



## Dead of Night

*Randy Wayne White*

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**New York Times** bestselling author “Randy Wayne White spins another terrific Florida tale”\* in this thriller of bio-terror and extreme revenge.

It starts with a simple request: check up on the mysteriously reclusive biologist brother of an old friend. But what Doc Ford stumbles upon in the doctor’s secluded island home is a nightmare. He has hanged himself—and his body is host to a rare strain of feeding, breathing parasites. It’s not an accident. Neither is the fact that the flesh eaters are multiplying in the infested Florida waters. A biological catastrophe has arrived. And only Doc Ford can find out why, and stop it from spreading further...

## Dead of Night Details

Date : Published (first published March 17th 2005)

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Author : Randy Wayne White

Format : Kindle Edition 380 pages

Genre : Mystery, Fiction

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## From Reader Review Dead of Night for online ebook

### Geoffrey Gelb says

Another excellent story in the Doc Ford series. In this one we learn even more about Doc's past involving his friend Tomlinson and some of the bad things that everyone's done. Plus we get to learn about parasites and bio-terrorism! Oh Boy!

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### Derek Dowell says

If you've been looking for a worthy successor to John D. MacDonald's classic series of books featuring boat bum and knight errant, Travis McGee, Randy Wayne White's Marion "Doc" Ford books are about as close as you're going to get to recreating the experience. Dead of Night is the 12th Doc Ford book. Some have been spectacular. Some have been a little better than okay, but the same could have been said for McGee. Even when he's not at the top of his game, Mr. White is better than most.

In my humble opinion, this book lands somewhere in the middle of the pack of Doc Ford adventures. The plot revolves around Russian eco-terrorists introducing foreign parasitical/poisonous nasties like flesh-eating worms into the water supply south of Disney World. If you're thinking, "That can't be good for tourism," you're right.

Luckily, the good doctor, along with trusty pal, Tomlinson, and son, Laken, are available to save the day. The tale kicks off with a bang, sending Doc across the state to check in on the reclusive brother of a friend who has stopped communicating. He interrupts an interrogation from the aforementioned Russians, one of whom is a looker of a woman with some offbeat sexual appetites – as if Doc didn't have enough troubles. His first son's mother is some kind of high muckity muck in Central America. He's recently impregnated his girlfriend, who then fled to Iowa, and, over the course of Dead of Night, returns to her lesbian roots.

Damn. Hate it when that happens.

It seems to us that, after the opening series of events in which Doc launches his boat off a ski jump ramp and tries to land on top of the baddies, the story spent a tad too much time dawdling around in slice-of-life type episodes. Far be it from us to tell Mr. White how to write a book, but the whole taming the bull shark scene seemed a bit contrived for the payoff. Meh. Small complaint. By the time we reached the halfway point, the book was cooking along like any Doc Ford novel should.

Fans of the series should be entertained by Tomlinson's change of heart; he decides to embrace capitalism fully and becomes wealthy quite quickly through the auspices of Ford's half-sister, Ransom Gatrell, and a website based on his philosophical teachings.

Alrighty then, what else? The bottom line here is that, no matter how we might nit-pick here and there at a Randy Wayne White book, there hasn't been a series that pulses with the mighty heart of Florida like this since Travis McGee left the stage. Doc Ford is an unforgettable literary icon of a character that is hard to put down. His severe foibles give him the shortcomings of every man, but he's Superman at the same time. If you're sort of obsessed on Florida writers and books, don't make the mistake of missing Dead of Night.

It's Doc Ford! What else do you need to know?

### **Phil says**

WOW! Outstanding read that one comes to expect from Randy Wayne White. Doc Ford is simply magnificent in combating bio-tech warfare, envy, greed, the loss of two good friends in a very fast paced story. From his home base in Sanibel Island, to Cuba, to Bahama Islands and through out Florida this one will grab a reader and will not let go to the final page. The Russians are back doing their haunting, killing and keeping Doc and company on their quest of finding truth in the parasite world.

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### **Kristin says**

Stayed up until 4am to finish this book, not because it was great but because it was so dry, I worried that if I stopped, I might not get motivated to pick it up again. The summary on the jacket seems interesting enough, in that a biologist, Doc Ford, is asked to meet with a fellow biologist who shares a mutual interest in research topics, but when he arrives, Ford finds the man dead and the body infested with tropical parasites not native to their Florida environment.

If the author would have stuck with trying to investigate these parasites and eliminate them when they are found to be intentionally introduced into non-native habitats along with other parasites elsewhere in the US, this might have been a really good book. Instead, he cuts back to scenes involving a Russian security specialist working in Cuba whose employer is the one behind the eco-terrorism and the torturous things she and her comrades do in order to keep this all under wraps. Plus, we are introduced to Ford's best friend, a hippie-esque head of an online religious following with a very shady past. Even Ford himself isn't simply a biologist, but used to be involved in some special operations unit for the government. So the book focuses a lot more on the company the Russian works for, Ford reconnecting with the special-ops unit to take these terrorists down, and the odd workings in the head of his best friend, rather than any attempts to rid the area of these parasites before they take over and destroy the ecosystem.

Apparently, there are earlier books that feature Doc Ford and his friend, and maybe if I'd read them, I would have liked this book better, but at this point, I'm not sure I'll be picking up this author's work again.

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### **Cheryl Ras says**

Wowzer. Thought it was a little slow at first. It picked up! I think it's one of my favorites.

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### **Linda says**

Not my favorite Doc Ford in the series.

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### **Bill says**

extremely good read!

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### **Kevin Findley says**

Better than #11, but it didn't really jump out at me.

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### **DemetraP says**

I thought the plotline with the worms was really gross (which I guess was the point)

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### **Glen says**

Doc Ford is very busy right now, but he does a friend a solid and checks on her twin brother, only to find him getting tortured by some Russians. After Ford breaks things up, the twin commits suicide.

This propels Ford into a conspiracy to introduce noxious and venomous creatures into the US.

At the same time, Tomlinson is getting rich by being a religious guru.

Pretty good stuff, with some scenes that will make you wince.

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### **Lucille Bransfield says**

3.5 stars. This is the first book in the series I have read. It was pretty easy to get to know the characters and put them all in place. I'm glad I read this book. Well written and good thriller.

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### **Jan Norton says**

I am reading this series out of order as these books end up on my shelves. Not happy with the way the author is taking Doc Ford's personal life.

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### **Stan says**

I'm glad Doc is 'back in the saddle'!

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### **Eric Polley says**

The best book I've read so far in this series. What's a biologist to do in the face of imminent biological crisis?

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Research! ♥?

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### **Joyce says**

This may have been the creepiest Doc West novel yet. There are villains who are putting horrible creatures into the waterways of Florida and appalling deaths in which parasites are attempting to escape from the remains. Doc reverts back to his previous life as a Government agent and has no problem with dealing with these villains. His son and Tomlinson are also primary protagonists in this tale. Don't start this unless you plan to stay up late to finish it.

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