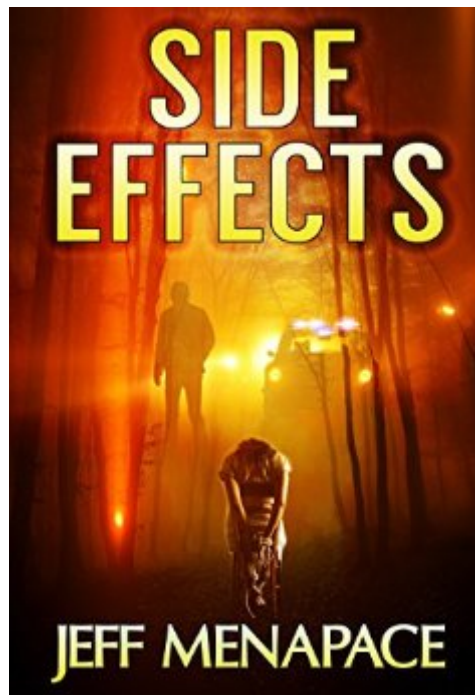


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# Side Effects: A Chilling Serial Killer Thriller (Maggie Allen Mysteries Book 1)



## Synopsis

WARNING: Side effects may cause the ability to catch a killer...FBI Agent Maggie Allen had a gift for catching serial killers. Now, following the death of her husband and son, she can barely get out of bed. Desperate, Maggie agrees to take part in a drug trial--a last-ditch effort to find something that might help her cope. The drug helps. However, it also carries several unpleasant side effects, not the least of them being an exceptional heightening of all her senses...just the kind of thing her old partner could use to help the FBI track down a ruthless killer who is proving impossible to catch."Side Effects is another fine suspense thriller from Jeff Menapace...FBI agents Morris and Allen are certainly worthy of a second story, if not a series." - J. Chambers, Hall of Fame, Top 10 Reviewer"Fantastic Read!! I loved Agents Maggie and Morris and even Dr. Cole! I felt I could relate to Maggie and what she has been through. I really felt empathy for this character." - Kindle Review"A page turner you won't want to put down...can't wait for the next one!" - Kindle Review"Highly recommended to anyone who enjoys police procedurals, serial killer stories or psychological drama. It is a winner in all categories." - Kindle Review

Side Effects can be downloaded for FREE as part of your Kindle Unlimited subscription. Enjoy these e-books on your Kindle Fire, your smartphone, or even your laptop after downloading the FREE Books Kindle app. \* \* \* Side Effects is featured in several Kindle Unlimited categories such as: thrillers, suspense, crime thrillers, crime fiction, thriller books, psychological thriller, psychological thriller books, mystery thriller novels, mystery, serial killer fiction, kidnapping fiction, suspense thriller in kindle unlimited books, murder, good thriller books, best sellers crime fiction, crime novels, police procedurals, hard-boiled crime fiction, women sleuths, detective novels, noir fiction, suspense thrillers in kindle unlimited books, crime thriller novels, new releases, and kindle unlimited books.

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## Customer Reviews

A serial killer is on the loose, and FBI agents Tim Morris and Margaret "Maggie" Allen are on his trail. Maggie has been taking a trial medication to help her cope with the loss of her husband and son. The medication has a side effect of giving her a heightened awareness of her senses and how the crimes might have gone down. Thinking that if they can learn what common factor the victims share will help them find the killer, who the media calls "The High Striker" for his brutal bludgeoning of the victims, Morris and Allen gradually close in on the murderer. But Lady Luck was on the killer's side, and the hunters become the hunted as the story races toward its heart-pounding climax. Side Effects is another fine suspense thriller from Jeff Menapace, who's demonstrated his talent for this genre as well as his earlier supernatural horror stories. As with his other works, Side Effects grabbed me from the beginning and didn't let go until the last page. For me, Menapace has become one of a handful of authors whose next work is eagerly anticipated. FBI agents Morris and Allen are good characters, certainly worthy of a second story, if not a series.

Jeff did it again! Every book I've read of his has kept me on the edge of my seat and reading each page with anticipation. Side Effects was much different than The Bad Games Trilogy and I liked it. I hope there will be another book with Mags and Agent Morris (hint hint Jeff!). I look forward to his next book.

This quick read packs a punch that left me gasping inside and near tears. It is unique because there are no weak characters and no weak moments. It is intense, start to finish, and left me anxious to read more of this series. I highly recommend this book to anyone who enjoys action, police procedurals, serial killer stories or psychological drama. It is a winner in all categories.

I love reading books by Jeff Menapace. I am a big fan. I especially enjoyed his "Bad Games" series. So, I couldn't wait to start his newest book, "Side Effects". I ordered the Kindle edition the day it came out. It is available on Kindle Unlimited. I raced through "Side Effects" in three sittings. It held my interest from beginning to end. Very hard to put down. The story is told by Maggie Allen, the main character. She is an FBI agent on bereavement leave after the death of her son Christopher. He died from cancer. Mike, her husband, is killed in a car wreck and Maggie survives. She becomes very depressed and seeks help from Dr. Cole, a psychiatrist. He gives her an experimental drug which has a special side effect, it heightens her senses. She likes the drug and convinces him to give her more. Then her partner, FBI agent Tim Morris steps in to the story. He knows about the drug and what it does to her. Even though she is on bereavement leave, he convinces her to help him catch a serial killer using her abilities. She does not return to work, but acts as a consultant. The story follows them on their search for the serial killer. It should be noted that Dr. Cole's wife was killed by another serial killer. Maggie gives us a detailed account of their search for the serial killer. The author explains the killings without violence or gore. We know what the killer did, but we never are observers to the killings. The language is tame and there is no erotica. Mr. Menapace's writing is excellent. The books move quickly and is never boring. The character development is right on. "Side Effects" is more than worthy of five stars. It is one of his best books. If you have not read any of his books, read this one. No one will be disappointed with this book.

Although a great idea for a novel, the author was simply repeating almost everything the two agents said to each other, to themselves even. I don't like spoilers so I won't write any but honestly, I don't think two FBI agents would talk things out like the two in this novel do. But maybe I've just read too many of these kinds of books that do not present conversations like Maggie and Morris. I figured out the motive before either agent, side effect of the drug or not! That drug helped the case, what? Directly? One time. The rest of its effects were bad dreams, a common side effect of quite a few psych meds. Anyway, given the ratings SOME people seem to really like this writer's books. Saying the same things, over and over, is boring, space waste. Even scattering thoughtful, quotable lines here and there can't save my overall opinion of the book ... Blah, blah, blahhhhhh (x4). Between reading crime writer's books for 45 years AND having a brother with 30 years in law enforcement at local, state then federal levels has helped me understand the processes used to catch a killer fairly well. I just don't see them in this book. But Menapace IS a good, strong writer so I'll bet his other books are better. I intend to find out!

I have been hooked on Jeff Menapace's writing since I found his short stories a few years back. I think I read *Bad Games* in like 2 days because I couldn't put it down. *Side Effects* was that way, but even more so. I love this book. It is by far my favorite novel by Jeff. I can't wait to read the next installment in this series.

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