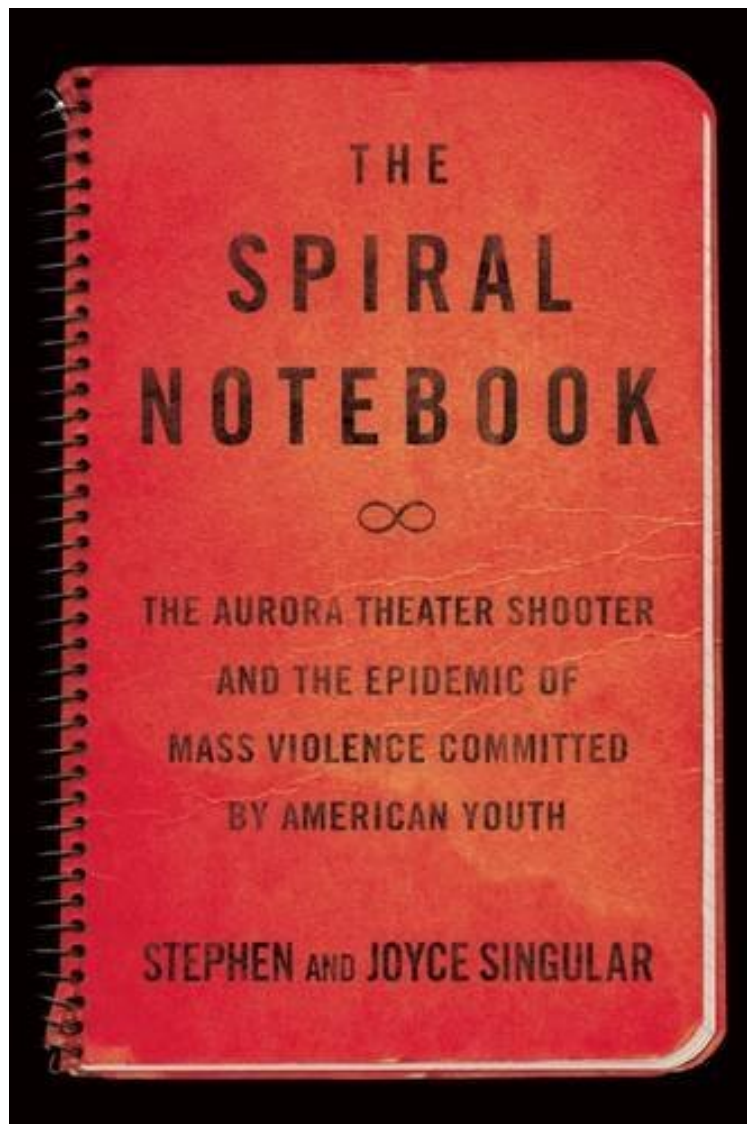


[Download] The Spiral Notebook: The Aurora Theater Shooter and the Epidemic of Mass Violence Committed by American Youth

## **The Spiral Notebook: The Aurora Theater Shooter and the Epidemic of Mass Violence Committed by American Youth**

*Joyce Singular, Stephen Singular*

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**Joyce Singular, Stephen Singular : The Spiral Notebook: The Aurora Theater Shooter and the Epidemic of Mass Violence Committed by American Youth** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Spiral Notebook: The Aurora Theater Shooter and the Epidemic of Mass Violence Committed by American Youth:

8 of 9 people found the following review helpful. How is this investigative journalism? By Erze I do not think I was really expecting anything when I decided to read this book. I had been following the trial off and on, and was intrigued by the fact that the perpetrator was a former graduate student in neuroscience and that he was looking towards cures for mental illnesses, specifically schizophrenia, which he believed he was suffering from. You have to admit, the case is an interesting one. Maybe I should have expected a fairly terrible piece of literature and horrid investigative journalism. I digress. The authors refer to themselves as investigative journalists and state that they were writing this book in order to understand a generation that has produced so many mass killers. They state, in the introduction, that they aim to explore the society that these mass killers are immersed in. As per usual, a culture of violence brought up violent video games which they posit dampens any ability to develop coping mechanisms for negative feelings. What I wish they would have expanded on more was the fact that most of those perpetrators happened to be on various psychological medications - specifically SSRIs. I also would have loved if they had expanded on the fact that the generation they are discussing is a generation that has grown up in wartime America. While our parents and grandparents may not have many military friends, I can assure you that anybody born between 1980 and 1992 has a friend or five that is serving in the U.S. military and has been deployed. Further, I would have appreciated an expansion on global society and the epidemic of fear and terrorism that has taken over news coverage. They state, quite frankly, that this new generation has become desensitized to such things like violence, war, death, massacres, etc. Any expansion made on any one of those topics would have greatly improved this book. Basically: More information from experts, less opinion. More fact and less embellishment, would have been greatly appreciated. If a book is based off an event, especially a tragic event, I really prefer to read factual information and not the opinions of others who do not understand exactly what they are attempting to discuss. This event, and this trial, is more than a mass murder. It shouldn't be treated like the Jon Benet Ramsey case this couple covered. Apparently they are notorious for using their books to discuss some sort of social issue or cultural belief incorrectly. Had I done some in-depth research on the authors, I would have been made aware by the reviews for their publications that Steven Singular attempts to use his credentials as a reporter to give his literature some sort of authority. I am not a reporter or a journalist, and I do not make a living publishing books about mass murders and the like. But when I know more about a case than two reporters who have been actively following it since the shooting occurred, that is just distressing. What they do not address is the fact that this new generation is living with the decisions that their elders made. It is not a 19 or 20 year old that declares war. It is not a 28 or a 29 year old who votes on those issues. We are simply dealing the cards that we were dealt. And while I applaud their attempt to connect with our generation, I cannot help but roll my eyes. Especially when they insert quotes from those that they have interviewed that are between the ages of 18 and 30. Further, there was a very large emphasis, throughout the entire book, placed on the notebook that James Holmes sent his former psychiatrist. If you had been following the trial, a strict gag order was put in place and anything about the case, especially anything having to do with Holmes and Fenton and Feinstein were off limits. After hearing her testimony, with the revelation of her ineptitude and gross negligence to take care of her patient, I understand why the gag order was in place. I do not think it was to protect Holmes from the prosecution, I think it was to protect Feinstein and Fenton from a massive amount of lawsuits for not committing an obviously homicidal individual that had psychotic level thinking. The notebook has now been published, in its entirety. There is nothing interesting about the notebook. It is the ramblings of an obviously mentally disturbed man who is trying to rationally solve his problem of homicidal thoughts and feelings without simply committing suicide. It does not seem rational to us because the majority of us do not think on a psychotic level. He attempts to apply academic thinking to something not in reality and horribly irrational. He diagnoses himself, provides evidence for his self-diagnosis, and displays psychotic level thinking, which he is aware of, in the evidence. He writes down that it has been his desire to commit mass murder at the movies for over ten years, in this notebook. But this notebook had not been released to the public when this book was written. Nor had any information regarding Holmes doctor/patient relationship with Dr. Fenton or Dr. Feinstein been disclosed. Maybe Holmes had told Fenton and Feinstein exactly what his homicidal urges were. We won't even know, but he disclosed it in his journal, which he sent to his doctor. We do know that Fenton was scared of Holmes, and the Fenton believed that he was operating at psychotic level thinking. We know Fenton was concerned enough to violate HIPAA when she contacted the university, and Holmes mother. Of course, perhaps they should have waited to publish this book until after the trial had taken place so that there was some sort of substantive information regarding societal impacts on the millennial generation. Further, perhaps their pool of interviewees should have been extended to those who disagreed with their thesis, or didn't completely agree. What should have been discussed in this book is societies blatant disregard for humanity and the growing shadow of apathy that is covering our global society. Instead of stopping or intervening in fights or bullying, most simply pretend it is not happening. When we see somebody who is mentally ill, we do not try to assist them. We do not intervene. We've been taught that it is perfectly okay, and it is the norm, to ignore what we see. Every mass killing that has taken place could have been prevented had somebody simply not ignored blatant warning signs. Is it that difficult to admit that most societies simply do not care enough about one another and that is why events like this continue to occur? 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Hastily written; not very good. By Bill Reid Hastily written, apparently during the trial and apparently to get it into

print. Does not tell the story accurately or particularly well. (I worked with this case for a year and was in the courtroom much of the time.) 0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. I have read many books by this author. VERY ...By T. M. Wyatt I have read many books by this author. VERY well written and researched. True crime and a page turner!

On July 20, 2012, twelve people were killed and fifty-eight wounded at a mass shooting in a movie theater in Colorado. In 1999, thirteen kids at Columbine High School were murdered by their peers. In 2012, twenty children and seven adults were killed at Sandy Hook Elementary. Thirty-two were killed at Virginia Tech. Twelve killed at the Washington Navy Yard. In May 2014, after posting a YouTube video of retribution and lamenting a life of loneliness, rejection, and unfulfilled desires, a lone gunman killed six and wounded seven in Isla Vista. All of these acts of violence were committed by young men between the ages of eighteen and thirty. Mass violence committed by young people is now an epidemic. In the first fourteen school days of 2014, there were seven school shootings, compared to twenty-eight school shootings in all of 2013. The reasons behind this escalating violence, and the cultural forces that have impugned a generation, is the subject of the important new book *The Spiral Notebook*. New York Times bestselling author Stephen Singular has often examined violence in America in his critically-acclaimed books. Here he has teamed with his wife Joyce for their most important work yet one that investigates why America keeps producing twenty-something mass killers. Their reporting has produced the most comprehensive look at the Aurora shooting yet and draws upon the one group left out of the discussion of violence in America: the twenty-somethings themselves. While following the legal proceedings in the Aurora shooting, *The Spiral Notebook* is full of interviews with Generation Z, a group dogged by big pharma and anti-depressants and ADHD drugs, by a doomsday/apocalyptic mentality present since birth, and by an entertainment industry that has turned violence into parlor games. Provocative and eye-opening, *The Spiral Notebook* is a glimpse into the forces that are shaping the future of American youth, an entire generation bathed in the violence committed by their peers.

Praise for *The Spiral Notebook*"The Singulars are able and enthusiastic reporters, providing detailed depictions of the event, the lead-up to it, the emergency response, and then, to their frustration, a judicial process assiduously withheld from the prying eyes of the media." *Brooklyn Rail*"The Singulars offer a harrowing look at the crime and the courtroom drama. They explore the complex legal battles, particularly over the issue of Holmes' sanity and a spiral notebook that might hold the key to determining his state of mind This is a compelling look at gun control, mental-health treatment, and the underlying social issues that contribute to rising violence, especially that committed by young men, in our nation." *Booklist Starred* "[A] disturbing yet fascinating treatise on the impacts of growing up in a world that previous generations would barely recognize.... Tragic, gripping, and authentic, this book deserves a wide audience." *Kirkus Starred* Praise for *Talked to Death* The book works at every level, from melodrama to murder mystery to sociology. Singular has much to tell us here, and all of it is disturbing. *Philadelphia Inquirer* Mr. Singular offers a microcosm lesson in the workings of a violently racist mind It is the story of how broadcast communications is evolving in our era and what it has cost us. *New York Times* A chilling examination of American-born right-wing terrorism. *Chicago Tribune* Praise for *Presumed Guilty: An Investigation into the JonBenet Ramsey Case, the Media, and the Culture of Pornography* Veteran crime journalist Singular offers an original perspective on the sadly epochal killing of JonBenet Ramsey He focuses on the carnivorous mode of the mass media, particularly their lurid, immediate indictment of the Ramsey parents. Singulars perceptive exploration of the near-universal call for the Ramseys heads reveals the gritty power struggles and class schisms that underlie the shiny, comforting facade of the Boulder region. Unlike his dirt-chasing peers, he gives nuanced attention to an unsettling aspect of the case that he considers overlooked yet central: the gray area in which the mainstreamed commodification of childrens sexuality collides with the abuse of child pornography Without fully lighting the dark corners of an unappealing realm, Singular has produced a balanced, detailed, thoughtful consideration of an incident usually reduced to cultural dissonance. *Kirkus* sThe best writing about the Colorado murder case. *USA Today* Novel, interesting, and a great read *Presumed Guilty* opens the Ramsey case to a larger phenomenon [and] a shocking, disturbing aspect of American life. *The New York Post* *Presumed Guilty* is as close to the truth as well ever get in this baffling case. *The Arizona Daily Star*