



The Secret Life of Damian Spinelli: As Told To Diane Miller

Carolyn Hennesy (as Diane Miller) , Diane Miller

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Damien Spinelli is one of the most loved characters on General Hospital, despite his propensity for odd speech. He has a nickname for everyone, including himself (The Jackal). As Port Charles' finest computer hacker, he has decided to put his talent to good use as a private detective. This is the story of his exploits, both real and imagined, as told to another character on the show, Diane Miller. As with our previous partnerships with ABC Daytime, this new book will be integrated extensively into the show. The fact that Spinelli and Diane are working on the book will be included as a storyline, as well as some of Spinelli's tales themselves. His rich fantasy life is already a focus of the show, and that will play into the book itself. Additionally, the actress who plays Diane Miller, Carolyn Hennesy (our writer), is already an established author of a series of YA books.

The Secret Life of Damian Spinelli: As Told To Diane Miller Details

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Author : Carolyn Hennesy (as Diane Miller) , Diane Miller

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From Reader Review The Secret Life of Damian Spinelli: As Told To Diane Miller for online ebook

Sandy Branske says

I consider it finished as I have no intention of ever reading more of it. I think I made it to chapter 4

Cathy says

Many people don't realize that in addition to her terrific acting, Henny is also a well-established author. A lot of people were surprised when they first heard about this project, but I think that it makes a lot of sense. Fans of all genres, books to sports, movies to politics, are always eager for tie-ins. So if you have a great author right on set, and funny characters you can take advantage of, not to mention a history of successful tie-ins (Robin's diary, right?), why not? And lo and behold, it worked! Online fans seem to either love or hate the idea, but shoppers seem to be pleased, the book made it to #10 on the New York Times Hardcover Fiction Best Seller List (week of April 24, 2011 for sales ending week of April 9, pretty darn impressive!) even before the cancellation of two of our beloved ABC shows was announced, just goes to show that soap fan loyalty still has some power. Too bad it's all going to end up going to fewer shows and internet soaps soon. OK, back to the book! Sorry for the rant, it's been a rough week.

This is definitely a book for fans. If you aren't a fan of General Hospital it might serve as a good introduction to the show, or just be good for some laughs, but the real appeal is all of the inside jokes. Henny either has a terrific ear for dialog or got a helping hand from the show's writers, perhaps both, but she really captured the characters' nuances and details. Everyone will have their favorite moments, and I'm sure some people will have a few quibbles, but overall I enjoyed the book. It was silly, yes! But it was supposed to be. Spinelli is a silly but sweet character, but all of that bluster hides a heart of gold, just as all of Diane's brusqueness hides a tender heart as well. I've always loved their scenes on the show together and I thought the book captured Diane's reluctant respect and affection for Spinelli really well. Most of the chapters are a bit satirical, so if you can't laugh at the show a little then you might not take too well to this book. It just isn't meant to be taken too seriously, on any level. Taken in good fun, it's a great book with tons of laugh out loud moments. The parts I especially enjoyed were the mentions of Alice (no longer Big), the chapter with Tracy and Luke, Jax really being 67.5 (hilarious!), Carolyn getting her personal trapeze artist experience included in the material, and Sonny single-handedly populating Venezuela. The Some Like It Hot chapter was really funny too; I'd like to take credit for it since I remember Tweeting with Henny once about favorite old movies and mentioning it (and getting a reply), but since it's such a huge classic, I guess I can let it slide ;) That's part of the fun of social media though, it's nice to think that maybe somehow I added that tiny little bit of impetus that helped move that idea along. If not, at least maybe I'll get some of you guys to read the book and enjoy it, I know that that works!

Anne says

In the interest of full disclosure I should say: Damian Spinelli is my favorite soap opera character ever so that mileage got this book probably an extra star more than I would've given it otherwise. This book is a great big mashup of soap opera characters and noir with Spinelli as Sam Spade.

One of the things that make it such an easy read is each chapter is its own case. It also definitely doesn't take itself seriously, so read it and just enjoy how ridiculous it is, without trying to tie any one part to canon or reality for that matter. Also every character is an over the top rendition of themselves and the situations they get into are ludicrous even for a book based on a soap opera. Although I really do wish the book had been a group of real cases that Spinelli had worked on and then we could've had some real emotions and heart to the stories. Having said that I am glad I bought this book because I don't watch the show anymore and I missed Spinelli something fierce.

Debbie says

This was a quick fun read. This is a book of tales from the character on General Hospital from his adventures . The Jackal asks Diane Millers for help to write down his words. He takes us on some of the adventures he has gone on and its done in a fun way. I really enjoyed this quick book.

Larissa says

I love TH and could not wait to read this book. But I did not like this book at all. I could not picture Spinelli doing any of this stuff. And carrying a gun?

David says

As my wife put it if you are not a fan of General Hospital you probably won't like this book. It is wild with crazy tales far more hard to take than the Perils of Pauline. GH once did an hour of stories with their characters acting in very uncharacteristic ways. This is much like that hour put to print.

Mayra says

I'm a big fan of General Hospital. Have to say this was a dumb book.

Dee says

Could possibly be the worst book I've ever read and I'm a General Hospital Fan!

Jenn Himes says

If u love general hospital u will love this book. I miss spenelli on gh but he ia on and off . def pick this book up .

Erin says

Calling all General Hospital Fans!

Annie says

Great if you are a long time GH viewer - really cracked me up!

Lisa says

Is this high literature? No, but it IS a must-read for recent General Hospital fans.

I've been a GH fan since the Spring of '84... and I know that because that is the year I lived in a dorm and a friend begged me to watch and tell her what happened on the days she had lab and I didn't. I got hooked.

In this book, Spinelli relates some of the cases he's been involved in that we haven't seen on the screen... possibly because they happened only in his head. But Hennesy hits it out of the park in terms of capturing the 'voice' of the Port Chuck denizens that inhabit these stories; not just her own inimitable Diane Miller and Spinelli, but Sonny, Carly, Sam, Elizabeth, and Monica. The case based upon Some Like It Hot is a HOOT (Jason, in drag?!?), but one of the best had to be the one with Alan in the bathroom.

Hennesy's Diane Miller is one of my favorite characters and I absolutely love her scenes with Alexis Davis, whether they are having a girl's outing or opposing one another in court. Keep 'em coming, Carolyn... we love you.

Nigger says

its good

EZRead eBookstore says

It is never easy describing a book when all I can rank it with is a "so-so" rating. I didn't hate it. I didn't love it. I wanted to be sucked in like a speck of dust caught in the path of a vacuum cleaner. Sadly, this did not happen with the cases told by Damien Spinelli.

Though the stories and setting were modern, Spinelli's story-telling method was like a time machine. Using nick names like "doll" while suiting up with suspenders and a fedora hat, I had to remind myself not to envision everything in black in white since the stories are set in 2011. Enjoyable, and rarely confusing, this perspective lent a humorous aspect to Spinelli's point of view since Diane's perspective is clearly in modern

colors.

Revisiting the same characters throughout the stories was also fun. I was visiting new friends, getting to know them a little better with each new visit. Of course, being a soap-based novel, it's expected to use the same characters living in Port Charles. If you are a follower of General Hospital, you will like this book all the more, though you need not to know the soap to follow along with the stories.

Spinelli's mysteries were cute, but far from hair-raising. I suppose if I had actually developed a relationship with the characters of Port Charles I might have cared more when one - or five - of them went missing on different occasions. But, I was too perplexed with tales that involved un-aging men, adulterous men leading double lives, or murderous grandmothers who were too stupid to pull off their schemes. I just didn't know why I should care.

Maybe it is just my love of the classics, but Sherlock Holmes just seemed so much classier, smarter, and most importantly, believable, when he would solve strange mysteries. In comparison, Spinelli is like Holmes' nerdy second cousin, twice removed.

- EZ Read Staffer, Amelia

(see the recorded discussion here <http://vimeo.com/24583738>)

Buy the book here: <http://www.ezread.com/book.asp?EAN=23...>

Jackie says

If you are not a fan of General Hospital there is absolutely no reason to read this book. If you do not like Spinelli, do not read this book. If you can't remember the fantasy segments involving Spinelli, don't read this book. If you can say yes to these statements, you will probably enjoy this book., otherwise, stay away.
