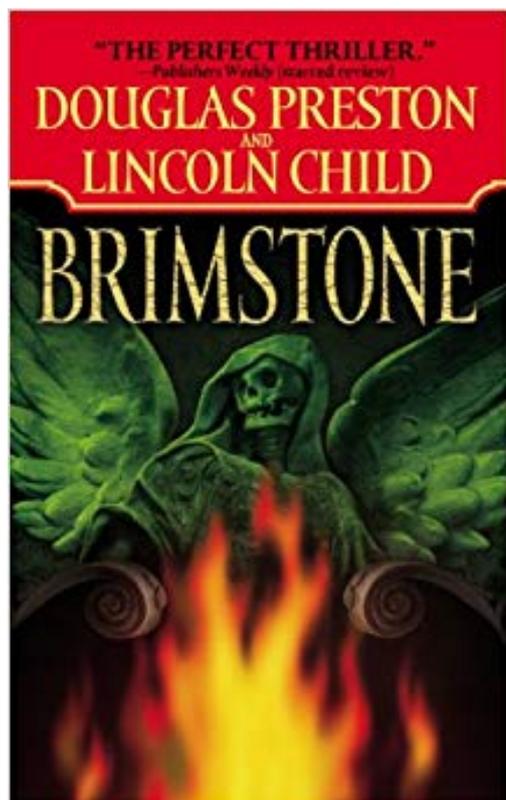


Brimstone by Douglas Preston



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A body is found in the attic of a fabulous Long Island estate. There is a hoofprint scorched into the floor, and the stench of sulfur chokes the air. When FBI Special Agent Pendergast investigates the gruesome crime, he discovers that thirty years ago four men conjured something unspeakable. Has the devil come to claim his due?



Reviews of the **Brimstone** by Douglas Preston

Onoxyleili

Had to get the next one! This was my 5th Pendergast in a row and I was pretty "Pendergasted out" and said that I was going to a different author for a while after this one. However, the way this one ended, I just HAD TO get the next one immediately!!! As usual, the P&C Pendergast novels are just so exciting you can't put them down and this one is no different. Always a twist or turn with a little bit of romance thrown into the pot, mixed, stewed and Shazam! a super book comes out of it. Love their writing and, all of their grammar is correct too!! I have to put P&C away for a while after this 6th one though. I must "expand my horizons" and read another author for a while. Then, I'll feel

comfortable coming back for another bout with Pendergast. Love him! Love P&C!!

GWEZJ

Once again, I thoroughly enjoyed another Pendergast novel. I am reading the entire Pendergast series in order, and this is just my most recent "episode". As with all previous episodes, this one has incredible characterization and provocative settings, and as has been the case before, a strong hint of the supernatural. I believe Detective D' Agosta comes into his own in this story, becoming more of a main character and not just a contrasting sidekick. My only problem with the characters in this novel, as well as the others, is that there are so many that I sometimes forget who is who. I am astounded by the amount of research that these authors have put into the settings. In each novel, I check the accuracy of the facts presented and they are always precise. I actually feel that I am more intelligent whenever I am reading one of these novels. I rated this novel with five-out-of-five stars when comparing it to other non-Pendergast novels. However, I would only give it four-out-of-five stars when comparing it to the other novels in this series. I don't want to give anything away but when I finished reading, I recall thinking, "Is that all it was?" None the less, another brilliant and totally enjoyable read by Preston & Child.

Bloodfire

After Relic, I decided I'd try out some more Pendergast relics....this was fun, but not the best Pendergast I've read, to be sure. Moreover, I object to the sloppy science. To avoid spoilers, I'll just mention one irksome thing: when the cop is having a shootout in the castle, he says, "Angle of incidence equals angle of refraction." It's reflection, of course, due to the reference to pool. However, not even that "law" would be true here because old stone, mortar, and plaster doesn't provide a perfect reflection for a bullet (in the extreme case, the bullet doesn't even ricochet). The authors are obviously confusing the "law of reflection" with the "law of refraction." Other pseudo-science slips were more egregious, though.

I also found the chapters devoted to the ex-con preacher completely distracting. They had nothing to do with the main plot. Maybe the authors just padded to increase their word count? The cliffhanger-denouement-epilogue at the end was also completely unnecessary. Save it for the next book, fellows. And, by the way, Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring was NOT written for violin and sounds horrible on that instrument, even if it's a Strad!

Amhirishes

Oh come on...it's Pendergast, what's not to love. Although I do have to say that there are two books I have had a hard time getting through (Wheel of Darkness & Cemetery Dance) I still love the character, I love their books, and as long as Pendergast plays a major role you are sure to enjoy it. I appreciate when our favorite characters tumble into the story too (D'Agosta most of all). Plus, this first book marked (although you don't see him until the end) one of the BEST story lines they have come up with. The Diogenes Trilogy is my favorite!!

Zbr

A friend of mine turned me on to the wonderful Preston/Child Pendergast series and I have been immediately enslaved, reading through them at break-neck pace!! They keep getting better and better as each book progresses. And Brimstone is simply marvelous! Who would not love a tale where an evil greedy human being gets his just desserts from the devil himself? Or does he?? These books always contain twists and turns, and great mysteries being solved by the fabulous Pendergast - a very engaging and mysterious character himself with a past as odd as the victim's in his murder mysteries. The authors claim you can read each one as stand-alone novels but you are better served

reading them in order as I have. If this is your first one, then I suggest you go back to Relic and Reliquary and start at the beginning to get the full Pendergast flavor!!!!

Enalonasa

This was the second Preston & Child that I've read and although I had my reservations after reading "Relic", the first in the series, I am now sold. Where Relic's plot, though a thrill ride, was beyond belief; in Brimstone, we are once again led down a path that makes you question what is real. This is a macabre murder mystery with many twists and turns. The well developed characters of Pendergast and DiAgosta lead us on a search from New York to Florence and the surrounding countryside. Their descriptions of characters and landscapes are just enough to paint them in your mind's eye and not to get bogged down in the details. The vocabulary is rich and I was glad I read it on my Kindle so I could look up many of the unfamiliar terms. I'm beginning to love these two characters.

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