



Presumed Guilty: An Investigation Into the Jonbenet Ramsey Case, the Media, and the Culture of Pornography

By Stephen Singular

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Presumed Guilty: An Investigation Into the Jonbenet Ramsey Case, the Media, and the Culture of Pornography By Stephen Singular Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #8622302 in Books
- Published on: 1999-07
- Format: Bargain Price
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 2.17" h x 6.70" w x 8.29" l,
- Binding: Hardcover
- 256 pages

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

In what he acknowledges is a very speculative treatment of the JonBenet Ramsey murder case, Singular (*The Rise and Rise of David Geffen*, etc.) contends that the six-year-old beauty queen's parents did not murder her. He finds that JonBenet's mother, Patsy Ramsey, doesn't fit the profile of women who murder, and he further suggests that JonBenet may have been killed by a pornographer. Singular found photos of children on the Internet who were tied up the way JonBenet was bound, and he learned of a Boulder photographer who had tried to take nude pictures of another child beauty contestant and who was said to have photographed one little girl flying a kite that trailed a "white, nylonlike material" similar to the cord that had been tied around JonBenet's wrist. But Singular's riskiest conjecture involves father John Ramsey. He theorizes that John, fearing that Patsy might die of ovarian cancer before JonBenet attained national celebrity, tried, without Patsy's knowledge, to accelerate the pursuit of JonBenet's fame by having risqu? promotional photos taken of their daughter. After JonBenet was killed, Singular surmises, John wrote the ransom note to cover up his bad judgment. As far-fetched as all this sounds, Singular advances his thesis cautiously and even writes that "the future will reveal how much of it is true." Readers who can't get enough of this grizzly case will find Singular's tone and the modesty of his claims persuasive. 50,000 first printing; major ad/promo. (July)

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From Kirkus Reviews

Veteran crime journalist Singular (*Talked to Death*, 1987, etc.) offers an original perspective on the sadly epochal killing of JonBenet Ramsey. Singular was in Boulder, Colo., for much of the investigation, and he methodically details its progress, acutely portraying a volatile situation. He depicts many key players, from DA Alex Hunter and various investigators to talk-radio rabble-rousers and Globe scandalmongers; he asserts that the latter parties bear great responsibility for confusing the public perception of the case and for inflaming tensions among the DA, the cops, and other factions to the point where the investigation may be stalemated. He focuses on the carnivorous mode of the mass media, particularly their lurid, immediate indictment of the Ramsey parents. Singular's perceptive exploration of the near-universal call for the Ramseys' heads reveals the gritty power struggles and class schisms that underlie the shiny, comforting facade of the Boulder region. Unlike his dirt-chasing peers, he gives nuanced attention to an unsettling aspect of the case that he considers overlooked yet central: the gray area in which the mainstreamed commodification of children's sexuality collides with the abuse of child pornography. JonBenet was merely one of many little girls leeringly displayed as things of beauty by the pageant industry, whose evil twin is the underground of child porn producers and collectors, hugely expanded because of the Internet. Although the author claims at points to have uncovered voluminous evidence, he incorporates few of the particulars, giving his odyssey its own patina of conspiracy theory. Singular's ultimate scenario that neither parent personally murdered JonBenet, but one parent's unwitting involvement led to attempts at concealment bears consideration, but like this subtly rendered book, may well go unheard in the collective din. Without fully lighting the dark corners of an unappealing realm, Singular has produced a balanced, detailed, thoughtful consideration of an incident usually reduced to cultural dissonance. (First printing of 100,000; \$100,000 ad/promo) -- *Copyright ©1999, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Alan Williams:

This *Presumed Guilty: An Investigation Into the Jonbenet Ramsey Case, the Media, and the Culture of Pornography* book is just not ordinary book, you have after that it the world is in your hands. The benefit you have by reading this book is definitely information inside this book incredible fresh, you will get facts which is getting deeper anyone read a lot of information you will get. That *Presumed Guilty: An Investigation Into the Jonbenet Ramsey Case, the Media, and the Culture of Pornography* without we understand teach the one who reading it become critical in considering and analyzing. Don't become worry *Presumed Guilty: An Investigation Into the Jonbenet Ramsey Case, the Media, and the Culture of Pornography* can bring whenever you are and not make your tote space or bookshelves' grow to be full because you can have it in your lovely laptop even mobile phone. This *Presumed Guilty: An Investigation Into the Jonbenet Ramsey Case, the Media, and the Culture of Pornography* having good arrangement in word and layout, so you will not really feel uninterested in reading.

Harry Oliver:

A lot of people always spent their particular free time to vacation or perhaps go to the outside with them family or their friend. Are you aware? Many a lot of people spent they free time just watching TV, or playing video games all day long. If you wish to try to find a new activity honestly, that is look different you can read the book. It is really fun for you. If you enjoy the book that you just read you can spent the whole day to reading a book. The book *Presumed Guilty: An Investigation Into the Jonbenet Ramsey Case, the Media, and the Culture of Pornography* it is very good to read. There are a lot of people that recommended this book. These folks were enjoying reading this book. Should you did not have enough space to bring this book you can buy the particular e-book. You can more simply to read this book from your smart phone. The price is not very costly but this book features high quality.

Ella McCoy:

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Rebecca Dryden:

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