



Inventing Madness

J.G. Schwartz

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Inventing Madness is a fictional account of Thomas Edison's rise to fame and fortune through the use of murder and magic. It intertwines actual dates and events that occurred during Edison's life. The story begins when Edison is 84 years old, in 1931, and is told in a series of seven interviews conducted by a science reporter from The New York Times. Although the public was made to believe Thomas Edison and Nikola Tesla were bitter enemies, Inventing Madness unveils their true friendship and reveals the amazing invention that was created based on their collaboration. Inventing Madness is the story of one of the most famous men in history. It is full of cruel deaths, seances, poisonings, blackmail and trickery. The book is a thought-provoking fictional account of Thomas Edison's life - The Thomas Edison we never knew.

Inventing Madness Details

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Author : J.G. Schwartz

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From Reader Review Inventing Madness for online ebook

Katie says

Inventing Madness is well written, dark re-imagining of the life and works of Thomas Edison. The story has Edison telling his secret life story to a writer, with the agreement that the story will not be published until the year 2015. Edison tell how his mother suffered during her childhood, and how this ended up with her suffering from mental illness, and ultimately acting with dangerous and murderous intentions toward her own family. This sets up the idea that Edison himself, due to his dark upbringing, is also hiding his own secrets. With this ‘invention’ of history, Edison’s inventions have more sinister intentions than anyone realized. The author ties in real dates and information, and creates a disturbing fictionalized life for Edison and his inventions. Pretty inventive premise, and the story gets really intriguing as you get used to the story telling style.

I received a free copy of the book in exchange for an honest review.

Andrea says

Won this book on first reads.well written good read.

John says

Inventing Madness was an interesting read and all the 4 & 5 star ratings are spot on. It would be hard to better what has already been said in those reviews. So that someone else can enjoy this I will be paying it forward as I do with most my GoodReads win and give this to a friend to enjoy.

Michael says

Outstanding account of what might have happened with Thomas Edison. This story is so well crafted and held my interest throughout. A unique and imaginative tale that displayed great writing skill. The author has done a great job with this book. I highly recommend this book!

Connie says

Not for the squeamish or faint of heart when it comes to animal cruelty.

Stephanie says

A quick, engaging read.

Susan Bissell says

5.0 out of 5 stars An interesting look at Edison's life!, December 17, 2014

By SueBiss (USA)

This review is from: Inventing Madness (Kindle Edition)

This book is not for the faint of heart or young adults as several reviews have said. The author took a really different view on Thomas Edison and made him a sociopath in this story. The story is a great mixture of fiction, blended with true facts of Edison's life it which seems so realistic you think you are reading the truth. You will find everything here from Edison's turbulent childhood with his mother's religion obsession, when he started to abuse animals to experiment on them (very upsetting to read) to teenage years when Edison starts learning about compounding chemicals and experimenting with foxglove, which was one of his favorites poison, to adulthood by stealing other people ideas so he could perfect the light bulb before anyone else could, to being a ruthless even a cut-throat competitor. I was intrigued by Edison's work ethics and determination to find an answer to any project he was working on with very long hours in the lab until he got it right, but for all his determination, he gave very little of himself to his children and home life while he amassed all his fortune. I think at the end of his life he ended up a sad and broken man.

I received a free copy of this book in exchange for an honest review.

Monika says

I won "Inventing Madness" through giveaways. What a great book, totally unexpected and realy believable. This is a story about invention and collaborative work also about dysfunctional family. This book is scary and definately for adults. It keeps you in tension and in emotional distress. It can change your view of Thomas Edison because of the true names and dates but this is truly work of fiction. This book became one of my favourite.

HICK says

This book took me by surprise and is not for the faint of heart. Great story telling written in the first person that is believable and draws the reader into a gruesome and horrifying tale of a dysfunctional family, shocking with each turn of the page.

"I received a free copy of the book in exchange for an honest review."

Judy A. Ptacek says

Interesting story

The great inventor Thomas A. Edison grants interviews for his biography. Although this is a novel it seems very realistic. One could almost believe it is true. Surprising preparations and disturbing facets of the Edison family are revealed. It was a quick read for me. Well written. I hope to see more stories like this.

Betty Yoder says

Totally something unexpected! What a tale! J. G. Schwartz is a master at telling a story that is quite convincing. The author describes Thomas A. Edison in a graphic, scary, and sadistic way that forces you to read on, just to see what might be coming next. The book surprised me, but I am glad I read it. As recommended at the beginning of the book, it is not a book for the faint-at-heart with details that seemed real and plausible. I would recommend the book for adults only.

I received a free copy of the book in exchange for an honest review.

Liz F says

Before we get started, I just want to tell those of you who are newer to Kindles & Wine that this book is not my usual reading material. I'm the resident Dirty Girl here at K&W; my tastes usually lean toward erotic, paranormal, and historical romances, almost exclusively. But Inventing Madness sounded so weird that I knew I had to try it (read the blurb, you'll know what I mean).

This book shocked and amazed me! I hated it and I loved it. It entertained and it horrified me. I've never read another book like this in my life. But I wanted to see if it was just me, so I enlisted the help of my dear and treasured husband, Micheal, to review it with me. (Also, I saw and loved Kindle Gal's and Laura's joint reviews with their hubbies last year. Since Micheal is always telling me to read this book or that book, I figured I'd dunk him in the K&W pool to get his feet wet! ;))

Before we get into the details, I must reiterate the warnings on the back of this book: This is not for children. This is not for anyone who is easily disturbed. There are scenes of abuse, incest, and lots of animal cruelty. But I hope that doesn't turn readers away. It was such an intense...

Read my full review on Kindles & Wine [HERE](#)

Rating: A-

Note: Review copy courtesy of the author.

vvb says

Interesting premise that had me going in that it could have very well happened that way... in a way. However, the Edison character is portrayed very creepy yet resourceful and quite the businessman.

The story is told in an biography interview format that starts in Edison's childhood. With the description of

Edison's mother, one can see how Edison came to be that creepy character. It was scary to think that as a child Edison's unusual tendencies began. Got me thinking in general, if found out what could be done in dealing with kids like that.

Note: Besides enjoying the beauty of Foxglove, I now am aware of its deadly properties.

Marjolein says

Read all my reviews on <http://urlphantomhive.booklikes.com>

I'm still not sure what to think about this book. On the one hand, it's a very interesting premise and the story makes it work quite nice, but on the other hand it's really dark and at places a bit too easy for me.

The author goes to great lengths to explain why this 'new' side of the inventor Thomas Alva Edison isn't described before 2015. (It's probably for the best this wasn't known, for he's a very unsympathetic character). After a troublesome youth he goes on to become the famous inventor and kill a lot of people whilst trying to achieve that. An honourable mention should definitely be awarded to the sauna. It was certainly something I'd never read before. It also made me cringe.

For the worst is of course, that it is so painfully clear that he's doing it for fun. He's the completely crazy psychopath inventor. This works quite well in the story. The graphic descriptions of his different crimes make this book less suited for the faint of heart and/or stomach.

I had some troubles with the writing style. It took me quite some time to get used to. Also, at first I didn't particularly liked the interview style of the narrative, for it seemed to drag the story and felt like an easy way to leave things unanswered for a longer time than is necessary. Besides, the story is, as I mentioned, dark. And while I'm not necessarily looking for books that provide me a happy - all's well that ends well- kind of ending, this was quite depressing. Probably even more so as it all seems to come so extremely easy towards Edison. He was no doubt a smart man, but no one ever seems to suspect him, at least not really or to the extend that he deserved it.

An interesting read for sure, but I'm not sure what to think about it...

Thanks to the publisher and Netgalley for providing me with a free copy of this book in exchange for an honest review!
