



The Violet Hour

Daniel Judson

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In Daniel Judson's powerful new thriller, Bridgehampton auto mechanic Caleb Rakowski gets paid under the table at his friend Eric Carver's auto repair shop and lives in an apartment above. He's good at his job, he's a hard worker, and he's making a decent living.

But right now he's sheltering a pregnant friend who'll do anything to keep her abusive husband away from herself and her baby. Cal has sworn to protect her; that's the kind of guy he is, a true friend. Little does he know, though, the trouble destined to come down on them over the course of three days---Mischief Night, Halloween, and the Day of the Dead---when he learns the truth about Eric Carver and what he's been hiding all these years. And little does Cal know how those lies will force him to risk everything to save the people closest to him.

Daniel Judson is a craftsman of modern noir, an incredibly talented writer in the vein of Ellroy or Chandler but with the Hamptons in all their glitz and stark shadows as his canvas. Like his two previous Hamptons novels, *The Water's Edge* and *The Darkest Place*, *The Violet Hour* is tightly drawn, hauntingly atmospheric, and completely searing.

The Violet Hour Details

Date : Published October 13th 2009 by Minotaur Books (first published 2009)

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Author : Daniel Judson

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Genre : Mystery, Thriller

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From Reader Review The Violet Hour for online ebook

Ramona says

I would like to thank Goodreads, Kindle and Mr. Judson for a really good read. It is a little dark but that was expected. Thanks for giving me an enjoyable read

Joanne says

A friend recommended this local author and I am glad I tried someone new to read!

Cal, a mechanic of unique imports, works under the table for Carver. After a change in his usual Friday happy hour plans due to a car that needs to get done, Cal finds himself on a wild adventure. Chronicled over the 3 days of the Halloween weekend, the book starts out strong and sinister then gets narrative as Judson describes Cal's everyday life. The mood shifts and transfers back to the thriller atmosphere of the off-season Hamptons where everyone is connected in the escapade.

Downright grueling and violent amidst the background of the dark, gloomy fall the unique characters all fit together in this frightful tale of money, power, drugs, lust and secrets. You could feel the darkness and chill of the season.

The ending was a little more cheerful than I anticipated, and I wondered how pregnant Heather fared.

Cheryl says

Violet Hour is about three days in the life of Cal, a mechanic living a simple life which gets very complicated when he helps a friend hide from her abusive husband. There are probably a few too many coincidences in the plot line, but that didn't matter to me because the characters were so well drawn. Cal is a very likable and believable character, and it's easy to get caught up in the story as he tries to protect himself and his loved ones from the events that unfold. Enjoyable read.

Barbara says

Wow! This was really exciting! I was kept in suspense the whole time and enjoyed every minute of it! I read it in one day, I couldn't put it down!

Amy Ingalls says

I won this book in a giveaway. It kept my interest throughout. I liked the main character, Cal. He tried so hard to be good and live a good life and got caught up in all this criminal activity any way. How he survives these three days is equal parts terrifying and heartbreaking.

Bandit says

A thriller alone often isn't enough for me. Without mystery or suspense, even though some murders are thrown in, it just isn't the same. And that's quite possibly why this one didn't really work for me, despite good writing and a very likeable protagonist. Then again, for a random Kindle freebie, this was way above average in quality. The author is obviously a pro and appears to have been at it for a while, specializing in trilogies, there are also the prerequisite serial and a few standalones, of which this was one. A story of a young man who has constructed his daily life with such great care, all routines and laying low, until he inadvertently gets involved with some serious organized crime elements. Now he only has three days to sort things out for himself and the two women he's been very chivalrously taken care of. The narrative is detailed as you would expect out of 300 pages for 3 days' worth of excitement, but it goes by at a nice clip. There's realism to both characters and descriptions that balances out the drama with action. Certainly plenty here to appeal to straight up thriller fans. Entertaining enough for a quick read. Good introduction to a new author.

carla morrison says

Fantastic Read

This book is fast paced. I couldn't turn the pages fast enough to see what would happen next. A truly five star book.

B K says

Too easy an ending!

The characters are well sketched and the story line was also coasting at a good pace till it seems, the author lost his plot. Sudden ending!! It's never good writing to start ending a story with string of dead bodies of nearly all the principal characters! Too convenient.
Still, it's a good read.

Mary says

Loved this book. Kept my interest from the first page to the last

Weiping Yin says

Good plot and well written

The story is woven through a different angles of crime and violence. The main character is written in the third tense but read like reader going through the events in person. All characters regardless how small contribute well to the story line, leaving memorable impression while no lingering, nor indigence.

Sam says

This may be a slow starter as characters are introduced and hints of their backstories are filled in but from the opening pages it still manages to grab your attention as not everything becomes clear straight away as Judson hints at a complex and interwoven story. As this becomes both clearer and more complicated the story picks up and really pulls you along until the final scenes that leave you stunned and breathless. This really is a case of not being able to trust anyone.

Rusty says

A fascinating read! Young Cal comes from a family of rogues and is determined to lead a life of honesty. Naturally talented in solving mechanical problems, he works in an unlicensed garage on fine automobiles of the rich. His life changes dramatically when he helps hide a former employer's wife, Heather, from her abusive husband. The wealthy husband vows to find her so she leads an isolated existence with the walls of the garage apartment where Cal lives. The two friends become involved in situations far beyond their dreams. A sadistic killer is searching for Cal's friend, who does body work as needed on the vehicles in the garage. When Cal tries to help him, his own life is at risk. How he survives and moves on in his life is key to the story itself. Cal's character is well developed and one is privy to his thoughts and decisions throughout the novel. Well done!

Ramona says

Unexpected hero

Cal has an unexpected moral calling. He's hiding someone, to keep her safe from a monster, her husband. Meanwhile, his normal, routine life begins to unravel. His friend is running from a dangerous past, and it's going to catch up to those around him. It only gets more complicated, who can Cal trust? Smart, intense and fast paced.

Stacie says

Really fast paced and well written. The story, which in the beginning appeared to be all over the place, ended tied together really well with a fantastic motivation for the lead character Cal.

Cal Rakowski, age 22, mechanic working off the books in a shady shop finds himself thrust into a race for his life and his friends that he had been hiding.

This is a self discovery journey by the end of this book. Worth the read. Good beach book.

John Cunningham says

It was OK! Nothing to get excited about. Another attempt at 40's film noir I guess.
