



## A Brilliant Death

*By Robin Yocum*

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**A Brilliant Death** By Robin Yocum

**A 2017 EDGAR AWARD® NOMINEE!**

Amanda Baron died in a boating accident on the Ohio River in 1953. Or, did she? While it was generally accepted that she had died when a coal barge rammed the pleasure boat she was sharing with her lover, her body was never found.

Travis Baron was an infant when his mother disappeared. After the accident and the subsequent publicity, Travis's father scoured the house of all evidence that Amanda Baron had ever lived, and her name was never to be uttered around him. Now in high school, Travis yearns to know more about his mother. With the help of his best friend, Mitch Malone, Travis begins a search for the truth about the mother he never knew. The two boys find an unlikely ally: an alcoholic former detective who served time for falsifying evidence. Although his reputation is in tatters, the information the detective provides about the death of Amanda Baron is indisputable—and dangerous.

Nearly two decades after her death, Travis and Mitch piece together a puzzle lost to the dark waters of the Ohio River. They know how Amanda Baron died, and why. Now what do they do with the information?

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## **A Brilliant Death By Robin Yocum Bibliography**

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- Format: Kindle eBook



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## Editorial Review

### Review

“Part coming-of-age story, part cold-case mystery, *A Brilliant Death* does an excellent job of depicting life in an Ohio steel town. Robin Yocum has a knack for nuanced characters and spot-on dialogue. The changing timeline as the story unfolds will keep the reader guessing about Amanda's fate until the end of the novel, and Yocum's deft portrayal of Travis and Mitch's friendship makes *A Brilliant Death* an altogether charming read, despite the dark story framing it.”

—*Shelf Awareness for Readers*

“[An] engaging coming-of-age mystery.... Travis is a fresh and lovely version of a familiar archetype—the poor kid with a smart mind, good heart, and the drive to stand up to injustice and make a better life for himself.... Yocum continues to write with great tenderness about small-town life in the Ohio River Valley.”

—*Booklist Online*

“Yocum...creates so much sympathy for his characters in this coming-of-age tale that you hope for an alternate theory to what appears to be the ineluctable facts of a tragedy.”

—*Kirkus Reviews*

“Smooth, understated writing.... Yocum paints a vivid scene, and the full flavor of this era and place are pure Technicolor.”

—*New York Journal of Books*

“*A Brilliant Death*'s rural 1970s setting is vividly drawn and populated with interesting characters.... [Mitch and Travis's] personal experiences—family, home—are different, but their shared adolescence, with its inherent angst, creates a recognizable landscape and captures an alluring image of humanity. The story is powerful.”

—*Mystery Scene*

“The entire novel exists at the point where good crime fiction crosses well-executed young adult fiction and the result is a highly readable and altogether successful piece of writing.”

—*Toronto Star*

“[An] engrossing coming-of-age mystery.... Vivid local color and a satisfying portrait of boyhood friendship.”

—*Publishers Weekly*

### About the Author

**Robin Yocum** is the author of the 2017 Edgar® Award-nominated *A Brilliant Death*. He is also the author of the critically acclaimed novels *Favorite Sons* and *The Essay* as well as *Dead Before Deadline . . . and*

*Other Tales from the Police Beat* and *Insured for Murder* (with Catherine Candisky). The president of Yocum Communications, a public relations and marketing firm in Westerville, Ohio, Yocum is well known for his work as a crime and investigative reporter with the *Columbus Dispatch* from 1980-1991. He was the recipient of more than thirty local, state, and national journalism awards in categories ranging from investigative reporting to feature writing.

## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Frank Bullard:**

Spent a free time and energy to be fun activity to perform! A lot of people spent their sparetime with their family, or their own friends. Usually they undertaking activity like watching television, likely to beach, or picnic from the park. They actually doing same every week. Do you feel it? Do you need to something different to fill your own personal free time/ holiday? Could possibly be reading a book may be option to fill your cost-free time/ holiday. The first thing that you ask may be what kinds of book that you should read. If you want to try out look for book, may be the book untitled A Brilliant Death can be excellent book to read. May be it may be best activity to you.

#### **Frederick Avelar:**

Exactly why? Because this A Brilliant Death is an unordinary book that the inside of the book waiting for you to snap this but latter it will distress you with the secret this inside. Reading this book close to it was fantastic author who write the book in such incredible way makes the content on the inside easier to understand, entertaining approach but still convey the meaning fully. So , it is good for you for not hesitating having this any longer or you going to regret it. This book will give you a lot of benefits than the other book include such as help improving your ability and your critical thinking way. So , still want to hesitate having that book? If I were you I will go to the book store hurriedly.

#### **Elliott Preciado:**

A Brilliant Death can be one of your beginning books that are good idea. Most of us recommend that straight away because this book has good vocabulary that may increase your knowledge in vocabulary, easy to understand, bit entertaining however delivering the information. The author giving his/her effort that will put every word into delight arrangement in writing A Brilliant Death but doesn't forget the main position, giving the reader the hottest as well as based confirm resource details that maybe you can be certainly one of it. This great information could drawn you into completely new stage of crucial contemplating.

#### **Cathryn Walker:**

Reading a book to become new life style in this calendar year; every people loves to learn a book. When you examine a book you can get a great deal of benefit. When you read textbooks, you can improve your knowledge, simply because book has a lot of information into it. The information that you will get depend on what forms of book that you have read. If you would like get information about your research, you can read

education books, but if you want to entertain yourself you are able to a fiction books, these kinds of us novel, comics, along with soon. The A Brilliant Death provide you with new experience in examining a book.

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