Nevermore by Harold Schechter

Brings Poe Back To Life

Historical fact and startling literary invention converge in this stunning novel by America's principal chronicler of its greatest psychopathic killers (The Boston Book Review). Praised by Caleb Carr for his brilliantly detailed and above all riveting true-crime writing, Harold Schechter brings his expertise to a marvelous work of fiction in the tradition of Carr's own The Alienist. Superbly rendering the 1830s Baltimore of Edgar Allan Poe, Schechter taps into the dark genius of that legendary author -- and follows a labyrinthine path into the heart of a most heinous crime. He is an aspiring writer, plagued by dreadful ruminations -- a man whose troubled nights are haunted by dreams of his angelic cousin Virginia. He is Edgar Allan Poe, a literary critic known for his uncompromising standards and scathing pen. His recently published attack on the autobiography of Colonel David Crockett, U.S. congressman and celebrated American hero, has brought the indignant frontiersman -- unexpected, uninvited -- to the chamber door of Poe's private sanctum. Neither man is prepared for where this fateful meeting will take them: on a quest for a killer through the city's highest and lowest streets and byways. In a modest boarding house, an elderly widow of sad circumstance has been found murdered by an unknown assailant. On the wall above her bed, scrawled in the victim's blood, is a single, cryptic word. But the meaning of the chilling clue is merely one piece in a complex puzzle that ensnares the writer and the politician in a twisted and deadly game. For the ghastly crimes, each more bizarre than the last, have only just begun. Combining the phantasmagoric voice of Poe's legendary tales with an historian's exactness, Harold Schechter hovers between fact and fiction, horror and passion, destiny and doom, while conjuring historical detail with uncanny precision. Published to coincide with the 150th anniversary of Poe's death, Nevermore is both a tour de force of narrative suspense and a dazzling secret history of one of American literatures unique and enduring figures.
An ardent fan of Poes (as well as a well-traveled fan of Baltimores), I was at first hesitant to try this novel, but I'm so glad I did. I haven't enjoyed simply reading a novel this much in years. The wording and style is exquisite and the story thoroughly entertaining! I plan on getting the rest of Mr. Schechter's Poe novels simply based on this one. It's for fans of Poe, fans of mystery novels, and fans of language.

Traci Belanger

For More 5 Star Customer Reviews and Lowest Price:

Nevermore by Harold Schechter - 5 Star Customer Reviews and Lowest Price!