



Maggots, Murder, and Men: Memories and Reflections of a Forensic Entomologist

By Zakaria Erzinclioglu

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The science of forensic entomology—the application of insect biology to the investigation of crime—is extremely specialized, combining as it does an expert knowledge of entomology with keen powers of observation and deduction. Dr. Erzinclioglu has been a practitioner for over twenty-five years and has been involved in a great number of investigations, including some recent high-profile cases, where his evidence has been critical to the outcome.

A great admirer of Sherlock Holmes, Dr. Erzinclioglu compares his own techniques with those of his fictional hero, and takes the reader behind the often gruesome but deeply fascinating scenes of a murder investigation. This absorbing book ranges over cases from history, prehistory and mythology to the present day and is as gripping and readable as a good thriller.

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

Death is rarely pretty. It is decidedly unappealing when a body, made available to nature, is colonized and consumed by insects, worms, and other animals--unless, like Zakaria Erzinclioglu, you have an appreciation for this "magnificent and highly nutritious resource."

Erzinclioglu, a forensic scientist with three decades' experience in solving all manner of grisly crimes, gives a lighthanded if sometimes creepy account of what happens to the human body in death, and of how scientists can deduce from the succession of insect life, among other signs, just what happened to bring about that demise. As he ranges across the annals of wrongdoing, crime buffs will learn much from his observations on, among other matters, the outright stupidity of many murderers, who "seem to think that the last place a criminal investigator is likely to look is under the floorboards," and the many odd twists and turns that a scientific investigation can take while ferreting out the truth.

Erzinclioglu's book makes a sharp-witted companion to such recent works as Jessica Snyder Sachs's *Corpse* and Richard Conniff's *Spineless Wonders*, adding to a growing--and oddly fascinating--library devoted to the coroner's art. --*Gregory McNamee*

Review

"Sure to attract readers from among 'CSI' devotees, this book is a page-turner--but not for the squeamish. The logic in the book could shame Sherlock Holmes. A total find." ?*Santa Cruz Sentinel*

From the Back Cover

Nominated for the Crime Writers' Association Gold Dagger Award

"*Maggots, Murder, and Men...*is a rich and varied tale of a forensic entomologist who has solved many a murder mystery by dating the insects found on the corpse...[it] would make a superb TV series--in which event, I would be one of its most faithful viewers."

-- Colin Wilson, *Literary Review*

"Daunting though the subject sounds, any reader of crime will be surprised to find themselves absorbed in the book and its details." -- *Punch*

"This book demonstrates [the author's] ability to intrigue the seasoned expert as well as captivate the casual reader." -- *Science*

"Here is that rare thing, a good popular book on forensic entomology that is also an illuminating read on forensic science." -- *Nature*

"Dr. Zak's unique and well-informed insights into the moral, social, and legal implications of his job make this the most readable scientific book I have read." -- *The Daily Telegraph*

Users Review

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Rosemarie Cleveland:

Reading can called brain hangout, why? Because when you find yourself reading a book specially book entitled Maggots, Murder, and Men: Memories and Reflections of a Forensic Entomologist your mind will drift away trough every dimension, wandering in each and every aspect that maybe unidentified for but surely will end up your mind friends. Imaging just about every word written in a publication then become one contact form conclusion and explanation that maybe you never get ahead of. The Maggots, Murder, and Men: Memories and Reflections of a Forensic Entomologist giving you yet another experience more than blown away your mind but also giving you useful information for your better life within this era. So now let us teach you the relaxing pattern at this point is your body and mind will likely be pleased when you are finished reading through it, like winning a sport. Do you want to try this extraordinary paying spare time activity?

Frank Johnson:

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