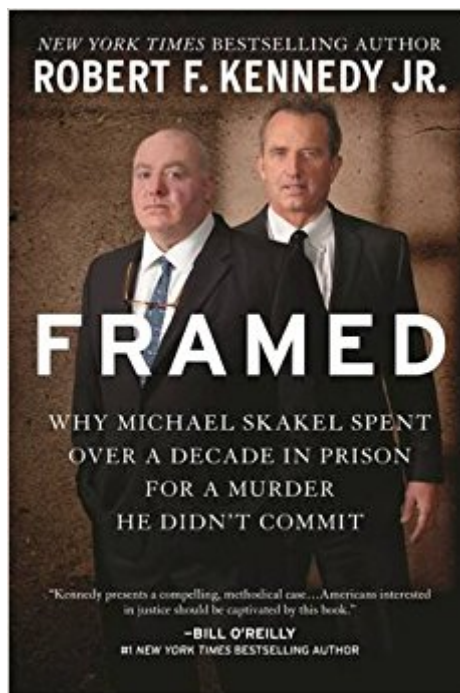




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Framed: Why Michael Skakel Spent Over A Decade In Prison For A Murder He Didn't Commit



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 you think you know about this case, you don’t. If you think that this case ended in justice being served, it didn’t. I was literally left both speechless and enraged while reading this book and learning what actually happened.” • Mark Geragos, Esq., noted criminal defense attorney “Kennedy presents a compelling, methodical case”; Americans interested in justice should be captivated by this book.” • Bill O’Reilly, #1 New York Times bestselling author “A must read for those who care about justice and integrity in our public institutions.” • Alan M. Dershowitz, Esq. “This account will shock and astound those who read the press reports of the case at the time”; It is deeply researched, bitingly written, and entirely convincing.” • Stuart Woods, #1 New York Times bestselling author “An exciting page turner.” • Morris Dees, founder of the Southern Poverty Law Center “An awful, awful story brilliantly told.” • Martin Garbus, Esq., author of *Courting Disaster* “With Capote-like precision, Kennedy tells his gripping story of an innocent man caught up in a Kafkaesque nightmare of a corrupt prosecution and a disastrously inept criminal defense.” • Michael Shapiro, Esq. “Mandatory reading for anyone who cares about truth, individual rights, and the corruption of justice in America.” • Joe Cheshire, Esq., attorney in the Duke Lacrosse case “A powerful story that grabbed me in the first few pages and wouldn’t let go.” • Libby Fischer Hellmann, author of *Easy Innocence* “Kennedy not only makes a compelling case that Skakel is innocent, he provides persuasive evidence of the identity of the true killers.” • Dick DeGuerin, Esq., one of “America’s Top Lawyers” “A riveting true story of a life turned upside down”; a page-turner.” • Shawn Holley, Esq, defense attorney “A masterpiece”; a riveting narrative of greed, hubris, envy, and sloth.” • Anne Bremner, Esq, defense counsel in Amanda Knox’s Italian murder trial “This book is a must-read for anyone who has been interested in the Martha Moxley case. It is also an important illustration for us all that miscarriages of justice can and do occur when the need for results, power, fame, and money supersede the need for justice.” - Ann Marie Palladino, Book Review Blogger, “Lit. Wit. Wine & Dine.” “Jesse Ventura is a truth-teller who doesn’t care who he pisses off. He proves it again in this timely book.” - Roger Stone, New York Times Bestselling author of *The Man Who Killed Kennedy*

Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. is a New York Times bestselling author and one of the nation’s leading

environmental activists. His writing has been included in anthologies of America's best crime writing, best science writing, and best political writing. He is president of Waterkeeper Alliance, the world's largest clean water advocacy group; a professor of environmental litigation at Pace University Law School in White Plains, NY; and a senior attorney at the Natural Resources Defense Council. Mr. Kennedy is a former Assistant District Attorney in Manhattan. He cohosts the weekly radio show Ring of Fire.

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 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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