



Take One With You

Oak Anderson

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MURDER GOES VIRAL!

Charlie and Sarah, two disaffected teens dealing with depression, meet in an online chatroom and soon hatch a plan to bring meaning to their lives by encouraging other despondent individuals to help eradicate the "scum of society", such as pedophiles and rapists who have escaped justice. Anyone determined to commit suicide is urged to first kill someone who "got away with it" before taking their own life. Why not, they ask, "take one with you?"

The idea goes viral and things rapidly spiral out of control. As they develop feelings for each other, their worldwide followers begin to enact a very different version of their idea, perverting its original intent and threatening the thin line between civil society and criminal anarchy. Just as they find the hope of happiness together, Charlie and Sarah must deal with the monster they've created, a global epidemic of murder-suicide that threatens the very core of their humanity.

Take One With You is a unique crime thriller/millennial love story that poses the question: If you knew you were going to die tomorrow, would you kill someone tonight? Someone who had done something terrible. Someone who deserved to die. If so, who would it be? If you wouldn't go that far, what about your neighbor? Your friend? Your enemy? Who draws the line? Who decides who lives and who dies? And what if we all began to take justice into our own hands?

Take One With You Details

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Author : Oak Anderson

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From Reader Review Take One With You for online ebook

Courtney Wells says

I received this novel from the author with no expectations apart from an honest, fair review

Anyone reading TAKE ONE WITH YOU's synopsis could assume they're in for a resplendent splatterfest or adolescent revenge fantasy; however, for a book about murder-suicides its implementation is more cerebral than graphic. Whether this might entice or turn off readers all depends on your expectations and sensibilities, TAKE ONE WITH YOU's emphasis is on exploring the tragedy of desperate, shattered souls who use – often vindictive – homicide as a means to alleviate their depression and/or validate their soon-to-be ended existence. For those reasons the characters have a deplorable tinge to them that readers may feel sympathy towards but are unlikely to find relatable in most instances.

Instead of a straight narrative featuring a single protagonist TAKE ONE WITH YOU splices its storytelling between multiple POVs and snippets from news and social media outlets. The combination creates a duality – microcosm and macrocosm – of events that compliments the premise of en mass vigilantism and the motivations for it. Alternating from the psychology of perpetrators/victims (readers could debate who's who) to the sociological ramifications of the TOWY movement frames the whole picture with intermeshing perspectives. Ultimately this cultural impact adds a sense of authenticity that might have been neglected if the reader was limited to the personal journey of one or several characters.

Oak Anderson's decision to incorporate fictitious media/social reactions to support his narrative shows his dedication to telling an encompassing tale in an imaginative, multifaceted manner. That level of diligence and versatility speaks well of his determination to engage his readers and – hopefully – Anderson will maintain that tenacity in works beyond TAKE ONE WITH YOU.

Barbara says

Charlie and Sarah, two teens saddened by the loss of supportive parents and unhappy in their homes, anonymously develop a website called "Take One With You" (Towy). Towy encourages people who are going to kill themselves anyway to first kill a criminal or dreg of society who has evaded conviction (e.g. rapist, murderer, pedophile, etc.). Charlie and Sarah go so far as to publish the names of candidates to be taken out. The idea catches on and pretty soon a rash of people all over the world are 'taking one with them'.

Unfortunately for Sarah and Charlie the Towy idea soon expands out of control and people start taking out more than 'deserving' criminals, but the teens are powerless to stop the monster they've created. Before long a police task force is assembled to track down the creators of the website, including Detective Thane Parks and Officer Anita Hellstrom.

In the course of the story the teens develop romantic feelings for each other as do the two cops. I thought it was unrealistic that married Officer Hellstrom would quickly fall for loutish, chauvinistic, unlikable Detective Parks who seems to view all women as sex objects - so this romance fell flat for me.

Oak Anderson does a nice job interspersing his narrative with news reports, scripts from television

interviews, government records, and so on - which adds interest to the story. The author provides thumbnail sketches of 'bad guys' who deserve to die and 'good guys' who take them out which helps us understand why a website like Towy would catch on.

Overall I enjoyed the book and would probably read more from this author.

You can follow my reviews at <http://reviewsbybarbsaffer.blogspot.com/>

Oak Anderson says

I just realized that I didn't have my own story marked as 'read' haha

Christine says

I received a free copy of this fabulous debut novel by Oak Anderson in exchange for an honest review.

I found TOWY to be an intriguing piece of work. Hard to believe this is a first time author. I loved the originality of the premise, the characters, the cool graphics. It really made me think. I would have liked this novel to have been a little longer in order to flesh out a few members of the cast, especially Thane and Anita. That minor point aside, overall I found this book to be a really unique read for me and one I will not forget. I will definitely be reading future works by Mr. Anderson.

Kaisersoze says

A quality, thought-provoking read that steams along at a breakneck pace, **Take One With You** is a novel that all but defies categorisation. Oak Anderson here seamlessly weaves the stories of a number of disaffected and hurting people into a world changing movement that the authorities are all but powerless to stop - namely, encouraging those who are ready to take their own life to kill someone else who deserves to die before they do. It's confronting stuff and one that will cause many a reader to examine their own moral values. Though, at times, the story jumps around too frenziedly, particular mention must also be made of Anderson's use of various forms of media in between chapters to succinctly convey the wider implications and consequences of the movement after the events of the novel have closed.

At once a reflection on the power of social media, the darker trappings of the human condition, and the tragedy of suicide, **Take One With You** signifies the arrival of an exciting new talent.

Recommended to those who like a bit of meat on their reads.

3.5 to 4 Do And Dies for **Take One With You**.

Cindy says

This is one of those books that will stay in my head for a long time. The premise of the book is unique and quite honestly, not as far-fetched as most of us would like to believe if given some honest thought. The whole idea of this story is in ridding the world of "less undesirables" by literally taking one with you when you die. It deals mainly with those who are so miserable in life they just want it all to end. Either those who are terminally ill and are contemplating suicide or depressed/suicidal souls who wish to end it all. A website is started encouraging those people to murder someone such as a murderer, pedophile, rapist, child abuser, etc. before taking their own life. The characters are engaging and the book never gets boring. If I had anything negative to say it would be that the book was a bit short, ended somewhat abruptly, and had a couple of grammatical errors that were distracting for a second. Overall an excellent book deserving of 4.5 stars.

Angie says

I love the ideas in this book. The emerging web site Take One With You, or TOWY. We meet different characters in each of the chapters so get a few different POV. I liked this way of writing the book, I found it a good way of keeping the mystery going. Sarah and Charlie meet on some forums that deal with depression and one day decided that suicide is a waste and someone should die with you.

This is a first book for Oak Anderson and it's a really great one. I was fully drawn in by the end of the first chapter. It shows how easy it can be for things to get out of hand on the internet and how you can come to have real regret. It's powerful and serious, not a book that you can put down easily. The characters are well written, Charlie and Sarah are favourites of mine. I'd of loved the book to be longer, I wanted to spend more time with each of these characters. But saying that there's nothing wrong with a short book that can completely have a big impact. I can definitely recommend this book. I can't wait for the author to write some more.

Donna says

To take one's own life is cowardice and a tragedy.

To take one with you, takes courage of one's convictions.

This story is about just that...

We are taken on a rollercoaster ride into the lives of several people who at one point cross paths in one way or another. Whose lives will be affected by each other's in ways they never imagined. Their stories are ever so despairing, having loved and lost.

The author portrays each character astonishingly well. This was a compelling, perturbing, and very well written story that I could not put down.

Magnificent debut novel for Mr. Anderson. Looking forward to his next.

Lily Vagabond says

It's not enough. Convicting a rapist, pedophile, murderer, none of it is enough. You have to *Take One With You*.

Oak Anderson takes the reader on an edgy fast-paced ride. So fast that I had to sleep on it before I could write a review just to get my brain to calm down. With the ingenious use of mixed media, all facets of a murderous vigilante movement are explored from every angle - morals, legality, society, politics, and teenagers falling in love. Intertwined sub-plots presents three-dimensional characters who ask and answer the readers' questions. Is this real? Can it really happen? Yes... and no.

Anderson pulls no punches. None. Ever. Brutally honest and starkly beautiful, *Take One With You* will leave the reader questioning their neighbors, co-workers and the guy at the florist. Could they be one of them? They could take you with them. And sometimes, that's for the best.

August Is Azathoth The Haunted Reading Room says

TAKE ONE WITH YOU by Oak Anderson is an enormously accomplished novel, made all the more so by its status as a debut. What Mr. Anderson does with his novel is simply incredible. Those who have moral issues centering around quality of life or who oppose gritty, graphic violence may not approve--but everything in this story works exactly as it is supposed to and functions according to its defined purpose.

TAKE ONE WITH YOU is gritty, edgy, pushing the envelope of moral relativism and stretching it w-a-y-o-u-t there, and it is superb. I loved it.

Sarah says

Gritty, riveting, and provocative. TAKE ONE WITH YOU takes readers on a wild ride, with sharp twists and turns. The basic premise is to commit suicide, but to take an awful soul with you before you do. But there's more to this story and it creates some incredibly interesting ideas for conversation. Like who are we to make choices about lives like we are gods? And one of the coolest parts of the book is that the TOWY craze goes viral, which does speak to how our society can be coerced into a trend, even one as demented as this one.

The characters are so human--flawed and relatable. I found myself connecting to them, which just made the psychological part even cooler. The thing is we all want to be vigilantes. But inside us also lives a villain. Anderson does an excellent job of making the protagonist imperfect and having this dualistic personality.

The novel is well written and pacing excellent. I enjoyed the backwards story-telling and there were also interesting news reports and evidence at the end of each chapter. Stock up on sleep and then start this book. You won't be disappointed.

"Both of them would have been shocked to know, but shouldn't have been, that the same image flashed through their fading synapses at that very moment, before they each welcomed the darkness fast descending upon their consciousness."

Brian Benson says

Different than anything I have read. Great beginning and ending. I am sure there is a sequel coming soon. I wish it had been longer. Good chance this will be a mini-series one day. Well done Mr. Anderson.

Maria says

The blurb got my attention and the book trailer peaked my interest even more.

There are several characters in the story whose lives intersect. Each one with their own tragic story.

Learning each character's story is like having a piece of the puzzle. And I couldn't put the book down till I had all the pieces.

Take One With You is an original, gripping and thought provoking book!

It made me reflect on life and death and everything in between.

It also made me think of actions, consequences and choices we make.

Sometimes, we set things in motion that can not be undone. And some could have consequences that are unexpected, detrimental and regrettable!!

This Oak Anderson story was superbly written and did not disappoint!

I look forward to his future works! :)

5 Viral Stars!!

Kat Desi says

Two teenagers, Charlie and Sarah, dealing with depression meet online in a chat room and comes up with the idea of *Take One With You*--before ending their own lives, they are encouraged to take another's preferably the rapists, murderers, pedophiles, etc. Soon this idea becomes viral and they get more than what they ever bargained for.

The concept of this book is so very unique. Oak Anderson does not only come up with an ingenious plot and three-dimensional characters, he also incorporates the use of media and social media into the story making it appear to be tangible.

In the course of the book, we are introduced to different POVs of people involved in *TOWY* and somehow, unbeknownst to them, are connected to each other which I found very clever. Much like pieces of a puzzle.

Oak Anderson's writing style is very cut, direct and it wasn't long before I fell into the story. The suspense pretty much killed me. The conclusion was very unexpected. I was very much engaged in the book. I am not a big fan of suspense/thrillers/mystery but the story had me investing a lot of emotions in the book.

Highly recommended!

Sarah Brocious says

Wow, loved this! Not usually the genre I go for. Usually have my nose buried in some sweet romance or feel good contemporary. Oak Anderson may have swayed my taste a bit. The idea behind this creation was fantastic! Really found the characters intriguing. Loved the hard nosed Thane. Very much looking forward to more from this author!

Brenda says

I like the concept that was the basis of this book, but I had some trouble keeping track of all the characters in the beginning. The flow of the story was slow in places. The ending came fast and seemed abrupt. Still, it was an OK book.

Sammi says

Damn! This book is crazy from the start!

The story focuses on the TOWY movement created to rid the world of the 'undesirables', e.g. the rapists, murders, paedophiles that received little or no conviction for their crimes. The movement was created to encourage people who were terminally ill or suicidal to "take one with you", if they decide to commit suicide.

The TOWY movement started as a small website, with a group hacking the police database to list the local 'undesirables'. Then as a lot of things do on the internet, the TOWY idea goes viral. The movement starts as planned, however it then leads to others putting their own spin on it and as usual general chaos ensues.

The book is written from numerous characters perspectives and includes various time lines. Because of this, at the beginning of the book I found the story quite difficult to follow. However as I got further into the story and got to know the characters everything became clear. I loved that the author has included pieces of evidence, tweets, news reports etc. linking to the TOWY movement throughout the book.

This is a book that will stay with me for awhile. The concept of 'Take One With You' is unique, it is also a completely plausible happening that could occur in the society we live in today. I would recommend this book to everyone!

Ashton Gibbs ♥ BB&B says

Take One With You - Oak Anderson

Beauty, Books and Babble

I'd like to start with a huge thank you to Oak Anderson, who was lovely enough to send me a copy of his book in exchange for a review, complete with personal message and signature - perfect!

Charlie and Sarah are two teenagers who are dealing with depression. They meet in an online chatroom and soon come up with an idea to bring meaning to their lives - *Take One With You*. They encourage other despondent individuals to rid the world of it's scum, such as paedophiles, rapists and others that have escaped justice. Anyone planning on committing suicide is urged to first kill someone who got away with something terrible - *to take one with them*.

Without warning, the idea goes viral, and as Charlie and Sarah begin to have feelings for one another, **things start to spin out of control around them**. Followers of their idea from around the world begin to enact their own versions of the initial plan, and what was originally a scheme to eradicate the scum of society turns into turmoil and anarchy around the globe. The very thing that brought Charlie and Sarah together may actually be the one thing that also tears them apart as they try to deal with the monster they have created...

"If you knew you were going to die tomorrow, would you kill someone tonight?"

Well, to start with, the concept is amazing and it's executed brilliantly by Oak Anderson. You can't help but be drawn into the book straight from the first chapter. We see chapters written from different peoples perspectives and so we get to witness the world through different eyes, how society is slowly crumbling and a global epidemic of murder-suicide threatens civilization. It's a thought provoking notion: Could you really kill someone if you knew you had no tomorrow yourself? Where does it stop? **Who has the right to decide who is worthy of a life and who isn't?**

The story was so engrossing; along with reading the multiple viewpoints which begin to intertwine, Oak Anderson incorporates the use of media, social networking and court transcripts, and so as a reader we observe everything fall into place slowly with each chapter. It's like finding all of the pieces to a puzzle, and

each new piece is building us up to the big finale. A lot of reasearch clearly went into this book, and the writing style kept me hooked too. It was well done, easy to follow, and had some wonderful imagery.

"There were also more sinister theories, theories that Anita dared not think about too long, but nonetheless **danced around the dark recesses of her mind like busy moths around a campfire.**"

As the book began to draw to a close, I just could not predict the outcome. *I was pleased with what I got.* The ending was completely **unexpected, action packed and brutal.** I was in the dark about what would happen right up until it did, and so I was kept on the very edge of my seat in anticipation of the climax.

The only reason I knocked a star off my rating was simply because I personally didn't connect to the characters despite their in depth and touching backstories. I didn't find myself worrying for any of their safety through the book. *Everything else was perfect!*

This is Oak Anderson's debut book and he has done a brilliant job. It's a powerfully thrilling and realistic story and was not an easy one to put down. **I sailed through it!** I would definitely recommend this book who loves a good thriller, and I'm looking forward to seeing more of Oak's work in the future.

"Evil was many things to many people."

Tiffany Bates says

I LOVED THIS BOOK AS MUCH AS I LOVE CHOCOLATE!! I've never come across anything like this story's concept. It kept me hooked from the beginning, and the speed, the characters and the rawness were incredible!!!

The premise is insanely disturbing, but somehow the author intertwines a love story into it. Amazing read. Please make this a movie!

Alissa says

Oak Anderson is an author to watch. Take One With You is his debut novel, if I'm remembering right and its one of the best I've read this year. The concept is original; several people meeting in an online chat room for depression who further branch out to their own website which turns into more of a movement as the book progresses. The general concept was what pulled me in but what kept me reading was the authors writing style. Even as he told the story from different points of view, from different characters, he developed those characters and maintained their distinct personalities. Take One With You is, in a nutshell, a hell of a read. Highly recommended.

I won this as part of a First Reads Giveaway, signed and sent to me by the author. I should also note that that in no way influenced my opinion of this book. My opinion was formed while reading *Take One With You* and in the way I read it.
