



Predator: Scarpetta (Book 14)

By Patricia Cornwell

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Investigating the disappearance of two sisters in Florida, Dr. Kay Scarpetta follows clues that twist and turn, leading her into the psychopathic depths of a jailed serial killer's mind.

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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 ruffled 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:

Cornell Smith:

The book Predator: Scarpetta (Book 14) gives you the sense of being enjoy for your spare time. You should use to make your capable much more increase. Book can for being your best friend when you getting stress or having big problem using your subject. If you can make reading through a book Predator: Scarpetta (Book 14) to get your habit, you can get more advantages, like add your own capable, increase your knowledge about a few or all subjects. You can know everything if you like open up and read a book Predator: Scarpetta (Book 14). Kinds of book are several. It means that, science book or encyclopedia or other individuals. So , how do you think about this guide?

Mary Flynn:

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Marni Johnson:

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Charles Smith:

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