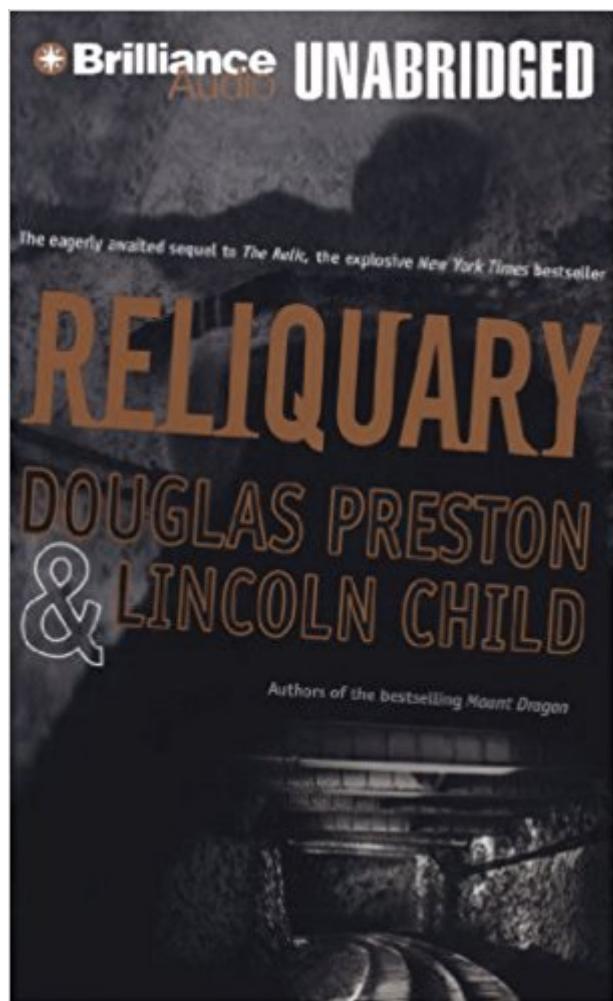


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# Reliquary (Pendergast)



## **Synopsis**

Hidden deep beneath Manhattan lies a warren of tunnels, sewers, and galleries, mostly forgotten by those who walk the streets above. There lies the ultimate secret of the Museum Beast. When two grotesquely deformed skeletons are found deep in the mud off the Manhattan shoreline, museum curator Margo Green is called in to aid the investigation. Margo must once again team up with police lieutenant D'Agosta and FBI agent Pendergast, as well as the brilliant Dr. Frock, to try and solve the puzzle. The trail soon leads deep underground, where they will face the awakening of a slumbering nightmare.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

The netherworld of New York City?its subways, aqueducts, sewers and the homeless who inhabit them?proves as shuddery a setting for the authors' latest scientific monster mash as the American Museum of Natural History did for their bestselling Relic, to which this is the sequel. In the earlier novel, Mbwun, a ferocious creature that seemed part reptile, part human, rampaged through the museum killing people. The sequel, set 18 months after Mbwun was destroyed, opens with a police diver finding the headless bodies of two people apparently killed by underground cannibals. The corpses are sent to the museum's lab for analysis, which brings a number of returnees from Relic?burly homicide cop Vincent D'Agosta, anthropologist Margo Green, New York Post crime reporter Bill Smithback?to the case. They're soon joined by the novels' Sherlock Holmes figure, the irresistibly cool Special Agent Pendergast of the FBI. Forays by these principals into the kingdom of

the Mole People (underground homeless), plus some forensic breakthroughs, point to a race of mini-Mbwun at work in an escalating series of savage killings that incite the city's upper crust to civil disobedience. The city's answer, to flood its nether vaults, turns out to threaten a global catastrophe that only Pendergast and company, aided by Navy SEALS, can avert. The story's "surprise" ending makes as much sense as ketchup on popcorn, and the entire novel has a desperate air about it as the authors stuff it with complications and, by pitting the homeless against the swells, try to create a kind of Decapitation of the Vanities. It's high on suspense and tremendous fun in parts, though, especially when exploring the city's nightmare underbelly. Literary Guild and Doubleday Book Club alternate selections. Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

The curator of the Natural History Museum rejoins police and the FBI as they attempt to solve horrific murders. A frightening sequel to *The Relic*, it's a terrific read on its own. Copyright 1997 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Let me say first that I am a big fan of the Pendergast series (Preston and Child). *Relic* was good (although the film stunk), but *Reliquary* is better. *Reliquary* is a follow on to *Relic* with the same starring characters and is a logical sequel to *Relic*. I found it better than *Relic*, although it still has some pretty unbelievable moments wherein our heroes make some daring escapes. Nonetheless, it is highly entertaining, has a great deal of inherent suspense and characters that are hard not to like. If you like the thriller genre, this is sure to satisfy. However, it is highly recommended that you read *Relic* first.

OK but less than serious reading. For me when there is detail it indicates the author did some fact checking and I can believe that the things described may actually exist. Here is what made me decide not to give this book a good rating. And it is all the fault of the author not doing his homework. In one instance he has a character "clicking off the safety on her Glock" in another incident while under ground and in a fire fight one of the characters indicated they had to run away as the C4 explosive may detonate. There is no safety, as such, to click off on the Glock. It has a trigger safety.....the C4 will not detonate from gunfire or anything else but a detonation cap. We used to use it to start small cooking fires so it is absolutely safe. How hard is it to get this stuff right? It was a fun read for me even though, as I am from NYC area and know some of the locations. The book could have been shortened up a little for what it had to say...sort of dragged on a bit in the end. Plenty of

excitement, but a little over cooked.

This second book in the Pendergast series is no better than the first. Its settings are based to a very large extent on a 1993 book called 'The Mole People' by Jennifer Toth that purported to expose an entire subterranean culture of thousands of people living in tunnels under New York City. However, the book was soon revealed to be part hoax, part naÃƒÆ’Ã  vetÃƒÂ©, and complete fiction. Save your money and avoid this whole series.

Reliquary was a fantastic sequel to Relic. I thoroughly enjoyed this book! I will be sure to tell my friends about it and can't wait to see a movie. It is movie material!

One imagines there are inherent difficulties in collaborative work, but Preston and Child are so successful that one hopes they've found some mutually satisfying solution, so that they never stop! RELIC was a fine thriller, set in the NY Museum of Natural History, a dark labyrinth of curious objects. This time the pivotal scenes take place below New York City, in the dark labyrinths of subway tunnels, sewer drains and abandoned egresses, while the characters are the same. This is a true sequel, so do yourself a big favor and read RELIC first. You'll find the same main characters: anthropologist Margo Green, FBI Special Agent Pendergast, police lieutenant D'Agosta and reporter Bill Smithback, and it's nice to see them because they're all interesting and intelligent characters. A new character is introduced, Sargeant Hayward, who is also intelligent and cynical about her idiotic and sexist superiors. She gravitates toward our group, in a sort of Ayn Rand meets Stephen King way. This time out someone or something has been killing homeless people, and our protagonists must learn about and enter the frightening depths below The City. The plot intensifies as they realize that one of the victims is someone they knew during the events of the first book. My only complaint is that the book took a while to get going, for me at least, and really only took off after page 100, when Pendergast showed up. From there it is a superb thriller, and I stayed up to finish it until 4 am, turning pages quickly, interested in all the story threads as they played out and converged. Masterful, intelligent and thrilling, this is a great read -- but read RELIC first!!

The second bond in the Agent Pendergast stories. Margo Green, Bill Smithback, and Lt. D'Agosta round out the character list. The characters are intelligent and likeable, the story hard to take a break from. Worth reading.

I like the writing style of Douglas Preston, yet this book seemed written in a wandering way. There are exceptional descriptions and some intense verses, but when one finds themselves "speed-reading" thru sections I find (for me at least) that I'm in the midst of a literally TV car chase. Still, a worthwhile read - predictable yet enjoyable.

I loved this book just like the relic and yes I recommend this reads. I love the characters and can't wait to read more with them. It'll make a great second movie

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