



Captive: The Story of the Cleveland Abductions

Allan Hall

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In **Captive: One House, Three Women and Ten Years of Hell**, Allan Hall reconstructs one of the most shocking cases of abuse in modern times.

Hall reveals the dark obsessions that drove the Cleveland Abductor, Ariel Castro, to kidnap and enslave three young women. Using interviews with witnesses, psychologists, family, friends and the police, he shows how these girls remained undetected for ten years in a home just three miles from the block where they all went missing, and the extraordinary moment when they triumphed over their tormentor.

Captive: The Story of the Cleveland Abductions Details

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Author : Allan Hall

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From Reader Review Captive: The Story of the Cleveland Abductions for online ebook

Alfi Mukharamova says

I didn't like they way this book was written.

1. It Was Repetitive. I felt like the author kept on saying the same thing thing, over and over.
2. Didn't like the style of writing. For me, it was not descriptive enough.
3. Didn't learn anything new. It's like the author used "hey google" to write this book.

I expected more.

Barbara Kinsky says

I remember so clearly seeing this case on TV as it made enormous headlines here in SA about how the girls eventually managed to escape. I also remember saying, a book will be released and I will be at the bookstore to buy it! Traumatic but fantastic read! Cannot wait for Michelle Knights book to be released, called Finding Me.

Mindy says

Too repetitive and long winded. Poorly written book. It gave me a feeling that this book was written without a proper interview with the victims. But was written based on newspaper clippings and Google search.

Dan Smith says

A great book by a man who has become something of an authority on abducted women. I read his others - Girl in the Cellar and Monster - and think this is the best, even though Castro is, in the author's words, more "low rent" than the other criminals he has written about. Hall has a good eye for detail and a reporter's nose for the truth. It is a very good read that should appeal to all lovers of the genre -ie, the monsters who live among us. Excellent.

Phillipa says

I was quite keen to read this. I remember hearing about it when the story broke, mostly I just remember the Charles Ramsey You Tube video. I don't remember hearing anything more about it really. I kinda assumed the case was continuing (you know how long some of these things can take). But then I saw the book. I didn't think there could be a book before the case was closed.

And so, right in the last few pages, I discovered that Castro had actually killed himself.

I was also keen to read it since I read *I Choose To Live*. And, I'm very curious now to also read the Josef Fritzl book. The fact that there are people like this absolutely blows my mind. I just can't comprehend how someone could do this to other people. It is completely horrifying and surreal.

The style of writing is a bit weird since he hadn't spoken to any of the girls when he wrote this. There is a lot of back and forth and bits of repeating. It did sometimes feel like it was all based on the peripheral evidence (which it was, but somehow that pops you out of "story-mode"). But, that said, it is filled with facts and details and history that give you a very clear picture of what happened.

It is frightening. Those poor girls. Hug your sons and daughters extra tight tonight.

Amy Maddess says

Well written & organized. I took away a star because the author plugs his other books a lot lol. I understand self promotion, but you need to use sources other than yourself.

Krista (CubicleBlindness Reviews) says

Captive is a true crime novel about Ariel Castro who had kidnapped three women between 2002 and 2004 and held them prisoner in his Cleveland, Ohio house until May 2013 when one was able to escape and turn him in, freeing the others. It was a huge story here in the United States and the story is still quite shocking, and amazing that the girls survived.

Allan Hall takes on the story in a very editorial way that begins with the Puerto Rican community and Ariel Castro's family and friends. Mostly focusing in on the idea that one person should not be able to represent a whole community or people. That Ariel Castro's actions should not be held against all Puerto Ricans in the U.S. or represent this community as a whole. With the huge amount of press coverage, the community feels it was badly represented by one man. By speaking to the community and members of his family the author gets a lot of direct quotes and more intimate details about Ariel Castro's personal life and childhood.

Later in the novel he gets into more detail about the girls and their lives inside the home. Most of the information that is relayed is what was released to the public. The girls have not been very detailed about their individual stories of what happened. From how they had to live in small rooms, little food, raped, abused, tortured and beaten to the point of losing unborn children.

The book is a good read for those that are more interested in Ariel Castro himself. His life outside the home, his past marriage and the abuse she had been through. Giving us a glimpse into what happened inside the house to these three young girls. There are also comparisons to Castro and other notorious criminals with similar behavior.

What I enjoyed about this read was the information we are given about the three girls and their life within the house. We don't get tons of information that wasn't already released to the press and public, but we do get some additional information and in a format in which it makes a clearer picture of what happened.

Bonnie Duffy says

Amazing story of survival

Alex Rogers says

Very poor treatment of this story, could have been written by a high-school kid with some basic research skills. No particular insight, story-telling skills, journalistic integrity - just a repetitive mish-mash of emotive writing. Pity, it is a terrible and fascinating story that I'd like to know more about, but the writing was too bad to endure and I quit early

Suzi says

I have read and followed everything about Cleveland kidnappings. Was excited to read this...was bummed...this was information gathered from news.

Darice Yerkovich says

Really wasn't a whole lot in here that I didn't read in the news. But it was good.

Elaine says

This was another book about the Cleveland Kidnappings written by journalist Allan Hall, detailing the horrible atrocities that the three victims had to endure. We get an insight into the mind and personality of the monster who perpetrated these terrible crimes and tortured and abused these women for years as well as the women themselves. Just like when I read Michelle Knight's book about her abuse at the hands of this monster, I struggled to comprehend that one human being could do these things to not one but three women and continue doing it for a decade, without any detection. I can't say I enjoyed this book but it certainly was an eyeopening read.

Julie says

Good book, but seems to be stuff that could be read in papers and does not go into many details

Kirsti says

A look at the Cleveland Abductions from an author who has obviously studied this case and other similar cases pretty extensively. Of course this is a case that made headlines, and even in Australia we knew the

basic facts, but there were many things that happened during the escape and after that I did not know. All of the background information made for an interesting read, and the author simply presents the facts without going too much into the mind of Castro- while that would have been interesting too, at the printing of this book I believe it would have been harder to make a complete analysis.

I don't know why I occasionally delve back into crime books. I'm not sure if was the presence of them in shelves around my house growing up, or a reminder of the monsters out there. I always get so sad, thinking of the victims of these crimes, but at the same time don't want their stories to be forgotten.

While not a subject everyone will want to read, I nevertheless felt like this is a book crime readers will enjoy for the bald facts and lack of opinion presented. Four out of Five stars.

Joni Doe says

Overly dramatic and fixated on judgement value of Castro; we know he's a horrible, awful dude. We're here for the story, y'know.
