

Predator (Scarpetta)

By Patricia Cornwell

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Scarpetta, now freelancing with the National Forensic Academy in Florida, digs into a case more bizarre than any she has ever faced, one that has produced not only unusual physical evidence but tantalizing clues about the inner workings of an extremely cunning and criminal mind.

She and her team—Pete Marino, Benton Wesley, and her niece, Lucy—track the odd connections between several horrific crimes and the people who are the likely suspects. As one psychopath, safely behind bars and the subject of a classified scientific study at a Harvard-affiliated psychiatric hospital, teases Scarpetta with tips that could be fact—or fantasy—the number of killers on the loose seems to multiply. Are these events related or merely random? And what can the study of one man's brain tell them about the methods of a psychopath still lurking in the shadows?

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Predator (Scarpetta) By Patricia Cornwell Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly
It's not often a crime novel offers such a smorgasbord of oddball elements, including autopsy advice, methods of combating tree blight, the use of spiders in sadomasochist torture and couples covering the sexual and psychological waterfronts. There's even a little nasty fun at the expense of television psychoanalysts. With geographic locations switching slightly faster than the speed of sound, it's to Reading's credit that she smoothes out the ultra rumpled excesses of Cornwell's mind-boggling plot and takes full advantage of the yarn's narrator-friendly present tense. Having given voice to several earlier books in the series, she's got the main characters down cold. Her Dr. Kay Scarpetta is all snarky professional reserve and personal insecurity. Self-loathing lesbian niece Lucy, sounds properly troublesome and troubled, with an added catch in the throat due to a secret she's keeping. Pete Marino, the bullet-headed, gym rat security chief of the Lucy-originated National Forensic Academy, sounds so gruff and aggressive, he should be kept on a chain leash. And Scarpetta's inamorato, Benton Wesley, whose study of mass murderers' brain patterns gives the novel its title, is, as his name suggests, the very model of a dry, annoyingly passive-aggressive personality. The joke here-intended or not-is that the novel's protagonists are almost as mentally or emotionally disturbed as its homicidal villains. Cornwell seems to have grown weary of the lot of them. But there's still a flicker of life left and Reading has the skill to make the most of it.
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Review

“Sensationally plotted, with a twist at the end that will leave you gasping for breath.”—**The Daily Express** (U.K.)

“A fine psychological thriller…recalls the work of writers like Minette Walters or Thomas Harris.”—**The Denver Post**

“[Readers] will find themselves entertained and surprised by the ending.”—**The Stuart News/Port St. Lucie News** (Stuart, FL)

“There is a steely authority to the prose.”—**The Independent** (London)

“Cornwell and her original heroine Kay Scarpetta are both back in top form.”—**Birmingham Post**

About the Author

Patricia Cornwell's most recent bestsellers include Red Mist, Port Mortuary, and Portrait of a Killer: Jack the Ripper???Case Closed. Her earlier works include Postmortem???the only novel to win five major crime awards in a single year???and Cruel and Unusual, which won Britain???s prestigious Gold Dagger Award for the best crime novel of 1993. Dr. Kay Scarpetta herself won the 1999 Sherlock Award for the best detective created by an American author.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Brandon Li:

This Predator (Scarpetta) book is absolutely not ordinary book, you have after that it the world is in your hands. The benefit you get by reading this book will be information inside this publication incredible fresh, you will get info which is getting deeper you actually read a lot of information you will get. This Predator (Scarpetta) without we understand teach the one who looking at it become critical in imagining and analyzing. Don't be worry Predator (Scarpetta) can bring once you are and not make your handbag space or bookshelves' grow to be full because you can have it inside your lovely laptop even cellphone. This Predator (Scarpetta) having fine arrangement in word in addition to layout, so you will not experience uninterested in reading.

Monica Ceja:

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Trevor Cianciolo:

Reading can called thoughts hangout, why? Because if you are reading a book particularly book entitled Predator (Scarpetta) your brain will drift away trough every dimension, wandering in each and every aspect that maybe mysterious for but surely can be your mind friends. Imaging each word written in a publication then become one application form conclusion and explanation this maybe you never get just before. The Predator (Scarpetta) giving you another experience more than blown away your brain but also giving you useful facts for your better life on this era. So now let us present to you the relaxing pattern at this point is your body and mind are going to be pleased when you are finished examining it, like winning a casino game. Do you want to try this extraordinary paying spare time activity?

Latoya Brown:

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