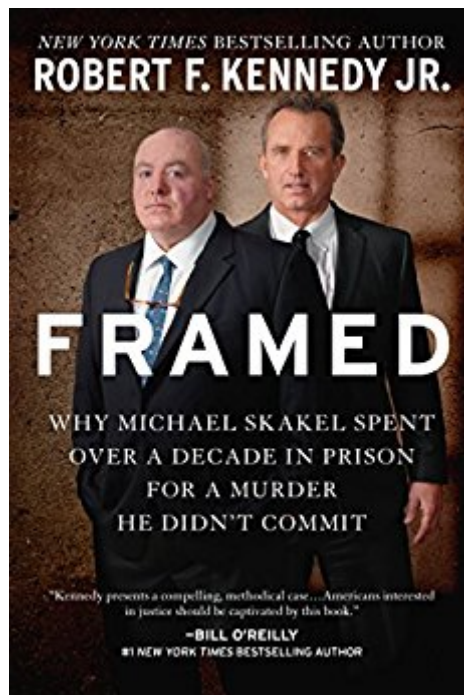




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Framed: Why Michael Skakel Spent Over A Decade In Prison For A Murder He Didn't Commit



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

If this book is intended as a defense of Mr. Skakel, it should be shortened and better organized--the defense was buried in a lot of vitriol and interesting, but irrelevant information. Maybe start with the alibi, then move right into the other suspects for the SODDI defense, instead of burying this information in the last few chapters. If any of the information in this book is true, then Mr. Skakel should be granted a new trial. If the real killers are still out there, they need to be prosecuted as they would have added a new victim to their debit sheet. Note I say "if". This book comes from an extremely biased viewpoint. I understand that being related to the Kennedys, who have been viewed as having 'got away with' their fair share of crimes, would be a considerable handicap as a defendant. And certainly, Mr. Skakel, who is not a blood relative of the Kennedy family, has been branded as the Kennedy Cousin, to his detriment. However, it's hard to claim family disinterest when you write a book. The viewpoint of the author would be better served by a more neutral voice. As an attorney, the author could have also illustrated his points with quotes from court transcripts and police reports instead of descriptions of testimony and paraphrasing. If he is correct, then a terrible injustice has been done. I assume the release of this book on sale is not serendipitous but reflects the request for reconsideration launched last month.

Well written and a very interesting . I may have to read more about the Skakel case. If this book is a totally truthful and clear picture of this incident, a terrible miscarriage of justice has taken place.

This book is well written and places all the cards on the table. Thanks to the author I have a better understanding of the need for responsible representation when faced with proving innocence

I thoroughly enjoyed the book. Having said that, it is very disturbing view of the justice system. Michael had a bad attorney and the prosecution used the framework of a disgraced former policeman to get a wrongful conviction.

I was convinced that Michael Skakel was guilty of Martha Moxleys murder based on what I had read and seen about the murder. Since reading this book it is obvious he was actually framed. The prosecutor and his lawyer should be disbarred and jailed!

This book is riveting and I could not put it down. It was a horrific crime and after reading numerous books except Mark Furhmans it is apparent that Michael Skakel is innocent of committing this murder. Everyone needs to read the judges decision in the 103 page court record based on his acquittal. The Greenwich police were not prepared for this type of investigation. The one thing they got right was their outsiders theory. I say that plural because of the two individuals named by Tony Bryant. And he explains how they got through the gate numerous times and were undetected. Except by the mysterious shadow figures scene that night by numerous witnesses. Compared to today the kids in that neighborhood were not really supervised and from wealth. And the neighbor Geoffe Bryne knew what happened. I don't recall anyone giving him a polygraph?! He knew the guys and he was plagued with the truth to the point of killing himself five years after the crime. At that point stating Tommy Skakel did not do it. Michael Skakel was 15 at the time and too small to commit the murder. They always knew it was someone with strength. In my opinion, there are many tragedies of this case. The obvious, Martha Moxley was walking home in the dark alone and at the wrong time. Tony Bryant waiting so long to speak the truth. And lastly, an innocent man going to prison. DNA will hopefully solve this case and justice will be served.

I read FRAMED in a few days from when it arrived on my doorstep. The author makes a compelling thorough examination of the case which has altered the lives of many innocent people ever since the brutal murder of Martha Moxley over four decades ago. Bobby Kennedy writes not only with legal authority but also with heartfelt love of a man whose life has been ruined by the ambition and conniving of a few key people, which resulted a failure of the justice system. Bobby Kennedy eloquently tells a hard story of culminating tragedies, and it reads like the murder mystery that it is. And he solves it. I hope that his tremendous efforts will be a tool for justice itself. Arlene Burns Mayor of Mosier

The book is about the injustice served on a person who was innocent from the beginning. "The system" can turn a person's life upside down; why, because it can. The evidence was there, but Justice was not!

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