



# Columbine

*By Dave Cullen*

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## **Columbine By Dave Cullen Bibliography**

- Sales Rank: #2988 in Audible
- Published on: 2009-04-06
- Format: Unabridged
- Original language: English
- Running time: 849 minutes

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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:**

#### **Mary Richards:**

Have you spare time to get a day? What do you do when you have considerably more or little spare time? Yeah, you can choose the suitable activity with regard to spend your time. Any person spent their spare time to take a stroll, shopping, or went to typically the Mall. How about open or even read a book called Columbine? Maybe it is being best activity for you. You realize beside you can spend your time using your favorite's book, you can more intelligent than before. Do you agree with their opinion or you have other opinion?

#### **Clara Palmer:**

In this 21st centuries, people become competitive in each way. By being competitive at this point, people have do something to make them survives, being in the middle of the crowded place and notice by surrounding. One thing that oftentimes many people have underestimated it for a while is reading. Sure, by reading a e-book your ability to survive increase then having chance to stay than other is high. For you personally who want to start reading any book, we give you this Columbine book as beginning and daily reading e-book. Why, because this book is more than just a book.

#### **Michael Johnson:**

Here thing why this particular Columbine are different and trustworthy to be yours. First of all examining a book is good but it really depends in the content of it which is the content is as yummy as food or not. Columbine giving you information deeper including different ways, you can find any book out there but there is no reserve that similar with Columbine. It gives you thrill reading through journey, its open up your current eyes about the thing which happened in the world which is possibly can be happened around you. You can bring everywhere like in playground, café, or even in your method home by train. If you are having difficulties in bringing the published book maybe the form of Columbine in e-book can be your substitute.

#### **John Hagen:**

Do you really one of the book lovers? If so, do you ever feeling doubt while you are in the book store? Aim to pick one book that you never know the inside because don't evaluate book by its include may doesn't work is difficult job because you are afraid that the inside maybe not as fantastic as in the outside appear likes. Maybe you answer might be Columbine why because the excellent cover that make you consider with regards to the content will not disappoint anyone. The inside or content is fantastic as the outside or maybe cover. Your reading sixth sense will directly assist you to pick up this book.

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