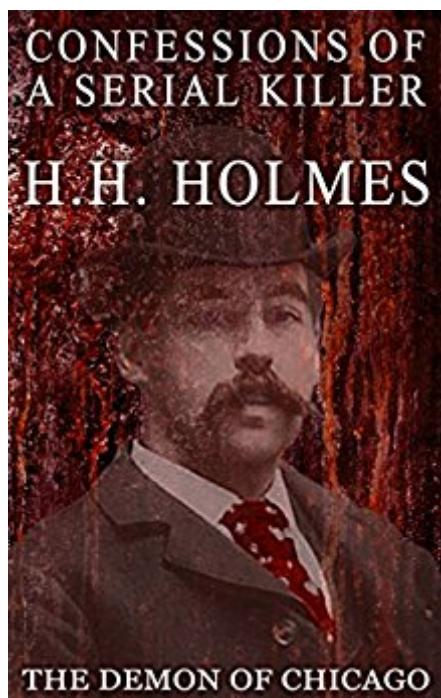


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Confessions Of The Serial Killer H.H. Holmes (Illustrated)



Synopsis

4 Books in 1 AND 2 of the books were written by the arch-fiend H.H. Holmes himself. The books were compiled by Fred Clarke, who also wrote the Forward. During the summers, Fred grew up two houses away from the same house where Holmes was born and lived as a child, and Fred frequently visited the Holmes house to play with friends who lived there. There are many who claim Herman Mudgett (a.k.a. H.H. Holmes) was Jack the Ripper, including Mudgett's own great-great-grandson Jeff Mudgett. Some of the facts support the theory, while others do not. No one can know the extent of Holmes' gruesome crimes, but his own words and those of contemporary reporters provide a unique view into the mind of the man who is probably the most prolific serial killer of all time. While Holmes admitted to 27 murders, the number is likely far higher. During the World's Columbian Exposition in 1893 (frequently referred to as the Chicago World's Fair), Holmes ran a hotel which he had designed himself. The "Murder Castle" was filled with secret rooms and traps made to murder and dispose of his guests and his lovers. Soundproof rooms allowed him to torture his victims while the rest of the world passed his hotel unaware of the evil within. Pictures and drawings of the Murder Castle are included in the books. After his arrest, H.H. Holmes wrote two confessions, both included in this book. In the first confession, he admits that he is a swindler but insists he is not a murderer. In the second, after his conviction, he admits to murdering 27 people, including business partners, lovers, and small children. For the first time in the 21st century, both confessions are now available to readers everywhere. The confessions have been painstakingly transcribed for all to see the devious nature of this monster. It is unknown how many people Holmes killed in his murder hotel in Chicago and if his murderous behavior extended to England under the name Jack the Ripper. The detectives who searched the horror chambers were unable to get a true body count because Holmes had installed lime pits to dissolve the bodies. Some place the number of murders attributed to Holmes as high as 200. The book now includes another historical book written shortly after the trial and execution of Holmes: Holmes, the Arch Fiend. This book provides a narrative that is not covered in the other texts, including possible conversations between Holmes and his victims. A fourth book has been added to this series: The Holmes Castle. This contemporary account, written in 1895 prior to Holmes' execution, describes more of the atrocities of Holmes and provides new names of people who simply disappeared after contacting Holmes.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

While the book gives a picture of the man and to some degree the times, some of it seemed repetitive. Eric Larson's "Devil in The White City" is more complete regarding Holmes' activities in Chicago and the language is more modern. This book covers Holmes atrocities in other locations and gives a better picture of his UNhuman, alien nature. While being so detached from human feelings he was able to skillfully manipulate them. Guess that is what makes a psychotic. I find it very interesting that people were willing to turn over their children to him. At any rate, the book is gruesome to read.

If you read this, I highly suggest reading Devil in the White City. It will give you a well rounded idea of not only Holmes but also the time he lived in and how he exploited the world fair.

This is a period piece written in part by a convicted serial killer: the book is very telling about the mores of the times and how the perpetrator of horrible crimes distances himself from the victims and their slaying, as if he is merely a victim himself of circumstantial evidence (over and over again.) It gives a glimpse into another era and how a chameleon can manipulate whatever necessary to continue his gruesome obsessions, and many plots and schemes to defraud people and businesses

for his own gain.

I first read the book "Devil in the White city". It told the story of this man during the Chicago World's Fair. Holmes version of himself is nothing like the other book. He wrote it while he was being held in prison in an attempt to "explain" it all away. If you didn't know better, you would think he was a saint. This book is a delusioned mass murderer attempt to once again con those around him. I never did finish it. Worth reading if you know where he is coming from. Spoiler alert. They hanged him.

Random hodgepodge of things that have nothing thing everything together.

I'm so looking forward to Devil in the White City, by Erick Larson, coming out in the movies with Leonardo DeCaprio . H. H. Holmes is so mysterious and each book I read about him is captivating. Nice work.

Regarding 'Confessions of the Serial Killer H.H. Holmes': the book didn't flow well. The content was repetitive and often confusing. The character Holmes seems to be here and there and back again often times without explanation of how or why he went there. The sentence structure was grueling, oftentimes taking up an entire paragraph. The book held my interest enough that I completed it, but it left me wanting more. I then purchased 'Devil in the White City' by Erik Larson. Though Larson's work delved primarily into the creation of the Chicago World Fair and Holmes secret life behind the scenes, his character build up of Holmes was very good. I found 'Devil in the White City' much more interesting from a historical perspective. After reading 'Devil in the White City' I am fairly convinced that H.H. Holmes could very well be 'Jack the Ripper'. Neither book places Holmes in London at the time of the White Castle District murders, however Holmes had occasion to go to London and the Ripper murders, spanning just a few weeks, occurred during Holmes reign.

The first part of this is the killer's story. Of course, in his story he hasn't killed anyone and is very convincing. The three other parts give details of the hunt for Mr. Holmes, witness accounts, and locations of the bodies once the killer confesses. Interesting but creepy, and the story the killer tells rambles on and on.

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