



Darkness Knows Me (an Olivia Gates and Will Green crime series Book 1)

Chrinda Jones

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Richard McMann hangs by his arms from the rafters of Red Curtain Club- naked. His ankles are bound together and his throat is cut in what appears to be a gruesome still-life tribute to Christ's crucifixion. There is no blood in spite of the gaping wound to his throat and his entire body is covered by what looks like a fine white powder. The salt granules scattered on the dance floor beneath his feet and the fact that his body faces due east, make his murder different yet similar to the death days earlier in a club a few blocks away. South Dallas police detective, Olivia Gates and British criminal psychologist, Dr. Will Green, engage in a game of wits with a serial killer who haunts the nightclubs of Deep Ellum, leaving behind ritualistic sacrifices of those people he believes deserving of the act. Is he a raging psychopath, killing just to kill, or is there method behind his madness?

Darkness Knows Me (an Olivia Gates and Will Green crime series Book 1) Details

Date : Published 2013 by Wing and a Prayer Publishing

ISBN : 9780989844208

Author : Chrinda Jones

Format : Paperback 443 pages

Genre : Suspense



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From Reader Review Darkness Knows Me (an Olivia Gates and Will Green crime series Book 1) for online ebook

Brian O'Hare says

I particularly looked forward to reading Darkness Knows Me because it promised many echoes to one of my own books. It features an ethically motivated killer who disapproves of individuals in his society and murders them. His motivation is not lust or sadism or vengeance or even outsmarting the police but, as the lead detective says, "...about ritual and leading the police to the truth."

This is an impressive debut. I truly enjoyed reading it. It is a very interesting and inventive story, with some excellent characters (mostly female) and offers writing that reveals a good general knowledge, a smooth, competent flow and an almost poetic observation in the author's descriptions of the story's various settings. Chrinda Jones is also very comfortable with police procedures and crime scene analysis which lends both authenticity and authority to what she writes about crime.

The story was so good that I hesitate to mention one or two little niggles. Comfortable as she is with prose and, indeed, with women's dialogue, Jones is less comfortable when it comes to putting words into the mouths of her male characters. It seems that Chrinda is not exactly sure how men think and talk and, unfortunately that shows from time to time. For example, her depiction of Caren Austin, mother of a murdered girl, is brilliant. Just a few deft touches, almost Chaucer-like, and she gives us a very believable, rounded woman whose pain, although not in any way overtly described, is palpable. And yet, when she introduces us to a highly trained, respected FBI agent, Agent Brice, he comes across as an obnoxious lout with all the social skills and limited intelligence of a school-playground bully. This scene, of course was intended to introduce some conflict to heighten interest but there is no subtlety in the depiction of this man and his macho belligerence is unconvincing.

One other little niggle. When I finally discovered that the title, Darkness Knows Me, refers to Will and not to the killer, I was somewhat puzzled. Will is a key character, and his inner psychological struggles are a central part of his relationship with Olivia, but the blurb sells the book as a game of wits with a serial killer. Why does the title not reflect this? Is not the Will/Olivia relationship is subservient to the essential theme of the story? Or am I just nit-picking.

But my niggles are just that, niggles, and they're mine. Don't let them put you off buying a great story that climaxes with enough tension and gore to satisfy the most avid crime aficionado. This, together with a serious fracturing of the relationship between the two main characters, whets the appetite for the sequel that must surely follow.

Vivian says

2.5-star read

Heather says

I love getting caught up in a good mystery! One that has me on the edge of my seat, wondering “who done it,” and author Chrinda Jones does not disappoint. *Darkness Knows Me* is a riveting crime novel that had me hooked by the first chapter and barely able to sit the book down until I read the last page. This is a spectacular read and an inspiring start to a series. I am in awe that this is the author’s first novel.

Darkness Knows Me is a story filled with twists and turns, drama, mystery, love, and suspense. Chrinda provides details of crimes and police work as well as elements of Faith and religion. Did I just freak you out by mentioning religion? I have to admit that I am not an overly religious person so when religion was introduced to the storyline I thought... “NO, DON’T DO IT!” However, as I continued reading I was drawn in and fascinated by the author’s spin on things.

If there was one thing in this novel that had me saying, “Ummm, WHAT?” ... and there normally is, it would have to be the relationship between Gates and Green. We will just leave it at that before I spill any more beans! It is important to note that Gates and Green’s relationship is not the primary focus of this novel. This is a mystery that actually focuses on the “who done it.”

Have I mentioned how awesome Olivia Gates is? I am thrilled that Chrinda has written about a strong, single mother that stands on her own two feet!

Darkness Knows Me is a well-written, well-developed story full of realistic, likeable characters that will not only draw you into the storyline but their lives as well.

The ending... The Prologue... OH MY WOW! I can’t wait to see what will happen next.

Please check out our FULL review by visiting us at Griffin's Honey
<http://www.griffinshoney.com/darkness...>

Linda Betz says

I liked the story line. Once the hunt for serial killer was underway, it kept my interest. I would like to see more background on the main characters in the next book.

Bookschatter says

3.5

Diana says

This book kept me wondering... Olivia is trying to solve a sting of murders, she gets help from her friend Will. She wants more than a friendship with Will, but there is just something about that guy. Will seems a little off, at first I thought he might be gay, then maybe the killer. This book kept me going, kept me questioning, kept me wondering. All the way to the end- then WHAM! You get it again. This book is definitely worth the read! I was given a copy of this book for my honest review.

Abby Vandiver says

This is a good book. It's not action packed, but there are scenes that give you a rush and the ending has a surprise you would never see coming.

Olivia Gates and Will Green are an odd pair. Gates is a homicide detective, now living with her father and son in Texas, has a unhealthy, unsafe relationship in her past that gives her caution and determination and follows at her heels. Green, also with a past, seems too not to be able to outrun it. Although, the book is written in third person, I'm guessing this is the reason for the title.

The story revolves their relationship with a murder mystery woven through it. I thought their relationship strange, the profess strong feelings for one another, yet they rarely touch, or laugh, or have private intimate moments. I don't mean necessarily "sexual" moments, as Olivia is a Christian with and is grounded in her beliefs, but those kinds of moments that are shared between two people in love. Still, this is not enough to take away from the well-written, well-developed story that is *Darkness Knows Me*.

I enjoyed this book and would recommend it.

Dawn Gee says

I found the bases of this book to be focused on inspiration. I didn't realize that when I bought it. The character development is written really well. The mystery was engaging and I got goose bumps when some of the things happened in the book. I will for sure buy the next installment especially after what Will confesses at the end.

Fenny says

The relationship between Olivia and Will is not only professional – but what it exactly is, is still to be seen. Will has some interesting ways about him that makes him difficult to understand, especially considering his doctorate in psychology. One facet becomes clearer and explains the title of the book later on in the story.

The Christian faith runs like a red thread through the story. Not only between Olivia, a believer, and Will, not sure what to think of God, but also very strongly with the killer:

I understand the need for reconciliation and the significance of the Sacrifice, which makes reconciliation possible.

But why did he specifically kill these two people? And even more up close and personal, why did he kill Juarez, one of Olivia's team? What can Will make of it, taking on the role of the killer?

As the killer seeks contact after every kill, Olivia waits her turn to contact him and deal with him her own way. Will she succeed in keeping herself safe and bring in the killer alive?

This book evolves around the concept of reconciliation and sacrifice and how faith is interpreted by different people leading to different acts. The relationship between Olivia and Will is the second thread in the story and ends with a nice cliff hanger.

Overall an interesting and enjoyable read, especially for a first book!
