

## The Monster Of Florence Douglas Preston

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Murder in Italy Macmillan

A real-life thriller in the vein of *The Devil in the White City*, Kate Winkler Dawson's debut *Death in the Air* is a gripping, historical narrative of a serial killer, an environmental disaster, and an iconic city struggling to regain its footing. London was still recovering from the devastation of World War II when another disaster hit: for five long days in December 1952, a killer smog held the city firmly in its grip and refused to let go. Day became night, mass transit ground to a halt, criminals roamed the streets, and some 12,000 people died from the poisonous air. But in the chaotic aftermath, another killer was stalking the streets, using the fog as a cloak for his crimes. All across London, women were going missing--poor women, forgotten women. Their disappearances caused little alarm, but each of them had one thing in common: they had the misfortune of meeting a quiet, unassuming man, John Reginald Christie, who invited them back to his decrepit Notting Hill flat during that dark winter. They never left. The eventual arrest of the "Beast of Rillington Place" caused a media frenzy: were there more bodies buried in the walls, under the floorboards, in the back garden of this house of horrors? Was it the fog that had caused Christie to suddenly snap? And what role had he played in the notorious double murder that had happened in that same apartment building not three years before--a murder for which another, possibly innocent, man was sent to the gallows? The Great Smog of 1952 remains the deadliest air pollution disaster in world history, and John Reginald Christie is still one of the most unfathomable serial killers of modern times. Journalist Kate Winkler Dawson braids these strands together into a taut, compulsively readable true crime thriller about a man who changed the fate of the death penalty in the UK, and an environmental catastrophe with implications that still echo today.

**Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil** Prometheus Books

New York Times bestselling author Douglas Preston teams up with Italian investigative journalist Mario Spezi to present a gripping account of crime and punishment in the lush hills surrounding Florence, Italy. *The Monster of Florence* is a remarkable and h

**The Book of the Dead** UNM Press

Award-winning author and journalist Nina Burleigh's mesmerizing literary investigation of the murder of Meredith Kercher, the controversial prosecution, the conviction and twenty-six-year sentence of Amanda Knox, the machinations of Italian justice, and the underground

depravity and clash of cultures in one of central Italy's most beloved cities. The sexually violent murder of twenty-one-year-old British student Meredith Kercher in Perugia, Italy, on the night of November 1, 2007, became an international sensation when one of Kercher's housemates, twenty-year-old Seattle native Amanda Knox, as well as her Italian boyfriend and a troubled local man Knox said she "vaguely" knew, was arrested and charged with the murder. When Perugia authorities concluded that the murder was part of a dark, twisted rite—a "sex game"—led by the American with an uncanny resemblance to Perugia's Madonna, they unleashed a media frenzy from Rome to London to New York and Seattle. The story drew an international cult obsessed with "Foxy Knoxy," a pretty honor student on a junior year abroad, who either woke up one morning into a nightmare of superstition and misogyny—the dark side of Italy—or participated in something unspeakable. The investigation begins in the old stone cottage overlooking bucolic olive groves where Kercher's body was found in her locked bedroom. It winds through the shadowy, arched alleys of Perugia, a city of art that is also a magnet for tens of thousands of students who frequent its bars, clubs, and drug bazaar on the steps of the Duomo. It climaxes in an up-close account of Italy's dysfunctional legal system, as the trial slowly unfolds at the town's Tribunale, and the prosecution's thunderous final appeal to God before the quivering girl defendant resembles a scene from the Inquisition. To reveal what actually happened on that terrible night after Halloween, Nina Burleigh lived in Perugia, attended the trial, and corresponded with the incarcerated defendants. She also delved deeply into the history, secrets, and customs of Perugia, renowned equally for its Etruscan tunnels, early Christian art, medieval sorcerers, and pagan roots. A New York Times bestseller, *The Fatal Gift of Beauty* is the thoughtful, compelling examination of an enduring mystery, an ancient, storied place, and a disquieting facet of Italian culture: an obsession with female eroticism. By including the real story of Rudy Guede, it is also an acute window into the minds and personalities of the accused killers and of the conservative Italian magistrate striving to make sense of an inexplicable act of evil. But at its core is an indelible portrait of Amanda Knox, the strangely childlike, enigmatic beauty, whose photogenic face became the focal point of international speculation about the shadow side of youth and freedom.

The Pendergast Files Forge Books

This discounted ebundle of the Pendergast Files from Douglas Preston and Lincoln Child includes *Relic* and *Reliquary* — Just days before a massive exhibition opens at the popular New York Museum of Natural History, visitors are being savagely murdered in the museum's dark hallways and secret rooms. Autopsies indicate that the killer cannot be human... *Reliquary* —When two grotesquely deformed skeletons are found deep in the mud off the Manhattan shoreline, museum curator Margo Green is called in to aid the investigation. Margo must once again team up with police lieutenant D'Agosta and FBI agent Pendergast, as well as the brilliant Dr. Frock, to try and solve the puzzle. Books by Douglas Preston and Lincoln Child The Pendergast Series *Relic* *Reliquary* Other books Mount Dragon Books by Douglas Preston The Kraken Project Impact Blasphemy The Monster of Florence The Codex Jennie At the Publisher's request, this title is being sold without Digital Rights Management

Software (DRM) applied.

### **City of Endless Night** Simon & Schuster

IN 1695, a notorious English pirate buried his bounty in a maze of booby-trapped tunnels on an island off the coast of Maine. In three hundred years, no one has breached this cursed and rocky fortress. Now a treasure hunter and his high-tech, million-dollar recovery team embark on the perfect operation to unlock the labyrinth's mysteries. First the computers fail. The then crewmen begin to die. The island has guarded its secrets for centuries, and it isn't letting them go--without a fight.

### **Riptide** Soho Press

From the author of the #1 New York Times bestseller *The Lost City of the Monkey God* comes an entrancing, eloquent, and entertaining account of the author's adventurous journey on horseback through the Southwest in the heart of Navajo desert country. In 1992 author Douglas Preston and his wife and daughter rode horseback across 400 miles of desert in Utah, Arizona, and New Mexico. They were retracing the route of a Navajo deity, the Slayer of Alien Gods, on his quest to restore beauty and balance to the Earth. More than a travelogue, Preston's account of their "one tough journey, luminously remembered" (Kirkus Reviews) is a tale of two cultures meeting in a sacred land and is "like traveling across unknown territory with Lewis and Clark to the Pacific" (Dee Brown, author of *Bury My Heart At Wounded Knee*).

### Dinosaurs in the Attic Grand Central Publishing

*Dinosaurs in the Attic* is a chronicle of the expeditions, discoveries, and scientists behind the greatest natural history collection ever assembled. Written by former Natural History columnist Douglas J. Preston, who worked at the American Museum of Natural History for seven years, this is a celebration of the best-known and best-loved museum in the United States.

### **The Kraken Project** Penguin

Investigating a series of savage murders that are disrupting a massive new exhibition at the New York Museum of Natural History, graduate student Margo Green finds a clue in a failed Amazonian expedition. Reissue.

### Cities of Gold Hachette Books

On a research trip to West Africa, Dr. Hugo Archibald of the Boston Museum of Natural History encounters an orphaned baby chimpanzee. Archibald decides to bring the ape, whom he names Jennie, back to Boston and raise her alongside his own two young children as a kind of scientific experiment. Jennie captures the hearts of everyone she encounters. She believes herself to be a human being. She does almost everything a human child can, from riding a tricycle to fighting over the television with her siblings to communicating in American Sign Language. Told from shifting points of view of those closest to Jennie, this heartwarming and bittersweet novel forces us to take a closer look at the species that shares 98 percent of our DNA and ask ourselves the question: What does it really mean to be human? Douglas Preston's *Jennie*, based on the real story of the chimpanzee who inspired *Curious George*, is the celebrated novel that was made into the award-winning Disney television film *The Jennie Project*. It was translated into many languages and became a worldwide bestseller. At the Publisher's request, this title is being sold without Digital Rights Management Software (DRM) applied.

### Crooked River Everest Media LLC

*The Monster of Perugia - The Framing of Amanda Knox*, is a work of literary non-fiction that is unlike any other book about the events surrounding the murder of Meredith Kercher. By framing his narrative in terms of powerful analogies from history and literature, Dr. Waterbury illuminates the dark recesses of a gross miscarriage of justice. This is not only an informative book, it is a "wonderful, good read" in the words of one

reviewer. Douglas Preston, bestselling author of *The Monster of Florence* and numerous other books wrote: "The Monster of Perugia is a fascinating book... I highly recommend this well-written, clear, gripping, and ultimately infuriating book." *The Monster of Perugia* demolishes the forensic evidence put forth by the prosecution, but this book is not just about forensics. Amanda and Raffaele were wrongfully convicted, but *Monster of Perugia* doesn't just prove their innocence. It reaches behind the facade of justice slowly taking its course to lay bare the baseless demonization, the incompetent framing, and the unconscionable incarceration of Amanda Knox by corrupt and incompetent powers within the justice system of the small city of Perugia, Italy. "By the end, Waterbury makes us understand what it's like to be an entirely innocent victim of a corrupt system. He tells us the truth and calls us to action." Thomas Lee Wright, author.

### The Monster of Florence St. Martin's Griffin

In this #1 New York Times bestseller, FBI Agent Pendergast reluctantly teams up with a new partner to investigate a rash of Miami Beach murders . . . only to uncover a deadly conspiracy that spans decades. After an overhaul of leadership at the FBI's New York field office, A. X. L. Pendergast is abruptly forced to accept an unthinkable condition of continued employment: the famously rogue agent must now work with a partner. Pendergast and his new colleague, junior agent Coldmoon, are assigned to investigate a rash of killings in Miami Beach, where a bloodthirsty psychopath is cutting out the hearts of his victims and leaving them with cryptic handwritten letters at local gravestones. The graves are unconnected save in one bizarre way: all belong to women who committed suicide. But the seeming lack of connection between the old suicides and the new murders is soon the least of Pendergast's worries. Because as he digs deeper, he realizes the brutal new crimes may be just the tip of the iceberg: a conspiracy of death that reaches back decades.

### *The Monster of Florence* Ballantine Books

Please note: This is a companion version & not the original book. Sample Book Insights: #1 On June 7, 1981, Mario Spezi was assigned to cover the crime desk for *La Nazione*, a newspaper in Florence, Italy. He was approached by the reporter who usually handled the crime desk, who said that he had a little appointment. Spezi was told to hang around police headquarters in case something happened. #2 Spezi saw the body of the young girl, lying at the foot of a little embankment, among wildflowers. She had been shot, and her blue eyes were open and seemed to be looking up at him with surprise. Everything was unnaturally composed, immobile, with no signs of struggle or confusion. #3 The crime scene was horrifying. The two victims were shot in the back of the car while they were having sex, and their killer left them at the bottom of a hill, exposed and vulnerable, next to a footpath that ran parallel to the road. #4 Inspector Cimmino explained that the killer had cut out the victim's vagina and took it away with him. He said that it was simply not there anymore.

### Grand Central Publishing

"A must read guaranteed to give newbies a clear and complete understanding of the Monster's murders and of the various investigative theories. The book could also be a great reference for "experts" who believe they know everything on the subject, as it uncovers valuable clues and revelations about the murders and the investigations" (Gabriele Basilica, *Thriller Magazine*). "Those passionate about true crime stories will certainly appreciate the analysis of the murders of the *Monster of Florence*. Brunoro and Pezzan write about everything, from Vincenzo

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Spalletti to the Sardinian Lead, from Pietro Pacciani to the picnicking friends, and finally from the esoteric theory to the Narducci story. A wonderful map to find your way through a deep mystery" (Maurizio Di Giangiacomo , Trentino-Alto Adige). This is the most detailed storytelling of the crimes of the one that came to be know as "The Monster of Florence". We are talking about an event that has tested all existing criminology theories on serial killers, to the point where we can state that there are traditional crimes, serial killers, and then there is "The Monster of Florence". The book contains the exclusive interview with director and filmmaker Paolo Cochi, author of the popular documentary "I delitti del Mostro di Firenze" (The murders of the Monster of Florence). Cochi is considered to be one of the most knowledgeable researchers on the case.

#### **Santa's Dragon** Grand Central Publishing

Since he was seven, Cary Stayner had dreamed of capturing women . . . and killing them They were crimes that grabbed headlines around the world and stunned America. Four women dead, their bodies charred and horribly mutilated. Now Dennis McDougal, acclaimed author of the spellbinding true crime tour de force Mother's Day, brings his considerable investigative and narrative skills to the Yosemite murders to give you the most complete account of what really happened. Drawing on several personal conversations with the confessed killer and interviews with the victims' families, McDougal presents the definitive story, and answers many lingering questions. What demons drove this quiet handyman and nudist colony habitue to burn, mutilate, and murder four women he didn't even know? How did he overpower a woman and two teenaged girls? And most disturbing, did the glory-seeking FBI actually hinder the investigation, leaving the killer free to kill once more before he was caught? THE YOSEMITE MURDERS offers valuable insight into these savage and senseless murders in the heart of America's most beautiful wilderness.

#### Thunderhead Vintage

An encyclopedia designed especially to meet the needs of elementary, junior high, and senior high school students.

#### **The City of Falling Angels** Simon and Schuster

The Monster of Florence Grand Central Publishing

#### The Monster of Florence Grand Central Publishing

A modern horseback journey across 1,000 miles of desert and wilderness following the trail of the first European explorer in the American Southwest.

#### Gaslighted Sourcebooks, Inc.

From the #1 New York Times bestselling authors: Racing to uncover the mystery of several severed feet found floating in the Gulf of Mexico, Agent Pendergast is faced with the most inexplicable challenge of his career. A startling crime with dozens of victims. Appearing out of nowhere to horrify the quiet resort town of Sanibel Island, Florida, dozens of identical, ordinary-looking shoes float in on the tide and are washed up on the tropical beach—each one with a crudely severed human foot inside. A ghastly enigma with no apparent solution. Called away from vacation elsewhere in the state, Agent Pendergast reluctantly agrees to visit the crime scene—and, despite himself, is quickly drawn in by the incomprehensible puzzle. An early pathology report only adds to the mystery. With an ocean of possibilities confronting the investigation, no one is sure what happened, why, or from where the feet originated. And they desperately need to know: are the victims still alive? A worthy challenge for a brilliant mind. In short order, Pendergast finds himself facing the most complex and inexplicable challenge of his

career: a tangled thread of evidence that spans seas and traverses continents, connected to one of the most baffling mysteries in modern medical science. Through shocking twists and turns, all trails lead back to a powerful adversary with a sadistic agenda and who—in a cruel irony—ultimately sees in Pendergast the ideal subject for their malevolent research.

#### Jennie Grand Central Publishing

A #1 New York Times Bestseller! "Funny, insightful, illuminating . . ." —The Boston Globe  
Twelve years ago, *Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil* exploded into a monumental success, residing a record-breaking four years on the New York Times bestseller list (longer than any work of fiction or nonfiction had before) and turning John Berendt into a household name. *The City of Falling Angels* is Berendt's first book since *Midnight*, and it immediately reminds one what all the fuss was about. Turning to the magic, mystery, and decadence of Venice, Berendt gradually reveals the truth behind a sensational fire that in 1996 destroyed the historic Fenice opera house. Encountering a rich cast of characters, Berendt tells a tale full of atmosphere and surprise as the stories build, one after the other, ultimately coming together to portray a world as finely drawn as a still-life painting.

#### The Monster of Florence Harlequin

From crime scene to morgue to courtroom, and finally the court of public opinion, this riveting narrative is essential reading for true-crime enthusiasts. If you think the media has told you everything there is to know about Michael Jackson and Casey Anthony, think again! This engrossing, almost cinematic page-turner, offers never-before-published information on the mysterious deaths of Michael Jackson and Caylee Anthony, plus five other ripped-from-the-headlines criminal cases. Based on the authors' long investigative experience, these two insiders offer revealing insights into the following high-profile cases: -Casey Anthony: An assessment of the Trial of this Century, during which a Florida mother stood accused of killing her young daughter, Caylee. At stake were issues that included accuracy of air sampling and cadaver dogs, post-mortem hair banding, chloroform, duct tape identification, computer clues, and deep family secrets. -Michael Jackson: The authors provide never-disclosed data on the autopsies of Jackson's body and a microscopic view of the singer's life and career, plus analysis of the cardiologist charged with his death: Was Dr. Conrad Murphy recklessly negligent or a fall guy for a hopelessly addicted celebrity? -Drew Peterson: Heroic Illinois SWAT team cop or wife killer? Did his third wife slip and fall in the bathtub, or was she beaten and drowned? The controversy over her death led to an exhumation and the filing of homicide charges against him, but can prosecutors prove their case? And what happened to his fourth wife, who remains missing? -Rolling Stone Brian Jones: Was the rock musician's death an accident or something more sinister? And was he impaired by drugs or alcohol when he died? After more than forty years, there is finally an answer. In addition, the authors examine the tragic death of twelve-year-old Gabrielle Bechen, whose rape-murder changed her community; Col. Philip Shue, whose demise was a battle of suicide versus homicide until Dr. Wecht solved the case; and Carol Ann Gotbaum, a respected Manhattan mother who died in police custody in Phoenix.