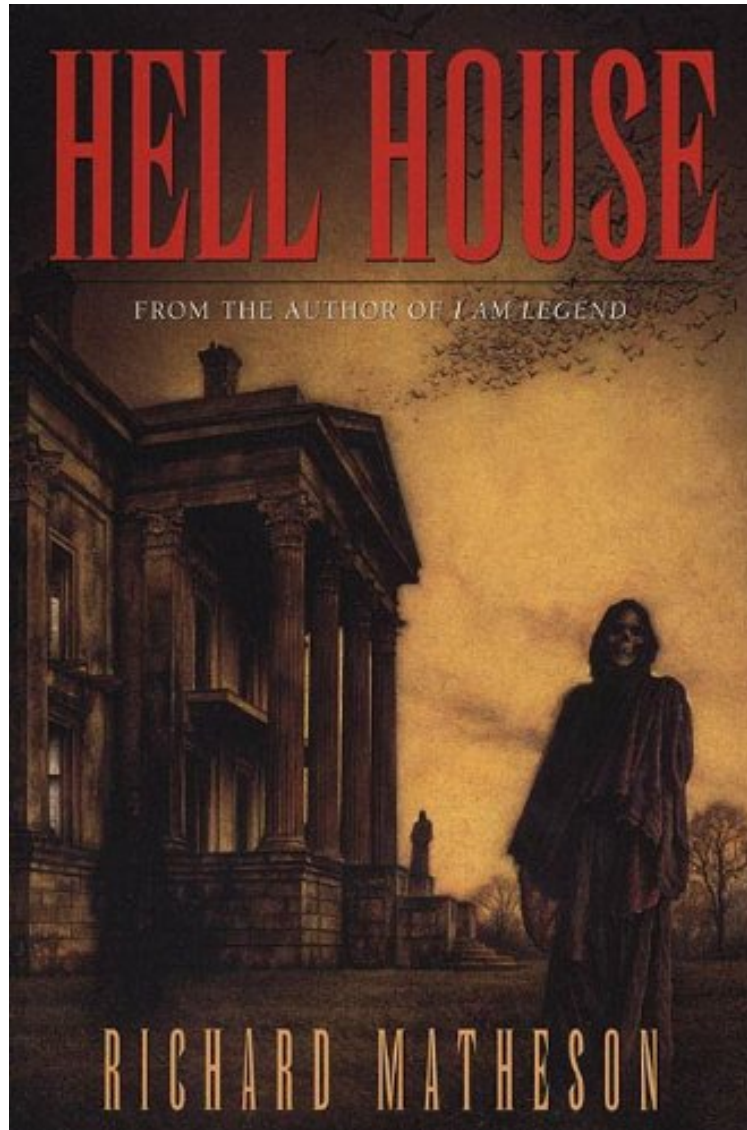


[Library ebook] Hell House

Hell House

Von Richard Matheson

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Von Richard Matheson : Hell House before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Hell House:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Ghosts do not exist, do they?Von AnakinaI never know what to expect with Matheson. It moves freely between fantasy, paranormal and speculation fiction, always proposing stories outside the box. This, compared to other books Ive read, is different because of the lack of a real main character around which the whole story revolves. It is in fact a choral

novel that fully falls within the canons of horror, where one by one the characters that seem to have a primary role die, leaving only one or two at the end. In addition, there is the paranormal element that returns frequently in his works and here is yet addressed once in an original way. Overall it is a novel that seems almost contemporary, since it is not afraid to put together violent, thorny and blasphemous elements, despite forty years passed since it was written. The plot is compelling, especially in some passages. The subdivision of the scenes through the timestamp, therefore without chapters, encourages reading and increases the anxiogenic effect. Unfortunately I read an Italian edition with a very old translation, although it does not affect much the perception of contemporaneity of the work, once you get used to the language, but it obviously cancels the illusion. Added to this is a classic horror ending that is quite predictable and leaves a bitter taste in the mouth.

Rita Carla Francesca Monticelli, author of *Red Desert - Point of No Return* 2 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Things that go BUMP in the night, day, and whenever it wants Von Mark Hills

After reading Matheson's unforgettable 'I Am Legend' I endeavored to find a copy of his likely more famous 'Hell House' and upon doing so tore through it in a day. Well, if you can call a 'day' being finished it at seven in the morning, good thing I work nights. I must admit that I do not read enough of the horror genre to know what is and is not predictable, and while others said the ending was I confess to not having seen it coming. Matheson's text reads like prose and glides easily from page to page without burying the reader in superfluous detail, giving the right amount so the reader has some bearing on where they are. The story entails the wishes of dying man who wishes to know if there are indeed ghosts, and to those ends has purchased the grand bull mouse of haunted mansions, Belasco House, in Maine and has sent in a team of investigators to verify the existence of haunts. He chooses Lionel Barret, a physicist and scientist who has built a device capable of negating the EM radiation produced by spooks, his wife, Edith, a Christian minister and medium, Florence Tanner, and the only surviving member of the 1940 expedition into the house, Benjamin Fischer, who is also a medium. A medium is a person who is sensitive to super natural events like hauntings and can open themselves up to them. Arriving at the house through thick fog they find that all of the windows have been bricked up while the mansion itself rises like some terrible monolith before them. Events begin to unfold as they hold their first sitting and Florence opens herself up to the house where she makes contact with one of the former residence, an Indian named Red Cloud, but is soon interrupted by another spirit who claims that if they do not leave it will be forced to kill them. While startled, they are largely unfazed and proceed with other forms of paranormal research such as Tanner's ability to control ectoplasm, a substance believed to be associated with ghosts. And later explained by Dr. Barret as simply a manifestation of Tanner's own self, composed mostly of detritus from her own body. The story follows through with some genuinely creepy moments, but it is all standard haunted house fair, just exceptionally powerful occurrences. Fischer relates the history of Belasco house and how it was built by Emeric Belasco as a sort of standing experiment in every conceivable form debauchery until the tenants had been so corrupted that they eventually turned to cannibalism in order to stay alive. All the while Belasco quietly watched and encouraged the use of drugs, alcohol, even bringing in young artists from around the world to study and create there until they corrupted by the vile happenings. Barret and company even witness some of the more brutal happenings by way of visions. Truly a house of the damned. The house is literally a juggernaut of haunts-one that destroys Tanner slowly through convincing her that Belasco had a son, Daniel, who was swallowed whole by the house. Tanner believes that Daniel's spirit is in a constant state of torment and can only find true rest if he is given proper burial after she is led to his body which has been hung in between the walls of the wine cellar. But everything they try fails, even Barret's machine fails, much to his dismay. The power of the house seems unlimited. Everything else you will have to find out for yourself. The flavor of the book will be familiar to anyone who has played Call of Cthulhu, because it has that same sort of feel. The characters are interesting and believable, but Hell House perhaps takes itself too seriously, lacking even dark or ironic humor to any extent. I would have also preferred a larger team, say six or even eight people for the house to play with rather than four. It would have given a more varied forms of terror. It will also offend you if you have strong religious beliefs, but other than that Hell House is a pretty good read.

2 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A Classic of the Genre Von Michael B. Bruneio

Unfortunately, I had difficulty writing this review; you see, I had seen the film, "The Legend of Hell House" several times before ever reading the book, so I worried that this review would not be as objective. Nevertheless, "Hell House" surpasses the movie in many respects, the most obvious being characterization. We find out much more about our heroes' motivations, and Matheson's skill at turning the ordinary into the malevolent and frightening is in top form. To anyone who has NOT seen the film, please read this book first! I promise you'll come away more frightened if you do. "Hell House" is a seminal work on the genre, and its influence is felt still today.

Kurzbeschreibung "Hell House is the scariest haunted house novel ever written. It looms over the rest the way the mountains loom over the foothills." -- Stephen King

Rolf Rudolph Deutsch is going die. But when Deutsch, a wealthy magazine and newspaper publisher, starts thinking seriously about his impending death, he offers to pay a physicist and two mediums, one physical and one mental, \$100,000 each to establish the facts of life after death. Dr. Lionel Barrett,

the physicist, accompanied by the mediums, travel to the Belasco House in Maine, which has been abandoned and sealed since 1949 after a decade of drug addiction, alcoholism, and debauchery. For one night, Barrett and his colleagues investigate the Belasco House and learn exactly why the townfolks refer to it as the Hell House. At the Publisher's request, this title is being sold without Digital Rights Management Software (DRM) applied.

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Synopsis

IDW brings you this lavishly illustrated adaptation of Richard Matheson's tale of newspaper publisher Rudolph Deutsch facing his impending demise. To help Deutsch forestall his death and to learn the secrets of life after death, a team of experts must survive a night in Belasco House, a place known amongst the local townsfolk as "Hell House". The notorious Belasco House starts to exert its dark influence on the group of scientists and spiritualists as they unearth the perverse and wretched secrets from within its walls. Hell House has let them in...but will it ever let them leave?