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Stalking Jack The Ripper



Synopsis

Presented by James Patterson's new children's imprint, this deliciously creepy horror novel has a storyline inspired by the Ripper murders and an unexpected, blood-chilling conclusion...Seventeen-year-old Audrey Rose Wadsworth was born a lord's daughter, with a life of wealth and privilege stretched out before her. But between the social teas and silk dress fittings, she leads a forbidden secret life. Against her stern father's wishes and society's expectations, Audrey often slips away to her uncle's laboratory to study the gruesome practice of forensic medicine. When her work on a string of savagely killed corpses drags Audrey into the investigation of a serial murderer, her search for answers brings her close to her own sheltered world. The story's shocking twists and turns, augmented with real, sinister period photos, will make this dazzling debut from author Kerri Maniscalco impossible to forget.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I should start by saying that I was drawn to this young adult novel because of "Jack the Ripper," not because it was presented by James Patterson. I've been a Ripper enthusiast for many years, reading and watching pretty much everything out there, fiction or non. I tend to be pretty critical. That said, I often like first-time novelists because there's so much heart and soul in their initial efforts. In the end, I enjoyed "Stalking Jack the Ripper" despite some mild criticisms, some of which might only apply to me. Kerri Maniscalco is a good writer and well worth watching. Frequently I had to remind myself that this was meant for a young adult/teenage audience because it worked well as a creepy and highly atmospheric adult gothic mystery, what with its damp cobblestones amidst thick

smoke and thin slivers of moonlight, and all the Victorian forensics and secret passages and vividly described gore. I can't imagine giving them to anyone under seventeen or so, but I'm sure there are more disturbing things in television. The characters are excellent, from the strong and independent young Audrey Rose Wadsworth to her companion, a slightly lecherous Young Sherlock Holmes, who brings home the comparison by frequently referring to our heroine as "Wadsworth." I found the assorted cast very interesting and relatively realistic for the time period. Obviously, Victorian London is a man's world, and young Audrey faces some real struggles as she tries to pursue her dreams. This is all brought to life with depth and sensitivity. My one complaint, which is more my fault I guess, is that I figured out the broader mystery by page twenty, meaning I moved through a further two hundred pages filled with good, well-placed clues that reinforced that I was right.

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