

The Cassutt's managed to blow my day in terms of accomplishing anything productive. They shoved *The Girl With The Dragon Tattoo* by Stieg Larsson into my hands and said "read this".

It started out slowly, interesting but slow, two separate stories that slowly merge, and then BOOM, this book just grabs you and won't let go. Actually even before the journalist and the girl start working together I was totally, hopelessly hooked.

I actually read a little over 300 pages today because I couldn't put this book down. There are two "sequels", but alas the author died a few years ago so no more to follow. I'll be strolling down to Ventura Blvd. to buy book two this evening.

Since I'm a plot and structure maven I found the plotting to be convoluted but totally workable. My quibble is with the end -- it went on for a bit too long, but Larsson managed to tie together three big plots and amazingly it didn't feel forced.