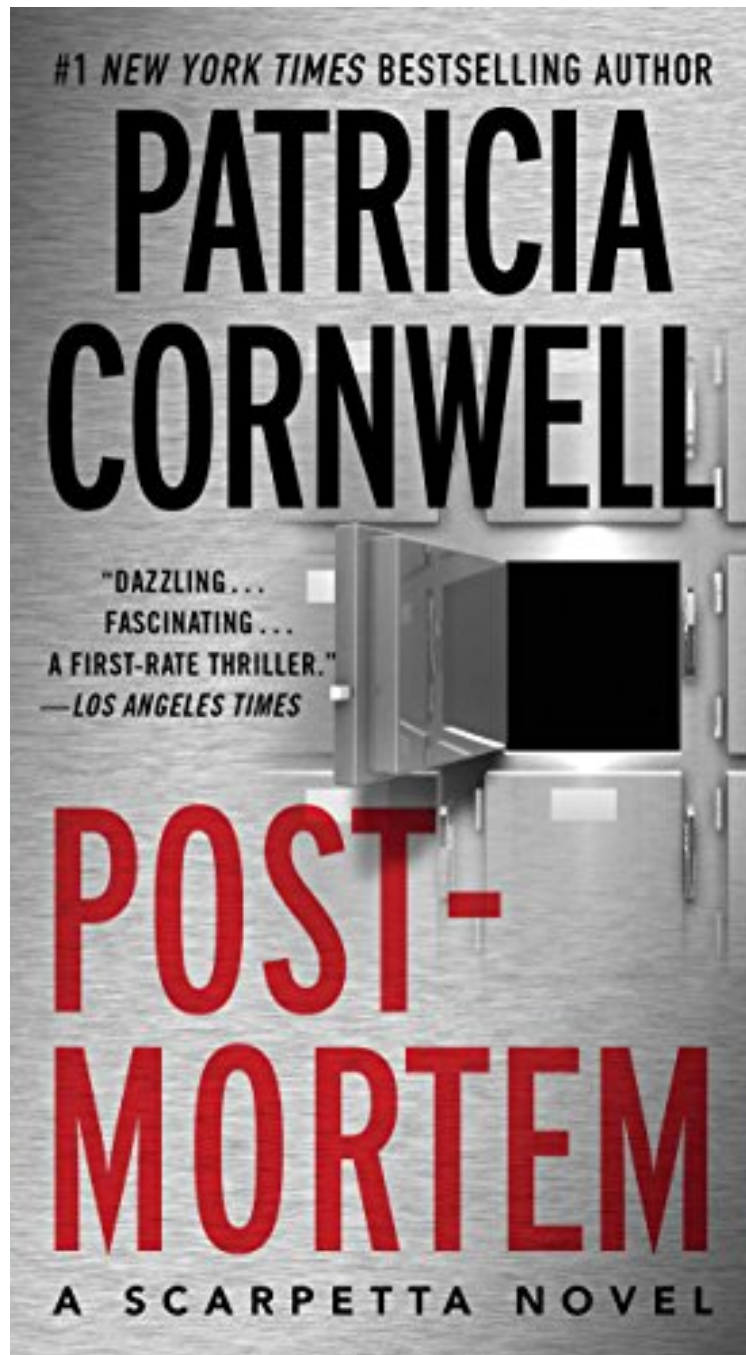


(Download pdf) Postmortem (Kay Scarpetta Book 1) (English Edition)

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Von Patricia Cornwell

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Von Patricia Cornwell : Postmortem (Kay Scarpetta Book 1) (English Edition) before purchasing it in order to

gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised *Postmortem* (Kay Scarpetta Book 1) (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen3 von 3 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Good start--weak finishVon Ein KundeI read this book after having read some of her later ones, expecting this early effort to be better. Actually, it was, because Kay is more likeable and not as frustrated and enraged as she seems to become in the later books. I was disappointed in the denouement because Cornwell broke an unwritten rule of the mystery-writing field: don't have your villain suddenly appear on the last page. Introduce him early so the reader does not feel cheated. This villain was an obscure little guy who is not a character at all in that he doesn't move or speak in the narrative. The romance with Boltz seemed pointless, since he just disappears out of the story midway, and the child prodigy on the computer who makes the surrounding adults look like a bunch of idiots has become a cliché. I don't know who thought of this first, but it's old stuff. I found the technical data interesting, but the plot was episodic; and the detail about taking the bullets out of the gun every day was a plot device that stood out like a red flag. An experienced mystery reader sees that and says, "AHA!" Taken all in all, this novel makes a promise that has not been fulfilled.1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. *Postmortem*? Post-Boredom.Von Ein KundeSo after being told that this was Cornwell's BEST work, (judging from her most recent that claim didn't seem too far-fetched), I finally decided to give it a try. This has got to be one of THE most terribly crafted stories, ever! Not to mention the plot structure. And by far one of the dullest books I've ever read. (Reading the *Odyssey* eight times in a row would've been more interesting.) We never do get to see Scarpetta doing much of anything. All of her "autopsies" are performed under the cover of "I just finished a post," dialogue. And then there's the dialogue. (Nevermind. I only have 1,000 words available.) So instead of being Chief Medical Examiner, Scarpetta goes from one long-winded conversation in an office, to another office, to someone's car, to her home, to an office, to a car, etc. (ex.) Somewhere in the first 50 pages, Cornwell gives the reader a transcript of an interview between Marino and a victim's husband to read. A very foolish move. Cornwell loses the reader for ten pages! Any editor in their right mind would NEVER have let that happen. Relative to the 350 (+) pages, Scarpetta really doesn't do much. There were a couple moments of interesting forensic inquiries, such as the mysterious "sparkles." But they were few and far between and not worth the 7 hours it took for me to painfully slog through this one. On another note, you never really get to know Scarpetta in this, almost as if Cornwell herself didn't know who her main protagonist really was. I know more about her desire for cooking pasta from scratch than her life as an ME. Marino was more flushed out and already an interesting "squirrel." (Uck. That dialogue has got to stop, yo.) And where was the climax? There was no build to the final showdown. It just sort of happened and was over in two pages. No build-up, no suspense. No midpoint or plot points. No pace. Perhaps ten years ago, at the time of *Postmortem*'s original publication, this was a big hit because it was something new. But new or 10 years old, this is one of the worst mysteries with no redeeming qualities. It still amazes me that an editor found this to be worthy of publication, (especially for a first time mystery writer), and didn't flat out send it back with a form rejection letter. If you want breathtaking suspense, try out AJ Holt, or Karen Kijewski. Not only are their stories first-rate, but they are good writers as well.1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Lock your doors and windows, sit back, and enjoy!Von Kori FrazierAfter reading Patricia Cornwell's "Unnatural Exposure" I was so drawn to her writing style and characters that I decided I had to have more. So, I took it upon myself to add "Postmortem" to my library of suspense novels. Although I am new to Cornwell's books, I think that this may be one of the best books I have ever read. The way she uses her medical knowledge and background to create the plot and characters amazes me, and the story itself was so real that each chapter sent me on a rampage throughout my house to make sure that all the doors and windows were locked! I am a high school English student planning on becoming a writer myself, and I believe that Patricia Cornwell has given me an excellent role model to look at in my own writing endeavors. I highly recommend this book to anyone who enjoys suspenseful reading and forensic mysteries....as long as you can keep the fact that it is only a book in your mind....

KurzbeschreibungUnder cover of night in Richmond, Virginia, a human monster strikes, leaving a gruesome trail of stranglings that has paralyzed the city. Medical examiner Kay Scarpetta suspects the worst: a deliberate campaign by a brilliant serial killer whose signature offers precious few clues. With an unerring eye, she calls on the latest advances in forensic research to unmask the madman. But this investigation will test Kay like no other, because it's being sabotaged from within and someone wants her dead.From Publishers WeeklyCornwell, a former reporter who has worked in a medical examiner's office, sets her first mystery in Richmond, Va. Chief medical officer for the commonwealth of Virginia, Dr. Kay Scarpetta, the narrator, dwells on her efforts to identify "Mr. Nobody," the strangler of young women. The doctor devotes days and nights to gathering computer data and forensic clues to the killer, although she's hampered by male officials anxious to prove themselves superior to a woman. Predictably, Scarpetta's toil pays off, but not before the strangler attacks her; a reformed male chauvinist, conveniently nearby, saves her. Although readers may be naturally disposed to admire Scarpetta and find the novel's scientific aspect

interesting, they are likely to be put off by her self-aggrandizement and interminable complaints, annoying flaws in an otherwise promising debut. Copyright 1989 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Library Journal This award-winning novel based on Richmond's real-life "South Side Strangler" case introduced Virginia's chief medical examiner, Kay Scarpetta, and launched Cornwell's career. Narrator Lorelei King generally has a pleasant reading voice and uses good pacing to build suspense. However, this is not a successful merger of book and reader for American ears. Listeners may be confused to hear that Kay wears "cocky" (khaki), for instance, and accenting the second syllable of such words as modem and condom distract the listener from the story. Furthermore, the voices of supporting characters (such as Marino, a "stupid" New Jersey cop, and Lucy, a fussy Southern child) are stereotypical. Fortunately, an unabridged version of *Postmortem* is available from several other producers, including Recorded Books (Audio s, LJ 2/15/94). Not recommended. ?Juleigh Muirhead Clark, Williamsburg, Va. Copyright 1996 Reed Business Information, Inc.