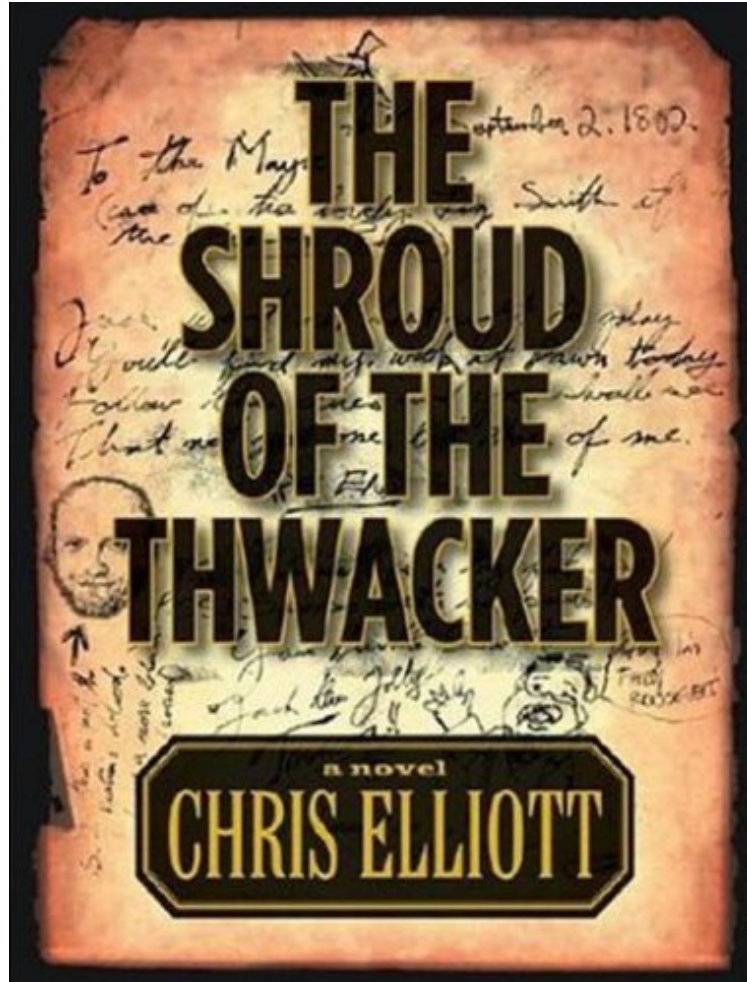


(Download) The Shroud of the Thwacker

The Shroud of the Thwacker

Chris Elliott

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Chris Elliott : The Shroud of the Thwacker before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Shroud of the Thwacker:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. so funny and puts a new spin on weird
By Customer
This book is truly a gem of comedy. I laughed outloud on almost every page. Chris Elliott puts the strangest things together in a story and a sentence, things most people wouldn't think of. I like to re-read at work and laugh outloud and annoy my co-workers. I give this book 10 stars. How can you not love it? I loved Elliott's show "Get a Life", and if you liked that weird humor, you will love his book. Get it for yourself and all your enemies.
Kelly Jameson
Author of Dead On and Shards of Summer and some silly zombie stories
3 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Parody of Douglas Adams proportions
By JJGemini
I've always enjoyed Chris Elliott's stupid humour from the David Letterman Show to "Get A Life". But this is something altogether different... well, maybe not "altogether". This is an engaging story filled

with parody and mockery reminiscent of the likes of Monty Python and Douglas Adams. After writing the "Hitchhiker's Guide To The Galaxy" books, Douglas Adams began writing a new series called "Dirk Gently and the Holistic Detective Agency", of which this book reminds me a lot of; and I was happy that Chris Elliott may actually be Douglas Adams' successor! Obviously the book isn't for everyone. It's full of anachronistic jokes, parodies of Patricia Cornwell's "Portrait of a Killer: Jack The Ripper", Dan Brown's "The Da Vinci Code", and Caleb Carr's "The Alienist", among others, and a rumply old detective reminiscent of Columbo. You can almost see Chris Elliott laughing to himself as he tells about Teddy Roosevelt if he had won the New York mayoral election in 1886 and bumbled along spouting his famous catch-phrases "bully" and the like, or how Chris, himself, lives in the Dakota across the hall from Yoko Ono. It's fun and bizarre and just the kind of book I love... of which I haven't enjoyed since Adams' Dirk Gently. His writing style is filled with jokes and setups for jokes and the characters are comical more than fully developed. But the plot is your basic thriller mystery and it's enjoyable to see how he plays with words and phrases and mocks the thriller mystery novel with dead-on precision. I hope to see more from Chris Elliott who seems to have found himself a new niche. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. hidden genius By will crow Chris Elliott is a hidden genius, im still looking for it, but i know it's there.

Known to millions for his television and film roles, Chris Elliott is one of the most beloved comedians of his generation. With his novel *The Shroud of the Thwacker*, Elliott delivers a laugh-out-loud parody that will delight mystery lovers as well as his devoted fans. Set in New York City in 1882, the story hilariously chronicles the adventures of police chief Caleb Spencer and his two cohorts, Evening Post reporter Liz Smith and mayor Teddy Roosevelt, as they unravel the mystery of the world's first (and most bizarre) serial killer: Jack the Jolly Thwacker. The elusive Thwacker dresses his victims in outlandish costumes, leaves behind taunting poetry, and leads the authorities on a wild chase through New York streets and landmarks (complete with gas-powered wooden cell phones, carriages, gaslights, and the original Original Ray's Pizzeria). In a bizarre twist, Chris Elliott himself joins the action, using time travel and historical documents to uncover the Thwacker's identity. With a wink and a nod to Patricia Cornwell, *The Da Vinci Code*, and Caleb Carr's mysteries, Elliott does for the historical crime genre what Douglas Adams did for science fiction in *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*.

From Publishers Weekly The book debut from the Get a Life and Cabin Boy star is billed as a parody, but this murder mystery wrapped in laughter is simply straight-up enjoyable. Jack the Jolly Thwacker is leaving dead bodies all over 1882 New York City. Chris Elliott, a modern-day researcher, is tracking the serial killer through time. Elliott's wry humor fastens on the burgeoning, Boss Tweedified city, giving it a hilarious and vividly imagined set of anachronistic technologies and accoutrements (New York's Mayor Teddy Roosevelt, who has mysteriously disappeared, has a navel piercing). The narrative leaps back and forth in time, as 1882 police chief Caleb Spencer chases the Thwacker through the streets, and Elliott, convinced the killer is from the 21st century, chases him through time. Elliott's ability to time travel is facilitated by Yoko Ono (don't ask) and a willing suspension of disbelief, but the results are very amusing (if often infantile in the style of *There's Something About Mary*), with asides on every page that bring in everyone and everything from Typhoid Mary to Skyy Vodka. If *Shroud* feels like an extended, Americanized Monty Python skit, it's also a rousing good yarn. Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From Booklist Elliott is best known for his madcap appearances on *Late Night with David Letterman* and his small but juicy roles in such films as *Groundhog Day*. In his debut as a novelist, his veteran comedy-writer's skills come to the fore in a wacky murder mystery that sends up best-selling thrillers such as *The Alienist* and *The Da Vinci Code*. With all of New York City, circa 1882, as his playground, Jack the Jolly Thwacker is a demented serial killer with equally demented tactics. He dresses his victims in bizarre clothing and leaves behind poems taunting his pursuers. Hot on his trail are the city's police chief, an Evening Post reporter, and mayor Teddy Roosevelt, who actually was police commissioner then. Somehow, after blundering into a time machine while researching the unsolved mystery, Elliott himself gets entangled in the chase, and the real identity of the Thwacker is revealed. The time-travel element nudges Elliott's spoof into sf, but that doesn't mean fans of historical crime fiction won't get their kicks. Carl Hays Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved "A demented spoof." -- The New York Post "A rousing good yarn." -- Publishers Weekly "Relentlessly silly." -- The Washington Post