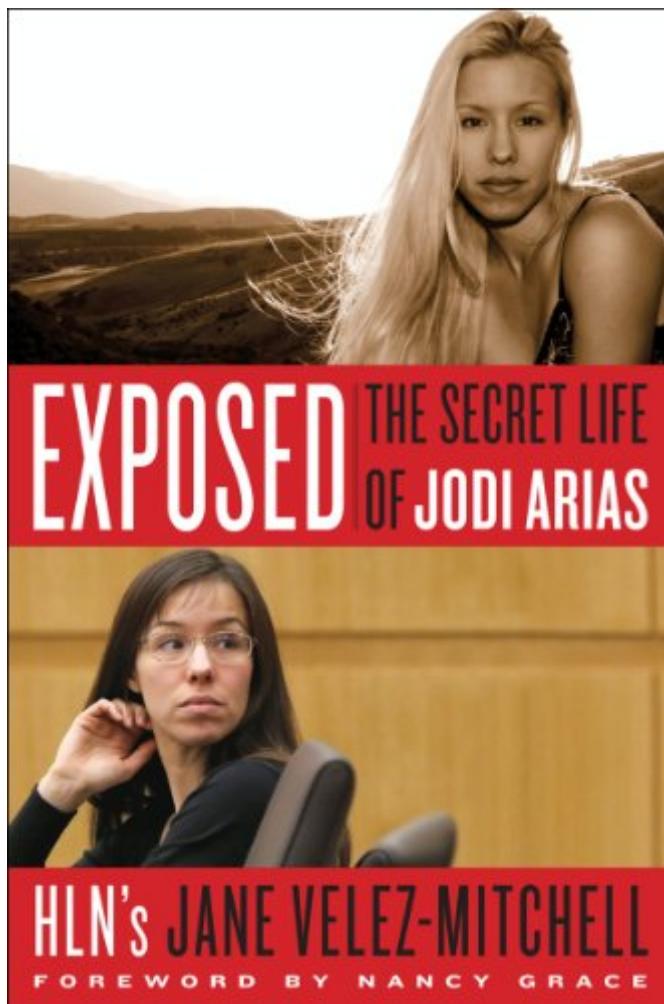


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# Exposed: The Secret Life Of Jodi Arias



## Synopsis

On June 9, 2008, the butchered body of Travis Alexander was found in his Mesa, Arizona home. The grisly nature of his death made instant headlines: with twenty-nine knife wounds, his throat slit, and a gunshot to the head, Travis was left to die. The prime suspect in the case was Alexander's ex-girlfriend, the attractive and soft-spoken Jodi Arias. Though Arias initially said that she was nowhere near the scene of the crime, little about this case was as it seemed, and before long she had been caught lying to police. As the investigation progressed, her lies evolved multiple times before finally resting on an appalling claim: she had killed Travis in self-defense. Along the way, startling details emerged about the Mormon couple's relationship, and soon graphic stories of their lurid sexual encounters and jealousy-driven blowouts revealed a dark side to their life together. These revelations launched a trial filled with sex and deception but also raised substantial questions about Arias's deceit, as people from across the country struggled to understand the bizarre world of Jodi Arias. Now, award-winning broadcast journalist and bestselling author Jane Velez-Mitchell, a veteran of some of the most storied court cases in recent memory, goes behind the scenes of the trial and into the mind of a killer. Using insider accounts from friends who knew Travis and Jodi, Velez-Mitchell turns her sharply-focused lens on Arias and offers her seasoned perspective on the case's most pressing questions. Separating fact from fiction, she reports on the bizarre and explicit stories that have both shocked and fascinated the American public—from Jodi's romantic history before meeting Travis, to their torrid sex life together, to the complicated role their Mormon faith played in the relationship's demise. With unbridled access to the evidence and the case's key players, Velez-Mitchell unearths Jodi's contentious life with those closest to her, examining the paranoid and erratic behavior behind each relationship and illustrating the disturbing pattern of a murderer in the making. Complete with photos from the case and Jane Velez-Mitchell's fresh insights on the crime, *Exposed* takes readers behind closed bedroom doors to uncover the truth behind the secret and sordid life of Jodi Arias.

## Book Information

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## **Customer Reviews**

Most of the facts I already know about just from watching the news. Although not a fan of this killer, I think the writer is biased right off the bat and lets her own personal disdain for JA flow throughout the book. I am more fascinated with the factual parts of the story more so than the writer's story.

Wish I hadn't bought it. Oh well...

I have read every book written about this case but this was the last one I read and I regret waiting so long! So many reviews say that there was nothing new in this book but they were wrong. Also out of every book, this one gives the whole story, don't get me wrong many of the books that focus solely on one aspect of the case or another are great, but this one really tells the whole story. I did not expect to enjoy it as much as I did.

I got inspired to pick up this book after discussing the Jodi Arias case with a friend who also enjoys reading true crime books. When this case first broke I hadn't paid much attention. It was really close after the Casey Anthony case and I think I was in the middle of court fatigue. But then I saw snippets of the trial on Nancy Grace and Jane Valez Mitchell. Plus by then my mom was glued to it also. It was such a wild story. As I'm friends with a lot of Mormons I knew that a relationship like that would never be approved. Mostly because all of this was happening without being married. But as you get deeper into their personalities and perspective you realize this was a toxic relationship that was going to end in tragedy no matter what. Yes Jodi obviously was the more mentally ill of the two

of them, but Travis had his own list of issues including being addicted to this very forbidden relationship. In the book Jane Valez Mitchell reviews the events leading up to Travis' death, the arrest, and the trial. I had forgot what a circus that trial was until revisiting it in this book. Valez Mitchell gives the facts and stays fairly impartial about their relationship itself. She also makes it clear that Travis wasn't engaged or nearly engaged which seemed to be the story his side was spinning during the trial. And even if he was, what kind of man goes out with one woman to share depraved fantasies with and another that he wants to marry? He clearly wanted a wife and a mistress. Overall the book gives a well rounded view of the trial and players involved. It did start to repeat information as I got into the last 3rd of the book which is why I have it 3 stars.

This book is well written, easy to understand and very detailed. Velez-Michel tells it how it is, describing step by step how the assassination of Travis Alexander took place. It is obvious that Jodie Arias orchestrated to kill Travis and that is why she should be put to death. What makes one person take another life and not receive an equal punishment? As Arias' lawyer explained to the jurors, "it does not make sense." That is why I am a proponent for the jury to be conformed by lawyers or at least people with a knowledge of the law. That way trials would be quicker, less costly to the taxpayer and most importantly there is a greater probability for "justice." In summary, the judicial system is broken and needs to be reformed.

It was an interesting read, full of general background on the case, but the author's personal agenda was surprising. Jodi Arias is undoubtedly where she belongs, but why do we need to act as if her sexual proclivities indicate her propensity to evil? The amount of "slut shaming" in this telling is deeply disturbing. Jodi Arias should be in prison because she brutally murdered another human being, not because she engaged in oral sex with him too soon in a relationship. Knowing little about the case, I was also surprised to see the "kid gloves" with which the author treated Travis Alexander- saint and sinner seems to be the set up, but many things that are glossed over led me to think he was a disturbed individual as well who was clearly playing with fire by baiting an unstable woman. She mentions his behavior as if it played no consequence in his death, but I find that unlikely. Last, but not least, I was surprised by some of the legal comments. For example, the author mentioned the Casey Anthony verdict left legal experts "befuddled." To any legal expert worth their salt, there was certainly no befuddling. The prosecutor in the case failed to meet burden of proof and police broke the chain of evidence when they failed to locate the body at its burial site during the first search. Either the author is not knowledgeable about the legal process or they are

intentionally trying to vivify the circumstances of the trial. Certainly, it is not a book of journalistic integrity. Read it for the facts of the case, but think critically is my best recommendation.

Wonderfully written account of this tragic murder of a young man who fell came across a sociopath. The story is well told in a clear logical manner. It must be mentioned that the author is certainly biased against the murderer but in this case the facts support him.

I got sucked into the Jodi Arias trial after a very good friend of mine was murdered just over a year ago, and the murder trial for the scumbags who committed it was eerily similar--the defense attempted to trash my friend's reputation, and he was stabbed 30 times by someone he had mentored for years. The jury was out for only 45 minutes for a conviction in May. The prosecutor of 20 years never had a jury come back that fast. The defense attorney said that it was a tough case because the victim "was such a nice guy." In my state, Michigan, that means automatic life with no parole. I enjoyed reading this book. The most telling thing about Arias for me, however, were the pictures of her when she was young. Something definitely happened to her between the time when she was in what looked like middle school and a couple of years later with her friend. Her eyes were dead, even in 1997. It creeped me right out. Mitchell's writing style was easy to read, and I did learn a few new things about Alexander, Arias, and the case. I liked this book much more than Shanna Hogan's--I was VERY disappointed in that book. In fact, I still haven't finished it. I recommend this book about the Arias case.

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