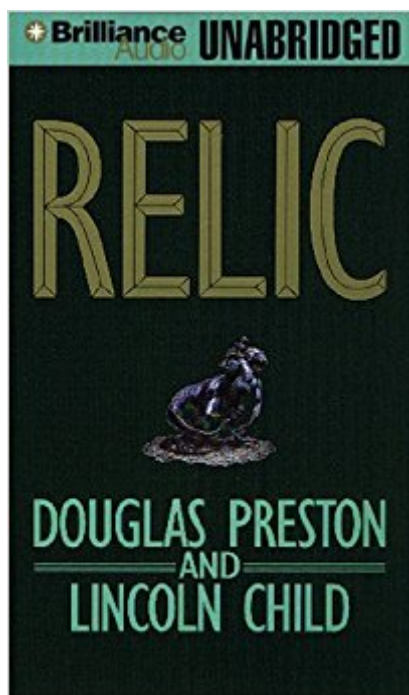


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Relic (Pendergast)



Synopsis

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. But the museum's directors plan to go ahead with a big bash to celebrate the new exhibition, in spite of the murders. Museum researcher Margo Green must find out who or what is doing the killing. But can she do it in time to stop the massacre?

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

A series of bizarre and brutal murders is taking place in the halls of the New York Museum of Natural History, only days before a massive exhibition is set to open. Margo Green knows that the killer is something not human, something that's not even supposed to exist. Where did it come from, how did it get into the museum, and how can it be stopped? --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

A monster on the loose in New York City's American Museum of Natural History provides the hook for this high-concept, high-energy thriller. A statue of the mad god Mbwun, a monstrous mix of man and reptile, was discovered by a Museum expedition to South America in 1987. Now, it is about to become part of the new Superstition Exhibition at the museum (here renamed the "New York Museum of Natural History"). But as the exhibition's opening night approaches, the museum may have to be shut down due to a series of savage murders that seem to be the work of a maniac-or a

living version of Mbwun. When the museum's director pulls strings to ensure that the gala affair takes place, it's up to a small band of believers, led by graduate student Margo Green, her controversial adviser and an FBI agent who investigated similar killings in New Orleans, to stop the monster-if the culprit is indeed a monster-from going on a rampage. Less horror than action-adventure, the narrative builds to a superbly exciting climax, and then offers a final twist to boot. With its close-up view of museum life and politics, plausible scientific background, sharply drawn characters and a plot line that's blissfully free of gratuitous romance, this well-crafted novel offers first-rate thrills and chills. Film rights optioned by Kennedy-Marshall Productions; audio rights to Brilliance Corp. Copyright 1994 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

I read a couple of later Pendergast series books. So I thought that I should go back to the beginning. This book met my expectations with the aloof and very thoroughly resourceful Agent Pendergast solving the problem with a little help from other museum experts. I wondered throughout the book and was correct about the final disclosure about the killer. This was a very satisfying ending, while leaving the door open for a researcher to create new problems. This was a fun summer read.

A wonderful mix of mystery/detective and 'horror' genres. I put 'horror' in scare quotes as this story does not invoke the typical ghosts, zombies, vampires, etc. one often associates with the genre. Instead, we have a monster of sorts, whose existence *can be* explained by science - if somewhat weird science. The purported scientific explanation does nothing to lessen the creepy feel of the story. We also are introduced to Special Agent Pendergast, a most unusual FBI agent and all around perplexing character.

This is a very fast and entertaining book about a creature in the dark, a hybrid of the past and the present that is on a hunting spree throughout the halls of the Metropolitan Museum of Natural History in New York. A perfect read for those of you who want suspense, dark humor, some science, and plenty of bumps in the dark. And, apparently, there are even more books in the series. Perfect!

This could have been a much better story. The authors did not take the time to develop characters nor did they make a decent attempt at ensuring that their law enforcement story lines were authentic. Not sure I can recommend this one.

Relic was a one of a kind scary story that keeps you guessing and holding breath for the next page! Special Agent Pendergast is a unique force unto himself, but each character was very well thought out. Whether you are a horror or science fiction fan or not, this was great story worth any avid reader's time.

If it is a Preston/Child book you can be assured of a great read. With each passing book these two have written, their plots and characters have developed and have become alive. The suspense and drama draws the reader into the amazing world that Preston/Child have imagined. Although, sometimes the book seems far-fetched, by the end you are a believer! Preston/Child take you through the jungles and its beautiful and sometimes deadly culture. Giving a rich background to the plot of this story. You get to meet characters that will be present in many other books by these two authors. Some you love and some you love to hate, but in the end it makes for a very good read.

Relic has always been one of my favorite Pendergast books. Honestly if you've only seen the movie, you owe it to yourself to take some time and read the actual book. Preston and Child do a great job of creating characters with distinct personalities and quirks and weaving them all together into something spectacular. A grisly series of murders in the NY Museum of Natural History right before a planned exhibition, to attract funds and attention to the museum, provides all the drama and suspense that you would expect. Vincent D'Agosta is the leading man from the NYPD investigating the murders which result in several decapitated bodies. He is a likeable character and competent, unfortunately that doesn't make things easy for him. There are bureaucrats within the museum that want to act as if nothing has happened, things should go on unhampered because of the mounting exhibition. He finds an ally in Pendergast, the FBI agent from Louisiana who has worked on a similar case years prior. The two work together along with Dr. Frock and Margo Green to uncover the truth behind the museum killings and those that took place years prior, leading up to the final confrontation with the creature. Truly an engaging book!

The story is unique but it is written in spurts. The story drags along and then you get a feeling its hurry up and get the story moving. Then it drags along until hurry up again we are losing the audience. Reading the sequel but it is written in the same formatt so I will probably drop this author.

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