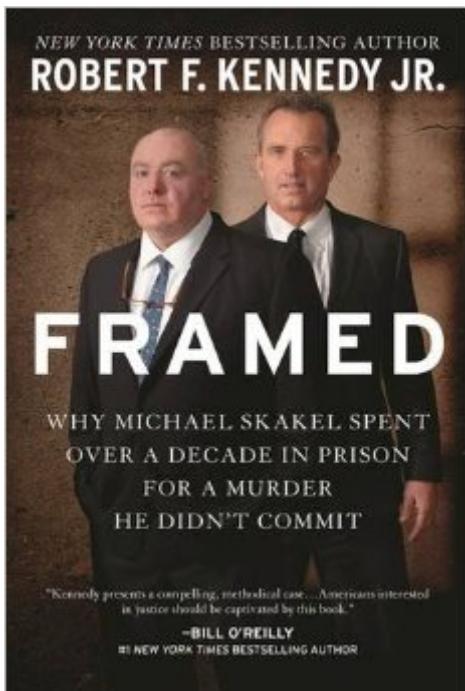


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Framed: Why Michael Skakel Spent Over A Decade In Prison For A Murder He Didn't Commit



Synopsis

A New York Times Bestseller! On Halloween 1975, Martha Moxley was found brutally murdered outside her home in swanky Greenwich, Connecticut. Twenty-seven years after her death, the State of Connecticut spent some \$25 million to convict her friend and neighbor, Michael Skakel, of the murder. At Michael's criminal trial, the State offered no physical or forensic evidence, no fingerprints or DNA, no eyewitness linking Michael to the killing. The trial ignited a media firestorm that transfixed the nation. Now, Skakel's cousin, acclaimed attorney and award-winning writer Robert F. Kennedy Jr. solves the baffling whodunit and clears his cousin's name. Kennedy, with meticulous research and reporting, proves that Michael Skakel did not and could not have murdered Martha Moxley. He chronicles how Skakel was, nevertheless, railroaded amidst a media frenzy by the devious actions of a crooked cop, a trio of mendacious writers, a treacherous family lawyer nursing a secret grudge, a narcissistic defense attorney obsessed by the spotlight, a craven prosecutor gone rogue, and a parade of perjuring witnesses. These colorful characters leap off the pages like seedy villains in a dime-store crime novel; But it's all true. Kennedy also shows how he tracked down the likely killers, a pair of ghosts who moved in and out of Greenwich and whose presence was detected by neither police nor press during 30 years of costly yet shoddy investigation. Today, those men walk free. This startling expose; an explosive exploration of murder and fame; is the tragic true story of Skakel's conviction that the public has never heard. It is the product of hundreds of interviews with Skakel and those who knew both him and Martha Moxley. Kennedy gives us a real life thriller with twists and turns, and finally answers the 40-year-old question, Who killed Martha Moxley? • The book is at once a riveting drama and an impassioned critique of the American media and legal system.

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Customer Reviews

There are many good true crime books, and fewer great ones, but precious few can lay claim to being 'important'. This book can. I confess to going into my reading of the book with arms crossed and brow furrowed. This is because, like most people, I believed the man convicted of the crime - Michael Skakel - was guilty. Why shouldn't I? After all, I watched in amazement as the previously 'most hated man in America' was able to rehabilitate his reputation off the back of 'solving' the Martha Moxley murder. Then Skakel was convicted. I'm sure Mr. Kennedy would agree that at this juncture the onus of proof was now on him. The state had proved Mr. Skakel guilty, after all. Mr. Kennedy claimed to offer proof - not evidence, mind you, but proof - that Michael Skakel was absolutely innocent. I did not believe him, but I was willing to give him the benefit of the doubt. Had he failed you can bet I would have turned up here on to let everyone know he failed. But I'll be damned if he didn't deliver the most succinct, detailed, and entirely convincing argument that I've read in years regarding any case. As a Ripper author I have to keep up with all the various suspects in the field, so I know what to look for when an author is 'gilding the lily' and winking at the reader in his hope of convincing him that what he's reading is the truth. There's none of that here. Mr. Kennedy proves without any shadow of a doubt that Michael Skakel did not kill Martha Moxley. But he doesn't stop there. It's not enough just to say that 'justice failed'. We've heard and seen that so many times we're numb to it. Mr.

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