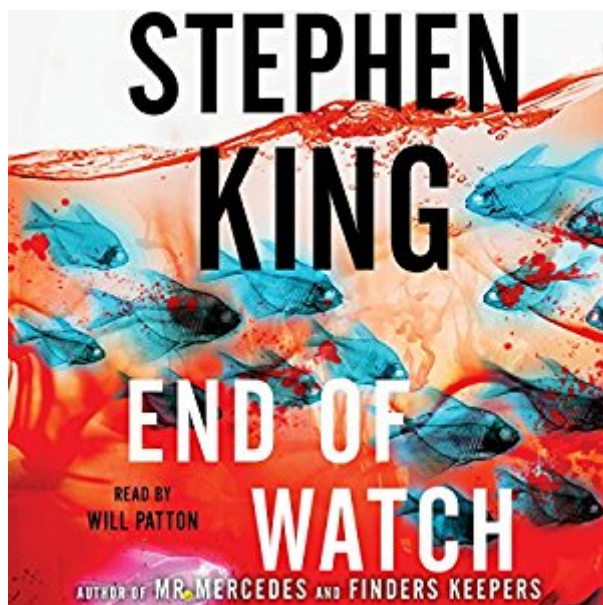


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# End Of Watch: A Novel



## Synopsis

The spectacular finale to the New York Times best-selling trilogy that began with *Mr. Mercedes* (winner of the Edgar Award) and *Finders Keepers*. In *End of Watch*, the diabolical "Mercedes Killer" drives his enemies to suicide, and if Bill Hodges and Holly Gibney don't figure out a way to stop him, they'll be victims themselves. In Room 217 of the Lakes Region Traumatic Brain Injury Clinic, something has awakened. Something evil. Brady Hartsfield, perpetrator of the Mercedes Massacre, where eight people were killed and many more were badly injured, has been in the clinic for five years, in a vegetative state. According to his doctors, anything approaching a complete recovery is unlikely. But behind the drool and stare, Brady is awake and in possession of deadly new powers that allow him to wreak unimaginable havoc without ever leaving his hospital room. Retired police detective Bill Hodges, the unlikely hero of *Mr. Mercedes* and *Finders Keepers*, now runs an investigation agency with his partner, Holly Gibney - the woman who delivered the blow to Hartsfield's head that put him in the brain injury ward. When Bill and Holly are called to a suicide scene with ties to the Mercedes Massacre, they find themselves pulled into their most dangerous case yet, one that will put their lives at risk as well as those of Bill's heroic young friend, Jerome Robinson, and his teenage sister, Barbara. Brady Hartsfield is back and planning revenge not just on Hodges and his friends but on an entire city. In *End of Watch*, Stephen King brings the Hodges trilogy to a sublimely terrifying conclusion, combining the detective fiction of *Mr. Mercedes* and *Finders Keepers* with the heart-pounding supernatural suspense that has been his best-selling trademark. The result is an unnerving look at human vulnerability and chilling suspense. No one does it better than King.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

What can I say? He's the man! No matter how implausible a premise, King can somehow make it believable. He has an uncanny knack for getting into the details and having the story fall into place, and his incredible imagination will take you places other authors cannot. This is the last of stories in the Hodges trilogy and a worthy ending it is. (Strongly suggest you read the previous two first rather than treating this as a stand-alone - the context will make this one have a lot more impact. )A bit over-written in places as much of his work is but a great book to get lost in!

A decent end to this series. It almost made book two seem out of place with a weak link to the first, but a good stand alone story and a vehicle to develop the Hodges Gibney Robinson trio. Assuming he cared to, another Robinson Gibney story would be welcome. They are well drawn characters in the King universe but it seems as if their story or stories are still unfinished. Hartsfield however is three dimensional and has a creepy enough connection to reality to up the menace just enough. He is right up there with the best King's villains. it might have been better if his growing threat had been a subplot or at least hinted at in book two to have given the three stories a more coherent connection but no doubt some readers would have felt cheated having to wait for this one to wind out the story. Which we had to do anyway. Damon you King and your Hartsfield like hold on your "dear readers". Is this Kindle sending blue flashes out?

I love Stephen King books!! I started out reading his books from the beginning with Carrie. The three books in this series are so good and I love the build up. I believe that anyone who reads all 3 are going to grow with the characters just as I have. I was so wrapped up in these books that during this one I laughed cried, loved, cried, was shocked, angry and all of those plus the cry/happy feeling. His books have always been the best, to me.

Another winner from Stephen King, and a great final entry in this trilogy. King remains the quintessential storyteller. Whether he's illuminating the everydayness of life or its frightening dark corners, we can see the events unfolding on the pages in our minds' eyes. We feel every emotion of every character, and we discover their insights as they do. I've been reading King since he began writing. With very few exceptions I've devoured every story and book, and always been hungry for

more. End of Watch was everything I wanted. I will miss Hodges, but he left us as he had to. And Brady Hartsfield was the perfect vehicle for evil in the world, and the perfect foil for Hodges' smarts and skill. The only thing I might have liked would have been to know that there was still a tiny smoldering ember of Brady left floating in the dark, maybe even inside Hodges as he suffered, suffering as well, and trapped and doomed just like Hodges. But that didn't fit with the finality of the trilogy, and probably wouldn't have allowed us to appreciate Hodges as we do. For every person in pain who has wondered whether taking their life was a workable alternative, King shows us how frighteningly easy it is to make the decision, and how brave the survivors become. The influence of the Internet combined with Hartsfield's evil and his doctor's hubris makes us wonder why people don't opt for suicide more often today. But Stephen King helps us explore the options in his writing, and show us why it's so important to reach out and protect the people who are considering their options. Hartsfield's evil brings the scary possibilities to light while Hodges' perseverance shines a wiser light on them and points to a better possibility. Stephen King remains a great American writer. End of Watch shows us why he does.

If you are already a fan of Stephen King, with his intricate detail, complicated characters, and thrilling, sometimes even a little too raw, plots... You will not be disappointed. I was a little hesitant about a Trilogy, but I was pleasantly surprised. I started the first book, couldn't put it down, and flew through the series in just a few days. Another great story by King. You won't be disappointed.

Be sure you have read the first 2 books in the Trilogy. If it has been a while since you read the first 2 books I suggest a reread. It will help. The plot thickens quickly. It does not take more than a few pages to be hooked. Will Patton did a great job reading the book. As with any audio book the artist can make or break it. Will Patton does an excellent job. King at his best.

This is an odd novel. It is clearly the least of the three. Very little happens, characters aren't developed, and literally half the novel is spent talking about zappits and pink fishies. Jerome is underused, Holly is more annoying than ever, and Brady suffers from Kong's seeming inability to make a villain seem threatening. But... What an ending! Brady's finale is both ironic and poetic, giving real meaning to the "suicide king" and Hodges "End of Watch" is poignant and heartfelt (if slightly brief). Definitely finish the series if you've read the first two, just don't expect a tremendous opening or middle.

Anyone who loves Stephen King's writing will not be disappointed. As only he can do, King takes preposterous liberties with reality and yet makes it all work. His character development is thorough bringing each actor to life infused with realism. I hated to see the trilogy end; hopefully there will another around the next bend. Thanks and keep writing SK!

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