



The Dog Who Knew Too Much

Spencer Quinn

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Combining suspense and intrigue with a wonderfully humorous take on the link between man and beast, Spencer Quinn's exceptional mystery series has captured widespread praise since its New York Times bestselling debut, 'Dog on It'.

'The Dog Who Knew Too Much' marks the duo's triumphant return in a tale that's full of surprises.

Bernie is invited to give the keynote speech at the Great Western Private Eye Convention, but it's Chet that the bigshot P.I. in charge has secret plans for. Meanwhile Chet and Bernie are hired to find a kid who has gone missing from a wilderness camp in the high country.

The boy's mother thinks the boy's father, her ex, has snatched the boy, but Chet makes a find that sends the case in a new and dangerous direction.

As if that weren't enough, matters get complicated at home when a stray puppy that looks suspiciously like Chet shows up. Affairs of the heart collide with a job that's never been tougher, requiring our two intrepid sleuths to depend on each other as never before.

'The Dog Who Knew Too Much' is classic Spencer Quinn, offering page-turning entertainment that's not just for dog-lovers.

The Dog Who Knew Too Much Details

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Author : Spencer Quinn

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From Reader Review The Dog Who Knew Too Much for online ebook

Barbara says

Bernie Little and his hundred-plus pound dog Chet run the 'Little Detective Agency', somewhere in the western United States (this story seems to be set in Colorado). The series is narrated by Chet, whose somewhat limited vocabulary, unfamiliarity with idioms, and doggie logic set the stage for plenty of smiles. Bernie is a West Point graduate, good at his job, and Chet is his invaluable partner, always ready to clamp his jaw on perps and drag them off by the pants.

In this book Anya Vereen hires Bernie to pose as her boyfriend for parents' weekend at Big Bear Wilderness Camp, where her son Devin is a camper. Anya is estranged from her husband Guy and wants protection. Soon after Bernie, Chet, and Anya arrive at the camp they learn that Devin apparently wandered off during an overnight campout in the mountains and is missing.

Bernie, Chet, and troop leader Turk Rendell return to the campsite where Devin disappeared but things don't go well. Turk is uncooperative and less than truthful and Devin can't be located. Things get worse when a death occurs and Bernie is arrested for murder. It soon becomes clear that something unsavory is going on in this mountain community and many of the locals - including the judge, sheriff, deputies, and camp personnel - just may be in on it.

By dint of good luck and clever moves Chet manages to help Bernie with the assistance of Bernie's girlfriend Suzy. In the interim Bernie is treated badly, Anya is intimidated, Guy gets into trouble, and Chet manages to scarf down biscuits, hamburgers, kibble, and half a BLT.

The plot doesn't quite gel in a believable way but the book is entertaining and the bad guys get what they deserve - which is always satisfying. I'd recommend the book for fans of light, humorous mysteries.

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

Bettie? says

audio g drive

Newtome author, and I'm diving in at #4 - hope that won't matter too much.

It was okay, so I'll use the GR(rr)amazon guide for star awarding and give it a 2* with the subtext '*I'm blown if I will read anymore of these.*'

#90 TBR Busting 2013

Jackie says

Chet and Bernie are back in action in the series' fourth book, this time they've accepted a lucrative bodyguarding gig that turns into the hunt for a missing little boy. Add in a shady fellow trying to steal Chet and a much enhanced roll by the erstwhile reporter and girlfriend Suzy and you have yet another rollicking ride with The Little Detective Agency. Then there's the question of a puppy from across the valley that looks like a perfect miniature version of Chet.... Another fun adventure from Quinn, and really, what's not to like about Chet and Bernie, right?

Cathy says

As usual, it was the perfect mix of serious mystery and absolutely charming humor. Having the story told from Chet's perspective doesn't make this a cozy mystery, the tale isn't light, but the little flashes of lightness are welcome breaks in the tension of the more serious story, making the book perfectly well-balanced and a joy to read.

Kent Woodger says

Chet, Bernie, and Susie combine to solve mystery

Paul Pessolano says

“The Dog Who Knew Too Much” by Spencer Quinn, published by Atria Books.

Category – Mystery/Thriller

This is the fourth installment in the Chet and Bernie series and it fits in beautifully with the other three books.

If you have not read this series the story is told from Chet's perspective. Chet is the dog and it is quite refreshing to have a story that sees us humans from another view. It can be funny and confusing at times, at least from Chet's vantage point.

Bernie is a private eye, a good private eye, but usually gets involved in cases that either do not pay or not pay well. Therefore, he and Chet are always struggling to make ends meet.

In “The Dog Who Knew Too Much” Chet and Bernie are asked to look into a missing child. Devin has gone missing at Big Bear Wilderness Camp. Our duo finds out very quickly that they are not just looking for a lost boy but also have become involved in a meth lab, money laundering scheme, and murder.

Our duo becomes a trio when Bernie is jailed on a murder charge and Chet teams up with Bernie's girlfriend, Suzie, who must help Bernie get out of jail and bring this case to a close.

A very easy read and one that provides a respite from the more serious books we may have been reading.

TKT says

Usually I read more than a few pages before I buy a book but unfortunately I didn't even open this book before paying. If I had, I would not have bought it as I would have realized I had tried reading one of this author's other books and heartily dislikes his use of the dog as a narrator. Seems lazy and is annoying to be reading a person's voice in a dog - the author's way to insert himself without having to flesh out another character? I use the library now; disappointment is much cheaper that way

Lachinchon says

This is my third Chet & Bernie read, so maybe the novelty is wearing off. I still love the dog's-point-of-view narration, which can be quite funny at times, but reading the same dog-think phrases over and over again from one book to the next eventually gets dull. I know, it's a dog, fer crissakes! I should expect Shakespearean erudition? The mystery this time seemed only half-baked, and all three books followed exactly the same pattern:

1. Bernie is hired for an innocuous job.
2. Seemingly peripheral events involve the team in murderous circumstances.
3. Bernie and Chet get separated.
4. Bernie's girlfriend/reporter Suzie gets the wrong impression.
5. Bernie and Chet are reunited.
6. Suzie helps solve mystery.

Because the dog (Chet, if you didn't know) is so likeable, I will probably pick up another in the series, and I highly recommend the first book (Dog On It). ...wait...SQUIRREL!!! ...Now where was I?

Jim says

These are solid 3 star mysteries, but so well narrated & told from Chet's (the dog) perspective that they're 4 star reads. His joy de vivre is infectious & so well done. His tail & barks have lives of their own, just sort of slip out occasionally, even though he & Bernie practice a lot to make sure it only happens appropriately. Well, what's a dog to do? Bernie's the best & that's the main thing. Everything about him is great, especially his smell.

The mystery in this case was a good one & allowed Chet to stretch his legs in the Arizona mountains. There's an old gold mine, plenty of hiking, & different people around. They face some tough opponents, but the Little Detective Agency is the best in the business. If you don't believe me, let Chet tell you about it.

For some reason, I missed #3 in this series, but I did read the first 2. Another plus is that I really didn't miss that book. This one was very self-contained, although Chet is kind of hazy on some of details of earlier jobs. He remembers the important parts, though.

Cindy says

It's been a long time since I read the previous book in this series, so it took me a while to get back into the voice of Chet. Once I did, it was an enjoyable read.

?Trish says

Another entertaining mystery starring Chet and P. I. Bernie Little. As usual, they are ably assisted by Bernie's girlfriend, reporter Suzie Sanchez. Too bad about Bernie's latest Porsche. Wonder what his next ride will be?

Ms.pegasus says

In this 4th book of the Chet and Bernie series, a simple bodyguard gig quickly morphs into a missing person case and ... (yep!) murder. In case you are unfamiliar with the series, Chet is the canine "partner" and Bernie the human half of the Bernie Little Detective Agency. Perpetually low on cash, Bernie Little reluctantly agrees to accept a job as body-guard, to protect lovely, somewhat dim, Anya Vereen from her ex-husband. She is to drive to Big Bear Wilderness Camp to visit her son Devin. There, she will meet up with the ex, Guy. However, when they get to the camp, Devin is missing after a routine overnight and hike, and Anya's husband is a "no show."

Shady characters abound. First, there is Ranger Rob who is supposed to be in charge of the camp, but hardly seems either wilderness savvy or even very fit for duty. Then, there's the surly, remarkably uncurious guide, Turk, whom Ranger Bob insists is loved by the kids. Turk was in charge of the overnight, and the last to see the missing Devin. The local sheriff and his deputy seem curiously intent on sidelining Chet and Bernie from the missing persons search, despite the obvious advantage of Chet's keen nose. Then, there's the suspicious absence of Anya's ex-husband.

Chet is the star of this series. If he were a human, one might label him with attention deficit disorder. As a dog, however, his distractibility and impulsiveness feel perfect. That low growl at an unwelcome human or the draft created by his wagging tail – Chet himself is surprised by these unconscious signals his body is giving him. What fills his mind are the memories of the many "perps" he has helped outfit in orange jumpsuits, and the smells of nervousness from the humans Bernie is interrogating. Chet is everything one could want in a partner. He's loyal, optimistic, and full of heart. Plus, he has those keen canine senses. Always inquisitive, he has broadened his education by careful observation of the Discovery Channel. Even so, he's frequently stymied by human discourse. When Ranger Rob babbles inanely about the camp's philosophy of self-reliance, Bernie mutters with disgust under his breath about the supreme self-reliance of the Donner Party. Chet puzzles: "*Bernie and I had been to lots of parties, which is maybe why I didn't remember that specific one.*"

The most desperate of circumstances fail to put a dent in Chet's self-confident resourcefulness. It's that quality of reliability combined with his unique canine perspective that keep me hooked on this series. Reading these books is like re-encountering an old friend. It's a relaxing and entertaining interlude to whatever else you may have been doing. I've been reading the books in order, but that's really not necessary. Each of the books stands on its own.

Choco says

This is the fourth book in a Mystery series with Bernie the private detective and his partner, Chet the dog. What sets this apart from any other mystery series is it's written from Chet the dog's point of view. This series is all about Chet for me. He's so so so cute. He's loyal and brave, and it all comes from his love for Bernie. He ADORES Bernie! Bernie treats Chet as an equal and his partner, and you don't want to call Chet "just a dog" in front of him. Although we only see things through Chet's eyes, his strong love for Chet is obvious.

Despite all that, Chet is a dog and gets distracted by food lying around on the floor, scent of animals or someone mentioning bacon (he gets excited and may jump on you). When Chet gets distracted, we miss out on interactions with Bernie and witnesses, but it's all part of the fun.

Here's my favourite scene from the book (p 25). (Note: Chet loves to ride shotgun in Bernie's car.)

We are partners, me and Bernie, in the Little Detective Agency, if I haven't made that clear already.

"Okey-doke," says Anya. "I'll just squeeze in behind."

"Oh, no," Bernie said. "That's not necessary. Into the back, Chet."

The back was this tiny little sort of bench. I'd sat there before, but only when Charlie [Bernie's kid who lives with his ex wife] or Suzie [Bernie's sort-of girlfriend] was coming along for the ride.

"Chet?"

I have this ability to make my whole body very stiff and immovable, but I hardly ever use it.

Oh Chet. I love you so much.

Foxthyme says

Chet is my absolutely most favourite dog detective. Each book he gets almost slightly better at putting together and remembering complex thoughts, until he gets distracted by dog things such as bacon, other dogs, treats, mentions of bacon.

When he has those epiphanous near-complex thought moments, I'm, like, dog savant...oh, so close.

But Chet isn't working on his own here. Bernie is the human part of the successful Chet and Bernie team. Each has their skills. And just like Harry Dresden, in each book, the team goes through the grist mill. Both take serious blows from perps. Perps who often end up in orange jumpsuits breaking rocks in the hot sun...as Chet tells it.

This team works because they have each other, they know each other, they rely on each other, and they go through whatever they have to to protect each others backs. The best detective duo ever.

Teddy says

There's something about Chet, Private Eye Bernie's dog, that is so appealing, sweet, and lovable, that you just want to eat him up. He narrates this story, as every story in this series, with a straightforward, often hilariously literal, view of the world that is undeniably accurate. Reading these books puts me in the safe, comfortable, happy place that I simply want to be in - in between taxing my mind with more convoluted reads & digesting stressful current events. The best tonic for what ails you. Thank you, Spencer Quinn!!!!

UKDana says

Bernie and Chet are partners in a private detective agency. The difference with this partnership is that Chet is a dog. Chet narrates our story, the fourth in the Chet & Bernie series.

Chet is a fantastic narrator. He's a failed police K9 dog and he adores Bernie, frequently referring to things Bernie has said in the past. He takes things very literally at times, "keep your eyes peeled" and "keep your eye on the ball" being typical examples that have Chet puzzling. He can also go off at a complete tangent and start waffling about completely unrelated events. These ramblings did bring a smile to my face.

The story itself is a typical thriller beginning with the disappearance of a child and ending with conspiracy and drugs in a small town. There's a temptation to class this as a cosy mystery because of the dog angle but the writer has avoided sentimentality and quirkiness in the humans featured in the story and so manages to avoid the "cosy" stamp.

Considering this is the fourth in a series it works well as a stand alone, I didn't feel as if I was missing out on any back story and would happily read the others in the series.

Brin Murray says

I loved the pov being from the dog - all those yummy and not so yummy smells - and now he's a bit distracted because he can sense there's bacon cooking somewhere or maybe it's that burger joint round the corner, so the reader isn't quite sure what was said in that conversation (though as it turns out, mostly we just miss the boring bits: a handy device to cut down on waffle).

Chet is a lovely narrator, humorous and distinctively voiced. Two things I thought worked especially well: the way he loves loves loves Bernie, down to his shell-like ears and smellicious flip flops - yeah, dog-like devotion is real and so much less complicated than the human kind; and his general joyousness especially in the presence of food, which is an unending delight. For Chet, that is.

Quibbles - the cover doesn't work. As a long term border collie partner - mine have weighed between 14 and 28 kilos, nowhere near 100 pounds. Chet's a BIG DOG - I feel he should be wolf-like, husky or akina or german shepherd. Also, I'm fairly sure dogs can't perceive colour - but willing to overlook that, would be quite boring if narrator can only see in black and white.

A plausible and interesting mystery, charming relationships, unpleasant bad guys, and I liked the way Chet

has to team up with Suzie to save Bernie's bacon - a strong, active female protagonist as well. All in all a highly entertaining, enjoyable read.

For more of Brin's reviews go to:

<http://www.brinmurray.com/>

Penny says

I loved Quinn's first 2 books; I flew through these with anticipation, grins, and ultimate satisfaction that all was right with the world. In this one, I started flying as usual, but about a third of the way through, I lost an engine, and I had to fight to keep turning the pages. Eventually, a wing was too badly damaged -- I lost interest and the book went down. On the table. I was sad.

Scott says

well, this is interesting though I just realized this news two years late...

I interviewed this guy for his first two books in his Chet and Bernie series but at that point his real identity wasn't known yet. I'll be interviewing him in December by email about his two new books, one of which is the latest in the series (which has the fun angle of a dog as a narrator - his human companion is a private eyes so it's private detective work from the dog's perspective leading to fun word play like when a "red herring" is mentioned Chet (the dog) gets really confused.

Here's an excerpt/chapter 1 of the next dog book.<http://books.simonandschuster.com/Dog...>

Anyway it's been revealed the author of the series is Peter Abrahams working under a pseudonym. Details on that here:

<http://www.thedailybeast.com/articles...>

So my current reading is that book and a young adult book Abraham's putting out in January called Robbie Forester and the Outlaws of Sherwood Street

<http://www.amazon.com/Robbie-Forester...>

My interview with him for the first chet book was here http://sbutki.newsvine.com/_news/2009... and the second was here http://sbutki.newsvine.com/_news/2010...

Ray says

"*The Dog Who Knew Too Much*" is the fourth of Spencer Quinn's series about private-eye Bernie Little and his faithful canine Chet. These books are entertaining, since the narrative is told through the eyes of Chet, the dog. Most of us have probably wondered at one time or another what our pet dog might be thinking in certain circumstances. Quinn light-heartedly answers that question in his books.

Chet had failed out of police K9 school before Bernie adopted him. So Chet has the makings of a fine police dog, albeit somewhat confused on occasion by the idioms used in common English language, and predictably distracted by the smell of bacon or the sight of a she-dog.

If you read this book, you're probably going to enjoy the antics of Chet as he "helps" Bernie solve his case and bring the bad-guy(s) to justice. And you probably won't care much if there are a few gaps in the logic of solving the crime and resolving the case. The book is a fun summer read, especially for dog lovers everywhere.
