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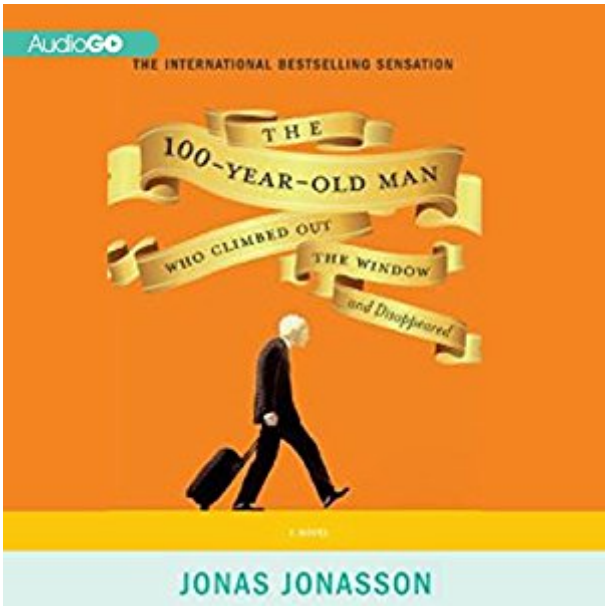
The 100-Year-Old Man Who Climbed Out The Window And Disappeared



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Synopsis

After a long and eventful life, Allan Karlsson ends up in a nursing home, believing it to be his last stop. The only problem is that he’s still in good health, and in one day, he turns 100. A big celebration is in the works, but Allan really isn’t interested (and he’d like a bit more control over his vodka consumption). So he decides to escape. He climbs out the window in his slippers and embarks on a hilarious and entirely unexpected journey, involving, among other surprises, a suitcase stuffed with cash, some unpleasant criminals, a friendly hot-dog stand operator, and an elephant (not to mention a death by elephant). Quirky and utterly unique, The 100-Year-Old Man Who Climbed Out the Window and Disappeared has charmed over 2 million people around the world.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

When I saw this book I knew I had to grab a copy as a gift for my brother in law’s father who turned 100 last week. (Happy Birthday Zach! photo below!) When I noted it had sold 5 million copies and was being released as a movie, I skimmed it and decided it would be an interesting read. And it was. Sort of a "Forrest Gump" for seniors as some of the characters included his the review of his life and wanderings include Harry Truman, General Franco, Stalin, Mao Zedong and others and include descriptions of his assisting in the development of the atomic bomb while working as a janitor as Los Alamos. Some of the fictional characters are great - Einstein’s dumber half brother, for example and the twists and turns of his life, though farfetched are interesting. All in all, a fun read.

Take a copy to the beach!

Allan Karlsson climbed out of the window without any particular destination im mind. He just wanted to escape the party celebrating his 100th birthday. Not a slave to fashion, he wasn't even wearing shoes, just some brown slippers. He made his way to the bus station and got on a bus with a stolen suitcase. Then the fun really begins. Not only do we learn about what happened after he climbed out of the window, but also about many of the adventures in his very long life - all of them highly improbable, zany, and hilarious. Especially ingenious is the way the author connects Allan with some of the famous historical people of the 20th century, among them Harry Truman, Mao Tse Dong, Josef Stalin, and Lawrenti Beria. And you are going to love Herbert (no, not Albert) Einstein, not to mention his wife Amanda.This is a wonderful, crazy, fun-filled book.

Great story! Reminded me of a slightly more believable "life of Pi" story. When you get to the end, you are left wondering how much is real and how much is fantasy. Loved the development of the characters, too. As odd as they are, I found myself accepting every strange nuance without question. This is an excellent read - pulled me along with enthusiasm and outright laughter at times!

I thoroughly enjoyed this book but found that it became very repetitive and frankly, at about 3/4 the way through, I was wishing that it would end. The main character's experiences, which were quite acceptable and believable due to the easy style of writing, became a bit much and lost their ability to make me want to continue to read this book to its conclusion.Having said that, I never put down a book so I finished it and am sort of glad that I did...but it didn't really hold me through.

I have never read a book that made me think about how interesting a 100 year old person's life was, if only HALF of the stuff within this book were true! This book had me from the beginning as he climbed out the window of the old folks home and then runs away....he's "steals" a suitcase from a mob guy, who is now chasing him, meets up with a lively old fellow in the woods when he gets off the bus with the suitcase, and then when the mob guys shows up, they clock him over the head and stick him in the freezer, forgetting him in there as they drink vodka! HA! And this is just the beginning of the story!It literally had me thinking what the author wrote in the dedication part - "Grandpa, is that story real?" This book is the epitome of silliness mixed with some real-life history of the Russians, the Chinese, and American governments. I can't say enough about this book and how it should be read by everyone!

I found this novel one day while I was browsing at the bookstore. I like to look around the store, see what books look interesting and then download them to my Kindle. The Kindle has me so hooked that I rarely purchase a real book anymore. I've got enough reading material to keep me busy for a very long time all carefully stored on a device I can easily carry in one hand.The 100 Year Old Man Who Climbed Out the Window and Disappeared is an absolute hoot! I'm gong to call it a cross between Forrest Gump and The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo. It's set in Sweden after all. Allan is the 100 year old man who would rather have a drink of vodka than attend his birthday party at the Old Folk's Home. So he climbs out the window and walks to the bus station.The bus station is where his adventure begins. Or at least this part of his adventure. The story is a wonderful blend of the past and the present. What we come to know is that this 100 year old man has had a life well lived. He has only attended three years of schooling, yet he has become a highly sought after explosives expert. Throughout his life he has hob nobbed with world leaders and traveled the world. Life in the Old Folk's Home paled in comparison even at 100 years of age.I stopped counting how many times I laughed out loud while reading this book. It's funny and charming with a historical twist. Murder and intrigue are combined with outright silliness and the author told the story with a unique yet dry sense of humor. I couldn't wait to turn the page to see what happened next. There was an unexpected surprise around every corner.I can only hope I live as long and have as many interesting stories to tell. The 100 Year Old Man Who Climbed Out the Window and Disappeared will lighten up any day and bring a smile to your face. Life is worth living no matter what it hands you. The 100 year old man can vouch for that.

450 pages to reach one funny page? Not worth it. It was so awful I kept reading a textbook on permaculture to put off reading this.

I loved the twists and turns in this remarkably entertaining book. How could any of these complex events happen to one person in a lifetime? And he survived yet he was so unassuming and casual about it all! It's was a great read and I've already recommended it to my book club buddies!

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