, our main character and getting into her head. I loved that she had typical and non-typical female traits, so she was a character all different types of readers could relate to. Then there was one of my favorite characters, which was also a female, and that was the old lady hacker who worked out of her basement. It reminded me of Kevin Smith, one of my favorite comedians, in the last Die Hard movie, when he has a small part of a closet nerd hacker who works out of his basement as well. I found it very interesting and pleasantly surprising to read these characters not just as female, but written well too. It makes me wonder at the author's motivation behind making these women.

Third, the plot twists took me by surprise. This one is a big one for me. I was so engrossed in the story, I didn't see some of the major story lines come together until it actually happened and it caught me by astonishment. I read a lot. I read everything. When I was younger, I read romance, every major author out there, then I moved onto horror, then it was courtroom dramas and spy thrillers and murder mysteries. Now I'm on to classics. It takes a lot to surprise me and when I am, or I don't see something coming, I'm impressed. For me, that means it was written well enough to keep me engaged in other happenings so as to not focus on the clues that lead to foreshadowing.

Now some of the things that distracted me from the story. Throughout the book the point of view changed between some of the characters and especially in the beginning, before I knew the characters well enough, I sometimes got confused to who was speaking. For the most part the transition was very good, but there were one or two times that the clues as to who was speaking wasn't strong enough and I had to go back and re-read a bit to figure out who it was. It was enough to take me out of the story and ruin the flow a bit. Luckily it didn't happen too often. Once I got to know the characters better, the transition was easy to distinguish. Another thing I noticed, especially toward the end, is that Michael was increasingly being watched and investigated by his superiors because of the high profile case, yet it seemed he was still allowed to do whatever he wanted. This struck me as odd. Maybe it was the time frame here too that I wasn't clear about. If I had to guess, between sleeping and waking hours, it seemed like several days had passed and yet he was running around talking to suspects and investigating things he was told not to, and no one at work talked to him, asked him what he was doing, or made him report to him. Aren't there more stringent protocols when your partner dies? Isn't the situation a big deal? Isn't it investigated? Should we have seen more of him being investigated? What about therapy/counseling? When your partner dies, don't they make you go see a psychologist or doctor? I suppose the author just decided to leave out extra characters for increased streamlining, but wasn't there anyone who at least felt sorry for him enough to give him a sympathetic look in passing? It just seemed he was totally removed/detached from the situation at work and everyone just kept doing their own thing. From what I understand, when a cop dies, it's a big deal, to everyone. I guess I just expected a little more reaction from that end of things.

Overall though, I really enjoyed the book. It was a quick, easy, fun, and exciting read, that I could easily see made into a movie. I loved the detail in the financial corruption, and some of the twists between the characters that I really should have seen coming but didn't. I'd definitely recommend this to anyone who loves a fast-paced thriller. And I also have to give props to Sanghoee for the two Ayn Rand references concerning capitalism and the corruption of power. I'm a huge Rand fan and when I read these I had to laugh out loud and read them to my husband, who I am currently making read *Atlas Shrugged*. Wonderful writing, I really enjoyed it.

Guillermo says

A female Dexter! - Funniest Murders I have ever read (in a good way)

This may sound like a strange thing to say about a thriller but one of the best things about this novel are the actual murders, as narrated by a semi-crazy/semi-sane but very relatable main character. Catherine is not your average killer for sure because, well, she's not a killer at all – on the contrary shes herself terrified of what she's doing and figuring it out as she goes along. Kind of reminds me of Dexter, the show about the serial killer who kills serial killers... Catherine's targets are of course bankers (although not all since she also kills CEOs and lawyers) and she comes up with extremely creative ways to do it, but then that's part of the fun – we're along for the ride. There are actually two other plots in the book, one involving a conspiracy being hatched by the people that Catherine is killing, and the other involving her personal life, but to be honest those were less interesting to me than the Dexter sequences. One thing to note here is that this book is very timely – it's about time someone took those Wall Street bastards to task (at least in fiction)! In that way, this book hits very close to home and seems much more real than most stories of vigilante justice manage to achieve. Kudos to the author and hope to read his next entertaining work.

Katelyn says

Killing Wall Street by Sanjay Sanghoee is extremely applicable to the present day in this country, and many Americans believe that the scenario in this book could easily occur in the future, if parts of it haven't already. The author does a good job of describing the banking industry schemes, as well as the frustrations of the citizens harmed by the bankers' actions. The deals the corporate leaders make have consequences that trickle down throughout society, and this book does a good job of illustrating that.

The novel starts with a great first line, catching the reader's attention. Furthermore, we are right away drawn into the woman's life; she is almost likable but also clearly on the verge of a breakdown. Because Catherine was established as unstable from the beginning, her actions are not implausible. The book keeps the suspense throughout, and the connection between the two main characters is completely unexpected.

The writing would be a little smoother if the writing did not change viewpoints quite so often. It can also be a little strange that Catherine speaks directly to the reader. The twist at the end, essentially the cause of Catherine's actions, is surprising, and didn't seem to be foreshadowed at all. Some readers may like that and others may not. Nevertheless, this is a well written thriller with authentic background information and interesting characters. It is not hard to understand why Catherine would choose to take a stand against corporate greed.

I Received This Book In A FirstReads Giveaway

Ritanch Hans says

This book is definitely worth the time to read especially if you are interested in the Occupy Wall Street

movement. I'm not a part of the movement but I can imagine this novel will resonate with that crowd because much of the plot is focused on making Wall Street high executives and CEO's pay for their actions. Just as the Occupy Movement is fighting Wall Street against the corrosive power of major banks and multinational corporations, Cathy (the main character) is doing the same; except in her own (and much more creative) way. Her way is murder, and she makes no bones about it. Cathy is a sympathetic character even if you disagree with her actions. Adding spice to the book is the backdrop of a big conspiracy that involves credit card companies, insurance companies and banks. I won't give away too much more but even if you're not into business thrillers read this book for the intricate crimes committed by Cathy as they are brilliantly executed.

Jacob says

There is one word that comes to my mind when I think about this book, perfect. There is a lot going on here, including 2 different narratives, which move on parallel tracks - until they connect in a startling way. I can't think of a lot of books that pull this off but the TV show Dexter comes to mind. Darkly humorous but also deadly serious and sensitive, this novel has something to offer everyone. Is it a woman's book? Not necessarily, but I can see women readers loving the protagonist Cathy, a spitfire allegory for the modern woman who refuses to be a victim.

This book also does a brilliant job of exemplifying the greed on Wall Street, and what is interesting about that is that the author of this book is a banker himself! The financial plot revolves around a big conspiracy being hatched by the CEOs of an insurance company and credit card company, and the bankers and lawyers they hire to do their dirty work for them. That is what makes Cathy a sympathetic character - we understand why she's doing what she is, and I'm sure some readers will even agree with her, and it is this theme of 'justification' that binds the two narratives together. Anyway, it's high time that someone wrote a book like this.

Sunny says

The novel commences with a description on Cathy's life. She explains that she has a troublesome daughter and an estranged husband. As soon as this book starts you can tell that this book is all about women's empowerment. Killing Wall Street exemplifies how tough it is to be a single mother and I could easily relate to this as I was brought up by a single mother.

After talking about Cathy, the book immediately delved into the life of Edward Latham who basically is a corrupt CEO who doesn't care about anybody but himself. What I like about his character is that he is very realistic. We saw people like Edward in 2008 when the Financial Crisis occurred. Sanjay does a brilliant job of carving out characters such as Edward as the book progresses (there are numerous greedy CEOs in this book.)

Cathy sick of people like Edward starts taking matters into her own hands by committing murder, which begins a theme in the book. Not only does the book have a lot of violence, it also encompasses elements of feminism, greed, love, business and corruption. As you continue reading the book you realize that book is really an all rounder, as there is so much to it and a must read for anybody looking for a good thriller. The ending of the book leaves the question of a second book being plausible, but will Sanjay write a sequel?

Please do!

Waven says

I do not like giving low marks to a book, but I just could not enjoy this. I think that's very unfortunate, because the author had the foundation of an interesting premise that, with the right execution (no pun intended), could have been a real thrill ride. As it is, I found it a disappointingly subpar read.

What I liked: The bankster + easily corruptible Congress angle had a lot of potential. The big, foul merger that looked good on paper could have fallen right out of the Wall Street Journal (and realism is always a big plus). The femme fatale's means of access, or at least introduction, was rather clever. And some of the secondary characters were fairly interesting.

What I disliked: The first-person pseudo-diary type viewpoint of the female main character was grating and disingenuous. She proved unbelievable (not in a good way) almost from the start. Meanwhile, the male main character was absolutely insipid. For a rising star of federal law enforcement, his obtuseness bordered on the insulting. Sadly, much of the novel's content never rose above that level. From the first unlikely death to the ridiculous lack of recognition, from the insensible justifications to the predictable and neon-obvious "plot twists," this novel could have been training coursework in how to bore, alienate, and disrespect the reader. Even the final reveal, while not foreseen, failed to deliver anything but the implausible. It was like watching a particularly bad episode of CSI.

In closing, I wanted to like this book, I truly did. It had such potential and opportunity, such exciting ground to cover. But on every front it fell short. Unforgivably short. I cannot in good conscience recommend it to anyone.
