



A Beast in Venice (Redux)

Michael E. Henderson

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While strolling the misty streets of his beloved Venice in search of a good martini, middle-aged ex-lawyer-turned-artist Brigham Stone sees a man walk through a brick wall. His wife, Rose, blames the booze (doesn't she always?), but his gondolier friend, Mauro, is convinced ghoulish creatures known as "shroud eaters" have returned to Venice after a centuries-long absence.

As Brigham struggles to succeed as an artist in Venice and gain representation in a gallery in the world of Italian protectionism, a rich new patron, Charles Raymond, finds him. Charles seems like a kindly old man with money and a taste for art, but he has other, more sinister, tastes lurking behind his dapper clothes and friendly manner.

Meanwhile, strange things are happening in Venice, and Brigham finds it more difficult to ignore Mauro's shroud eater theory. Bodies, butchered and devoid of blood, are found floating in the canals, and Brigham is attacked by unknown assailants, but when he meets an alluring young woman who introduces him to the world of underground vampire clubs, he can no longer bury his own curiosity.

Drawn into a hidden world of torture, blood, and murder, Brigham must grapple with a hideous evil that on the one hand grants him eternal life, but on the other threatens to claim his humanity, his marriage, and his life.

A Beast in Venice (Redux) Details

Date : Published July 9th 2015 by CreateSpace (first published December 15th 2013)

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Author : Michael E. Henderson

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From Reader Review A Beast in Venice (Redux) for online ebook

Alan says

I was introduced to the author a couple years ago, so I thought I would download his book. I thought that the plot was average horror fiction, vampires in Venice. Some time travel involved. The biggest problem for me was the characters. I didn't like any of them. I couldn't have any empathy for them and therefore when they were at risk, I remained uninvolved. I was traveling and was reading to pass time, so I finished the book, so it couldn't have been too bad. I think there are much better books out there, so unless you really want to read some horror, I'd recommend looking elsewhere.

Bettie? says

Review here

2.5 upped to 3*

Cross-posted anobii, librarything, booklikes, netgalley, goodreads

Gary Peterson says

My extensive review of A Beast In Venice: A Novel by Michael E. Henderson can be found at www.garypetersonart.com/critique

Kmc says

Highly recommend reading this new one by Michael Henderson. Set in Venice, there's a healthy dose of local calles and campos, and an intriguing twist involving all those bricked up doorways. Plenty of suspense to make it a book you won't want to put down until the last page...and then wish for more.

Kallierose says

There were parts of this book that worked well for me, and others that didn't. What I liked: the setting (Venice is enchanting and magical, and the author managed to capture some of that in his writing); the mood (some parts were downright creepy); and the descriptive prose.

What didn't work for me was the characters, Brigham and Rose in particular. One example: much mention was made in the later part of the book about Brigham's fear of dying. But in the early part of the book I don't

remember much mention of it (if any) so it really seemed to come out of the blue. Also, Brigham's conversion from reluctant shroud eater to someone who was OK with eating flesh was almost entirely off-camera (so to speak) and again not very believable. His wife, meanwhile, is kidnapped and held for a week or longer, but never manages to leave the estate she is kept on, even though she's been told that she can.

There were several other examples of things the character did that did not ring true for me. Overall the book had a creepy mood to it and an interesting tale to tell, but I just couldn't get past the issues mentioned above.

Annastew1144hotmail.com says

Too much in the Horror genre misses the mark for me, going for shock and gore over the mechanics of good storytelling. It's not an easy genre to write and excel in but I was pleased to find *A Beast In Venice* was really very good. I can't say that it's the scariest one I've read but its up there with some of the best.

Dave says

Horror

Started very slow for me, almost quit then when it picked up I wondered why I didn't quit but I couldn't. Kind of scary what people can be capable of (if someone can think it and write it someone somewhere could do it).
That is the horror of horror.

Anne Vance says

Thoroughly enjoyed it although I'm not usually a horror fan. Read parts of it through my fingers, but had to read to the end!

Natalie says

Well, it had to happen eventually. I suppose it was too much to think that all my reviews could be filled with rainbows and puppies and fangirling. I picked this book up on Netgalley because the plot sounded interesting and I do love all things Italian so the Venetian setting was also a plus. The concept of shroud eaters is intriguing and I'm always up for a good mystery romp with a traditional good versus evil bent. Most of the plot does not disappoint. It's interesting to see Brigham's knowledge of shroud eaters develop and there is a lot of potential tension between Brigham and his wife as he struggles to make sense of what is happening and to get her to see what is happening.

So, plot, lots of promise. Execution, however, was more than a little painful. The book is in desperate need of an editor. Much of the dialogue is cringeworthy, the main character Brigham is a self-absorbed misogynist, and while the plot is interesting, there are huge gaps in what is occurring. A lot of the best possibilities for

growth and development are simply glossed over. Brigham's fear of growing old and dying seems to make him completely oblivious to the fact that he's pretty much a crappy person who treats his wife like shit and then seems completely unconcerned when she goes missing. He makes noises about being concerned but doesn't make any real effort to locate her or even to convince the police that she's really missing. Brigham's ridiculous nature and poor attitude made it hard for me to get really involved in the book. I'm sure that there are many people who could overlook those and focus strictly on the plot to enjoy the book. I'm just not one of them. To be honest, I'm quite surprised I even managed to finish the book. I think with some polish and the advice of an editor, the book could have more potential. Until then, though, I would have a difficult time encouraging anyone to try this book.

<http://inkylibrarian.wordpress.com/20...>

DelAnne Frazee says

Title: A Beast in Venice

Author: Michael E Henderson

Published: 12-15-13

Publisher: Gemelli Press LLC

Pages: 355

Genre: Mystery, Thrillers & Suspense

Sub Genre: Horror, Supernatural

ISBN: 9780979700613

ASIN: B00QM9Z4PY

Reviewer: DelAnne

Reviewed For: NetGalley

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Artist Brigham Stone has seen the unbelievable, a man walking through a solid wall. Most say he was drunk and hallucinated everything, but his friend Mario has another explanation. He tells Brigham of creatures called shroud eaters, unseen in over a century have returned and that no one is safe. As the number of bloodless, mutilated bodies continues to grow Brigham starts to believe him. On the other hand Brigham has found a patron of his art, the wealthy benefactor Mr. Charles Raymand. Soon Brigham begins to wonder if perhaps Mr. Charles is not the sweet friendly gentleman he portrays.

This is not the usual type of mystery I read. It has some very graphic depictions of violence and gore. I was expecting a lighter paranormal style mystery. I did enjoy the story but I will be more careful in choosing a story to read. The gore and violence aside this is a gripping story filled with horror a main character that is in the process of his own self-revelation as he searches for answers. Michael Henderson uses words the way an artist uses paints to draw us vivid pictures in our minds so that Venice comes alive for us and we can step into the story if we choose.

Amazon link: <https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B00...>

Barnes and Noble link: <http://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/a-bea...>

Goodreads link: <https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/2...>

The Reading Room link: <https://www.facebook.com/The-Reading-...#>

Gary Peterson says

See A Beast In Venice review

Elizabeth Grieve says

Hmmm ... there are quite a few reasons I didn't warm to this. The style, the attempts at humour, the excessive use of the word 'f***', the way the narrator, an American would-be artist in Venice refers to other tourists as 'dumb f***s', and that was just in the first few pages. I fast-forwarded through to check, and yes, it continued along the same lines.

Review of a preview copy from the publisher.

Vilde says

Read through netgalley.com
