



Columbine

By Dave Cullen

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Columbine By Dave Cullen Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Starred Review. In this remarkable account of the April 20, 1999, Columbine High School shooting, journalist Cullen not only dispels several of the prevailing myths about the event but tackles the hardest question of all: why did it happen? Drawing on extensive interviews, police reports and his own reporting, Cullen meticulously pieces together what happened when 18-year-old Eric Harris and 17-year-old Dylan Klebold killed 13 people before turning their guns on themselves. The media spin was that specific students, namely jocks, were targeted and that Dylan and Eric were members of the Trench Coat Mafia. According to Cullen, they lived apparently normal lives, but under the surface lay an angry, erratic depressive (Klebold) and a sadistic psychopath (Harris), together forming a combustible pair. They planned the massacre for a year, outlining their intentions for massive carnage in extensive journals and video diaries. Cullen expertly balances the psychological analysis—enhanced by several of the nation's leading experts on psychopathology—with an examination of the shooting's effects on survivors, victims' families and the Columbine community. Readers will come away from Cullen's unflinching account with a deeper understanding of what drove these boys to kill, even if the answers aren't easy to stomach. (Apr. 6)

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From [Bookmarks Magazine](#)

Many reviewers were more concerned with coming to grips with the attack rather than assessing the book, but their concern may be a testament to Cullen's work. His reporting fundamentally reframes the event: Columbine, he writes, should be thought of as a failed bombing rather than a school shooting. Furthermore, much of the conventional wisdom about how to prevent such attacks—essentially, watch out for pimply outcasts with a grudge—is confounded by an investigation into Harris's and Klebold's actual lives. Most critics, with Janet Maslin a notable exception, thought that Cullen's account helps us to better wring meaning from the tragedy. In sum, Columbine “is an excellent work of media criticism, showing how legends become truths through continual citation” (New York Times Book Review).

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From [Booklist](#)

Starred Review Although much has been written about the 1999 shooting at Columbine High School, little of it has helped to explain why two high-school students went on a rampage, killing 13 people and wounding scores of others. Cullen, acclaimed expert on Columbine, offers a penetrating look at the motivation and intent of the shooters, Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold. Drawing on interviews, police records, media coverage, and diaries and videotapes left behind by the shooters, Cullen examines the killers' beliefs and psychological states of mind. Chilling journal entries show a progression from adolescent angst to psychopathic rage as they planned a multistage killing spree that included bombs that ultimately didn't detonate. Cullen goes beyond detailing the planning and execution of the shootings, delving into the early lives of the killers as well. He explores the aftermath for the town of Littleton, Colorado: survivors' stories, investigation into how the sheriff's department mishandled the crisis, several ongoing legal issues, exploitation of the shooting by some religious groups and sensationalists, and the school's battle to regain its identity. Cullen debunks several Columbine myths, including the goth angle and a martyrdom story of a girl who proclaimed her belief in God before she was killed. Graphic and emotionally vivid; spectacularly researched and analyzed. --Vanessa Bush

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Laura Wilson:

What do you consider book? It is just for students because they're still students or the idea for all people in the world, the actual best subject for that? Simply you can be answered for that query above. Every person has several personality and hobby for each and every other. Don't to be pushed someone or something that they don't wish do that. You must know how great as well as important the book Columbine. All type of book can you see on many options. You can look for the internet solutions or other social media.

Ann Bland:

This book untitled Columbine to be one of several books that will best seller in this year, honestly, that is because when you read this guide you can get a lot of benefit onto it. You will easily to buy this book in the book retail outlet or you can order it by way of online. The publisher of the book sells the e-book too. It makes you more easily to read this book, as you can read this book in your Mobile phone. So there is no reason for your requirements to past this e-book from your list.

Steven Connell:

Columbine can be one of your starter books that are good idea. Most of us recommend that straight away because this book has good vocabulary that may increase your knowledge in terminology, easy to understand, bit entertaining but delivering the information. The copy writer giving his/her effort to get every word into joy arrangement in writing Columbine but doesn't forget the main stage, giving the reader the hottest and also based confirm resource info that maybe you can be one of it. This great information may drawn you into brand new stage of crucial imagining.

Annis Blank:

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