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Whiskey Sour (Jack Daniels Mysteries)

By J. A. Konrath



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Lieutenant Jacqueline 'Jack' Daniels is having a bad week. Her live-in boyfriend has left her for his personal trainer, chronic insomnia has caused her to max out her credit cards with late-night home shopping purchases, and a frightening killer who calls himself 'The Gingerbread Man' is dumping mutilated bodies in her district. Between avoiding the FBI and its moronic profiling computer, joining a dating service, mixing it up with street thugs, and parrying the advances of an uncouth PI, Jack and her binge-eating partner, Herb, must catch the maniac before he kills again...and Jack is next on his murder list. Whiskey Sour is full of laugh-out-loud humor and edge-of-your-seat suspense, and it introduces a fun, fully drawn heroine in the grand tradition of Kinsey Millhone, Stephanie Plum, and Kay Scarpetta.



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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Except for her name-Jacqueline Daniels (and, yes, she's known by her colleagues at the Chicago Police Department and by her friends as "Jack Daniels")-there's not an original trope in this competent, fast-paced thriller by newcomer Konrath. A lieutenant investigating a particularly gruesome series of homicides, Daniels is like every other hard-boiled fictional cop-obsessed with work, afraid to commit emotionally and overcaffeinated. The other characters also follow formula: her partner is an overweight glutton with a heart of gold; her boss is tough but fair; the federal agents assigned to help her are territorial, superior and ineffectual. And the criminal himself, a serial killer who calls himself the "Gingerbread Man," only differs from others of his ilk in his methodology, not his psychology. He tortures and kills attractive young women, leaving their mutilated bodies in public places. Konrath, who has "performed improvisational comedy" according to his bio, likes to toss off one-liners, and while they're occasionally clever, they lend a jokey tone that jars with the seriousness of the almost gratuitously horrific crimes. Reading like an ill-conceived cross between Carl Hiaasen and Thomas Harris, this cliché-ridden first novel should find a wide audience among less discriminating suspense fans.

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Review

" . . . *Whiskey Sour* a literary cocktail that'll knock you off your chair." -- *Ridley Pearson, author of The Art of Deception*

" . . . a police procedural dashed with romance, mixed with a shot of sharp-tongued commentary, and . . . an acidic sprinkling of spoof." -- *Andrew Vachss, author of The Getaway Man*

"*Whiskey Sour* is on game from page one to the last . . . The future of suspense thrillers . . . is J. A. Konrath . . ." -- *Robert W. Walker, author of the Instinct and Edge Series*

"A compulsive page-turner populated by real people, a heroine, and a monstrous villain . . ." -- *George C. Chesbro, author of Shadow of a Broken Man*

"A fresh, fierce and frightening new voice, and a delightful heroine . . . Jack Daniels is funny and resilient . . . feisty and determined." -- *David Wiltse, author of The Hangman's Knot*

"From electric excitement to laugh-out-loud humor, this book has it all . . ." -- *Warren Murphy, two-time Edgar award-winner for Grandmaster and Pigs Get Fat*

"This superb debut goes down smooth and will leave readers demanding a refill." -- *Michael Prescott, author of Next Victim*

"[Blend] Donald Westlake, James Ellroy, and Dorothy Parker, and you've got the hilarious, horrific world of Lieutenant Jacqueline 'Jack' Daniels." -- *Jay Bonansinga, author of The Sleep Police*

From the Author

Q & A with Joe Konrath

Q: What did you want to be when you are younger?

Joe: I wanted to be a model for husky pants. But then, when I was barely a teen, they stopped making husky sizes.

Damn those clothing designers for shattering my dreams.

Q: When did you decide to become a writer?

Joe: I mean, I'm not offended by the term "husky." Now they're called "relaxed fit" jeans. It's the same thing, but there's nothing sexy about being a "relaxed fit jeans" model. *Husky* sounds like you're owning those extra pounds, making them work for you. *Relaxed fit* sounds like you eat too much and are just plain lazy.

What was your question again? Ideas? I hunt through James Patterson's garbage, and steal what he tossed. When Patterson throws out ten pages, that's like fifty chapters.

Ha ha ha! Get it? Because his chapters are so short! I swear, the last Patterson book I read had more chapters than page numbers.

Actually, I just watch old *Outer Limits* episodes and appropriate the plots, like Alan Moore did with Watchmen.

Q: Who do you like to read?

Blake Crouch, Ann Voss Peterson, Jeff Strand, Henry Perez, F. Paul Wilson, Tom Schreck. Pretty much anyone I collaborate with. Because here's a dirty little secret: when you co-write a book with someone, you kind of have to read the stuff they wrote.

My absolute favorite author is Dr. Seuss. In fact, I tried my hand at writing a few Dr. Seuss-style children's books. Here are the titles:

HOW THE GRINCH STOLE MY WIFE

HORTON HATCHES A TERRORIST PLOT

ON BEYOND DONKEY PUNCH

MARVIN K MOONEY WILL YOU PLEASE DROP DEAD

THE CAT IN THE HAT GETS NEUTERED

GREEN EGGS AND E COLI

THIDWICK THE BIG HEARTED COKE DEALER

MR. BROWN CAN MOO, AND THEY PUT HIM AWAY

THERE'S A WOCKET IN MY POCKET, AND I BLAME CIALIS

BOOMER THE TUMOR

Unfortunately, I haven't been able to sell any of these. I think it may be some sort of rights-issue thing.

Q: What's a work day in the life of Joe Konrath like?

Joe: I wake up early and make some eggs.

Then the smoke alarm goes off, because the eggs are burning because I fell asleep again.

Then I spend ten minutes explaining to the firemen that show up how I'll be more careful next time.

I go back to bed, and the next thing I know, it's around noon. Time for lunch. I want to make an egg sandwich, but I'm out of eggs. And bread. And pretty much everything except some sort of fruit that's been in the refrigerator forever and might be a lime. Or not. It may not even be fruit. So I put it back and think about cooking some pasta but that seems like a lot of work for just lunch, so I go take a nap.

Around three I get up, ready to start my work day, but first I need to eat something. Do pizza places deliver at three? I make a few calls. Nope, no one delivers before five.

I check the fridge. The lime thing is still there, but it looks like it moved from where I saw it last. How odd. Did it move by itself? I'm really hungry, so I decide to give it a try.

It's not a lime, because limes don't have bones.

When I finish eating, I sit down at my computer and write my daily quota, thirty pages.

Q: What's next for Joe Konrath?

Joe: This Spring, Carson's will be releasing my signature scent, called *Nocturnal Emission*. Available in parfum, eau du toilet, cologne, and roll on. I like the roll on. It tickles my armpits.

My goal is to make enough money to buy Nebraska. Then I'll rename it Joebraska, and invite all of my friends to visit. We're going to have a big party in the state capital, Joemaha. You can come, if you want.

Q: Do you want to talk at all about your books?

Joe: Nope. Not really.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Frank Johnson:

Hey guys, do you really wants to finds a new book you just read? May be the book with the headline Whiskey Sour (Jack Daniels Mysteries) suitable to you? The particular book was written by famous writer in this era. Often the book untitled Whiskey Sour (Jack Daniels Mysteries)is the one of several books that everyone read now. That book was inspired lots of people in the world. When you read this reserve you will enter the new dimension that you ever know ahead of. The author explained their thought in the simple way,

thus all of people can easily to understand the core of this book. This book will give you a great deal of information about this world now. So that you can see the represented of the world on this book.

Leo Rizer:

Spent a free time and energy to be fun activity to try and do! A lot of people spent their down time with their family, or their particular friends. Usually they undertaking activity like watching television, gonna beach, or picnic from the park. They actually doing same thing every week. Do you feel it? Do you want to something different to fill your own free time/ holiday? Might be reading a book can be option to fill your free of charge time/ holiday. The first thing you will ask may be what kinds of guide that you should read. If you want to try look for book, may be the book untitled Whiskey Sour (Jack Daniels Mysteries) can be fine book to read. May be it could be best activity to you.

Kenny Grant:

A lot of people always spent their particular free time to vacation or perhaps go to the outside with them friends and family or their friend. Are you aware? Many a lot of people spent they free time just watching TV, or even playing video games all day long. If you want to try to find a new activity that is look different you can read a new book. It is really fun for you. If you enjoy the book you read you can spent all day long to reading a publication. The book Whiskey Sour (Jack Daniels Mysteries) it is quite good to read. There are a lot of those who recommended this book. We were holding enjoying reading this book. In the event you did not have enough space bringing this book you can buy the e-book. You can m0ore quickly to read this book from a smart phone. The price is not too expensive but this book provides high quality.

David Veal:

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