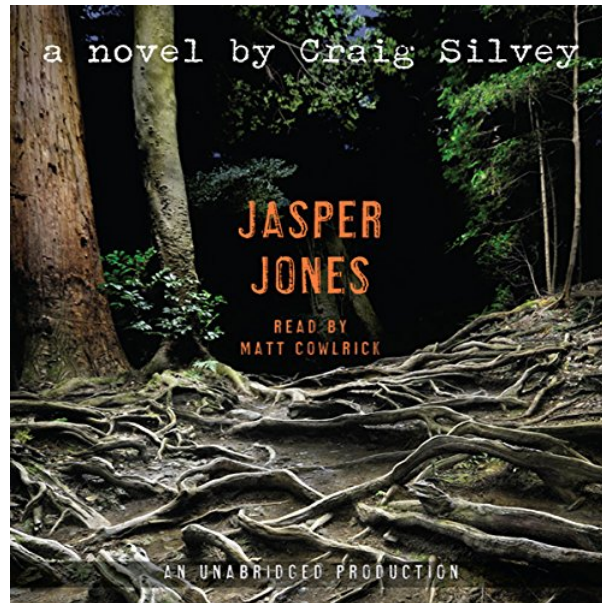
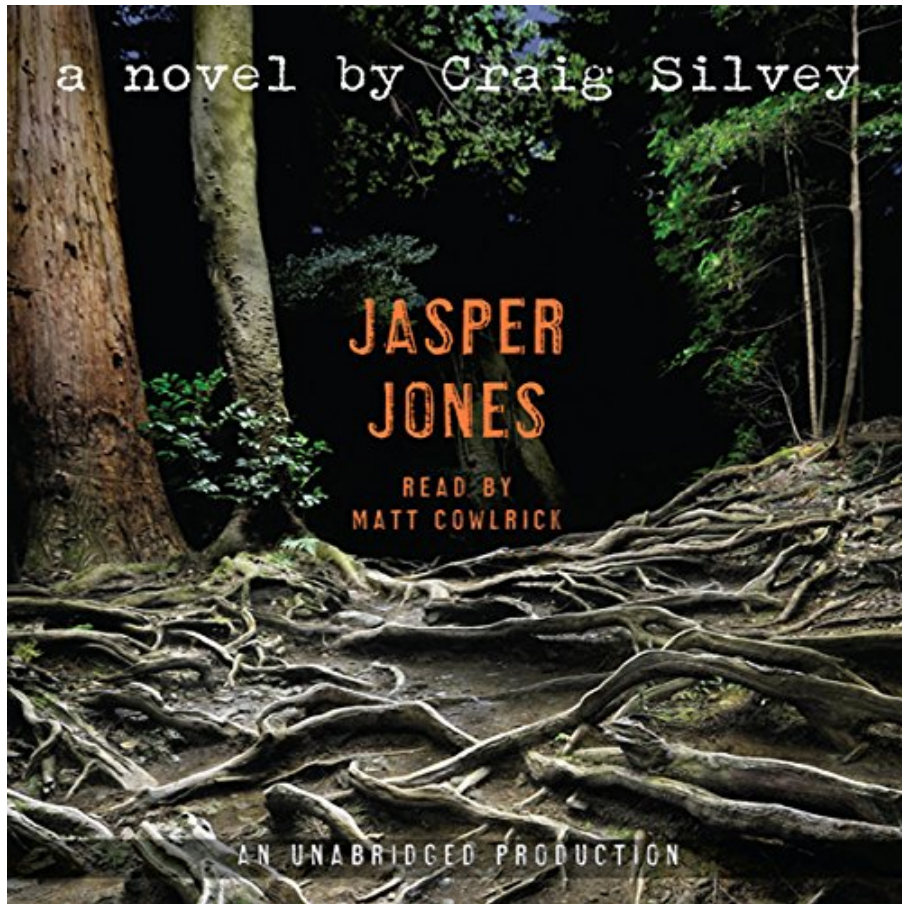


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## JASPER JONES BY CRAIG SILVEY PDF

Charlie Bucktin, a bookish 13-year-old, is startled one summer night by an urgent knock on his bedroom window. His visitor is Jasper Jones, an outcast in their small mining town, and he has come to ask for Charlie's help. Terribly afraid but desperate to impress, Charlie follows him into the night.

Jasper takes him to his secret glade, where Charlie witnesses Jasper's horrible discovery. With his secret like a brick in his belly, Charlie is pushed and pulled by a town closing in on itself in fear and suspicion.

He locks horns with his tempestuous mother, falls nervously in love, and battles to keep a lid on his zealous best friend. In the simmering summer where everything changes, Charlie learns why the truth of things is so hard to know, and even harder to hold in his heart.

- Sales Rank: #36644 in Audible
- Published on: 2012-03-27
- Format: Unabridged
- Original language: English
- Running time: 673 minutes

Most helpful customer reviews

42 of 43 people found the following review helpful.

Outstanding coming of age novel

By Julia Flyte

This is a great book - one of those ones that you feel a sense of loss when you finish. It's moving and funny and tense in turns, but always utterly compelling.

Charlie Bucktin is a bright 13 year old boy living in a small town in Western Australia in the early 1960s. He has a fraught relationship with his mother, a crush on Eliza Wishart and his best friend Jeffrey Wu is a hilariously funny Vietnamese refugee. Late one night, Jasper Jones, the half-aboriginal town "bad boy" knocks on his window and asks for his help. Jasper is trying to avoid getting accused of a crime that he says he didn't commit. Charlie helps him, but now he's saddled with a dark secret, which is gnawing away at him.

It's hard to summarize this book because it's so many things. It includes a mystery, romance, peer pressure, racism, hypocrisy, abuse, marital problems and a searing sense of place. It's been described as an Australian version of "To Kill A Mockingbird" and indeed it often (somewhat heavy handedly) references that novel, as well as Mark Twain. The mystery is the central plot which gradually unfolds, but along the way Charlie learns that there are many other secrets hiding in this town and that life is more complicated than he formerly realized. An outstanding book.

29 of 31 people found the following review helpful.

One of the Best Books I've Read this Year...

By Vampires and Tofu

There have been many books I have thought of as 5 star books for various reasons...they were fun to read, they were entertaining, the descriptions were vivid and they played like a movie in my head. And then there are those magical books that come along only ever once in awhile that make you realize you need a 6 star rating system because they just shine above and beyond.

That's Jasper Jones.

The story is told by Charlie, who gets a surprise visit from Jasper Jones one night and becomes involved in a terrible mystery that affects the whole town they live in. It's also Charlie's coming of age story, his journey from the relative safety of childhood to realizing the world isn't always a pretty place. Cruelty isn't just confined to the schoolyard, it happens out there in the real world too.

Silvey is a master of dialogue, the voices of Charlie and Jasper and Jeffrey Lu (Charlie's best friend and all around AWESOME, I ADORED him) are SO incredibly vivid. Each has a distinct personality and sense of humor (and oh my, there were some real laugh out loud moments in this book.) I felt like I KNEW these guys and I genuinely cared for each one. But this was so much more than a telling of what was said or what was done. We get to hear that voice in Charlie's head...the one that wonders why and asks the big questions and then lets us know what he thinks. And we get to nod our heads and say, "Yes, yes Charlie, that's EXACTLY how it is." His observations on the world we live in are spot on.

Not to mention his opinion on Batman, which is nothing short of brilliant.

Jasper Jones is, quite simply, beautifully written. It is the kind of book you feel grateful for after closing its pages. And a little sad when it's over because you hate to say goodbye.

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful.

Bad Things Happen

By Geoffrey Lambert

Many stories have been written about small towns. Corrigan, the country mining town of Silvey's book is, like many others used in fiction, a microcosm of the larger world - magnified by each of the character's actions. What Craig Silvey has written, however, stands tall. The book has been likened to Mark Twain and Harper Lee's work. It can more than hold its own in such company. In some ways it is better. It is certainly more modern.

The central event, around which all the action revolves, occurs early and without fuss. While the richly drawn characters react as facts concerning the missing teenage girl emerge, the town business carries on around them. As a cricket fan I found the dedication to the game, by Jeffrey Lu, the son of a Vietnamese imigrant, delightful. The complex relationship between Charlie, a 13 year old nerd, and Jasper, a year or so older, is beautifully handled. This is a different coming of age book - it is not only a love story, it covers racial prejudice, bullying, unhappiness, sex, mateship and 'taboo' subjects in an unobtrusive but wholly convincing manner.

While young adults will no doubt enjoy Jasper Jones it is by no means a teenagers book. This is a book for everyman, to be savoured for the ease of its language and the fullness of its characters. A great read!

Geoffrey Lambert - The Morozov Inheritance

See all 196 customer reviews...

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