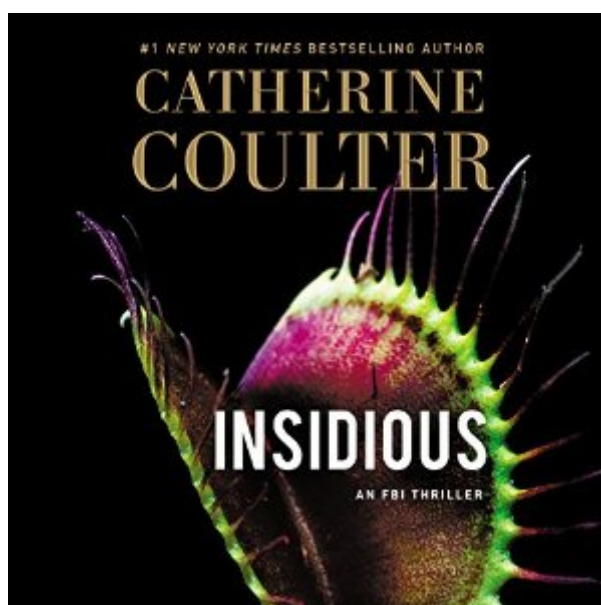


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Insidious: FBI Thriller, Book 20



Synopsis

Insidious is the twentieth thriller in #1 New York Times bestselling author Catherine Coulter's FBI series. FBI agents Savich and Sherlock must discover who is trying to murder eighty-six-year-old Venus Rasmussen, a powerful, wealthy society icon. They soon find out that the danger may be closer than expected. Venus Rasmussen, a powerful eighty-six-year-old woman who still runs Rasmussen Industries, an international conglomerate, believes someone is poisoning her. After Savich and Sherlock visit with her, someone attempts to shoot her in broad daylight. Who's trying to kill her and why? A member of her rapacious family, or her grandson who's been missing for ten years and suddenly reappears? Savich and Sherlock must peel away the layers to uncover the incredible truth about who would target Venus. Meanwhile, Special Agent Cam Wittier leaves Washington for Los Angeles to work with local Detective Daniel Montoya to lead the hunt for the Starlet Slasher, a serial killer who has cut the throats of five young actresses. When a sixth young actress is murdered, Cam comes to realize the truth might be closer than she'd ever want to believe. With breakneck speed and unexpected twists and turns, Coulter's Insidious will leave you breathless until the shocking conclusion.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This is a wonderful book that follows in the line of many of Coulter's FBI series books, but it is great to see that Coulter changes it up a bit from her regular formula. Sherlock and Savich are called in when Venus Rasmussen, famous eighty-year-old billionaire entrepreneur, suspects that

she's being poisoned by one of her family members. Coulter takes the investigation of all of the members of the family, including others (no spoilers here) who readers may have met in prior novels. As with most of Catherine Coulter FBI books there are two plots lines in the book. The second plot sends Special Agent Cam Witters to Los Angeles to work with local detectives to find the Starlet Slasher, a killer that has already murdered 5 young actresses. In all, this is a great Coulter investigative mystery, with a sprinkle of romance, and a lot of fun for any Coulter fan.

Been a fan of Catherine Coulter throughout her career. Have every one of her published books. This is the worst FBI series book she has ever written. Very poor character development. Idiotic dialogue. No plot. Unrelated and unexplained story lines. Have never been so disappointed in one of her books.

Catherine Coulter has written many books, some better than others. That being said, I despise formulaic writing and the past few have definitely been. If you don't have a new story to tell, don't take a theme, change the names and a couple of other things. The only positive thing about some of her recent books is the introduction to J. T. Ellison! I won't buy another book that appears to be the formula, just in stopped buying Nora Robert's years ago.

I knew this book was part of a series when I chose it but I didn't realise it was book #20! That had me a little worried as I hadn't read the author before and starting a series at the end hardly ever works out. However, I was wrong to worry. For a mystery/thriller, this has a unique style, something more common to TV shows than books. The book contains two distinct and separate cases involving different Agents with only very minimal contact as the lower-ranked Agent occasionally checks in with her boss (who is working the other case). One of the cases is a serial killer thriller and the other is a cosy; someone trying to poison the matriarch of a rich corporate family. The cosy mystery takes place in Washington and was decent and moved along at a slow pace, but had plenty of drama and an ending that kept you guessing who the culprit was. But I really did hate it interrupting the serial killer case as that was much more my style and very fast-paced reading. Taking place in Los Angeles, this was about a killer who went after rising young starlets by quickly slitting their throats then stealing their cell phones and laptops. The solutions of both were a little over-the-top from reality but honestly, that didn't stop them being fun, though there did seem to be some floating threads missing from the conclusions. Overall, I'd like to visit this series again, only starting from the beginning!

I was extremely disappointed in this book. I have read all of her books and have enjoyed them immensely. This book, and the last two or three in the series seem to be more about running a fast timeline jogging back-and-forth between two stories. They don't have the character development and the relationship development that the earlier books in the series have. I can understand after 20 books the writing style will change but what made the first 10 to 12 books so good is definitely missing in the later books and in this book completely. The entire time you're reading it feels like they are stuck on one or two possible suspects. There's not a lot of suspense and you can see the ending coming well in advance. Not much of a suspense book with very little given to the relationships that seem to jump very quickly with very little interaction. As always Catherine Coulter's books always seem well researched with a lot of detail.

Savich and Sherlock have a personal stake in a case, as the uber-wealthy matriarch of a family that has been entwined with Savich's since his grandmother's time is being poisoned, with old money, business rivals, a dysfunctional family and an interesting staff are all suspects. There are various cameos from major characters in earlier stories, but it's a solid continuance to Coulter's FBI Thriller series. The secondary story pulls in a borrowed agent who has a history with her family in the LA area, with actors, producers, and hopefuls all enmeshed in a serial murder investigation. Cam is a gorgeous agent who doesn't get the guy - but has a great rapport with the detectives she meets on the coast. It's a bit of a twist, but her family is more a part of her story than any love interest - supporting her even though she's very different than they are. Their interactions pull it from a 3.5 to a 4. It's a very enjoyable read and you do not have to have read all the stories to enjoy this one.

Now here is a good book. Catherine Coulter always delivers a good, fast past story. As soon as I see one of her books out, I order it. This has two of my favorite characters Savich and Sherlock. Someone is poisoning a rich old woman who is over 80. Savich and Sherlock are called in to find out who is doing this. The woman Venus, runs a company and has many children who want control of the company. This book has another FBI agent sent to find a serial killer in California. The story jumps from one to another, but does not confuse the reader. I just wanted to find out what was going on with both.

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