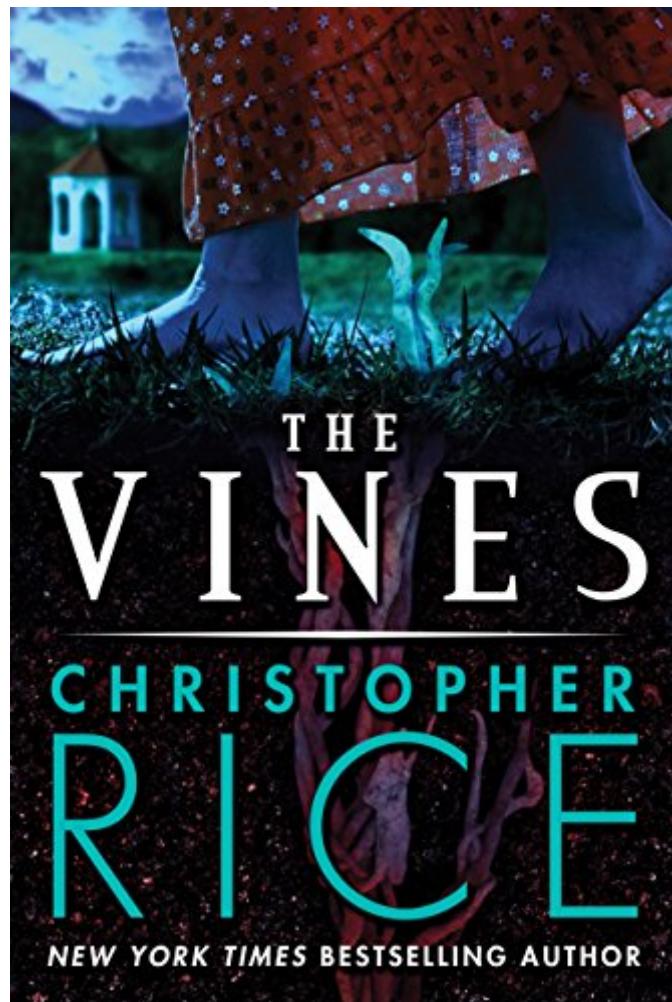


The book was found

The Vines



Synopsis

2014 Bram Stoker Awards finalist for Superior Achievement in a Novel The dark history of Spring House, a beautifully restored plantation mansion on the outskirts of New Orleans, has long been forgotten. But something sinister lurks beneath the soil of the old estate. After heiress and current owner Caitlin Chaisson is witness to her husband's stunning betrayal at her birthday party, she tries to take her own life in the mansion's cherished gazebo. Instead, the blood she spills awakens dark forces in the ground below. Chaos ensues and by morning her husband has vanished without a trace and his mistress has gone mad. Nova, daughter to Spring House's groundskeeper, has always suspected that something malevolent haunts the old place, and in the aftermath of the birthday party she enlists Caitlin's estranged best friend, Blake, to help her get to the bottom of it. The pair soon realizes that the vengeance enacted by this sinister and otherworldly force comes at a terrible price.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The book effectively paints a picture of Louisiana and its sketchy past involving slavery, violence

and on an individual level, family dysfunction. The characters are drawn out well, and the dread generated throughout the book is enjoyable. The story unfolds well, although the end seems overly simplistic in regards to the central nemesis. Nonetheless, it was a very enjoyable read and an effective horror story in a field filled with overly used tropes. The book's most effective angle is the uniqueness of the nemesis' methodology in dispatching victims. I will no doubt read it more than a few times when I feel like getting spooked.

This book had such promise... and ended up being so disappointing. Everything had to somehow be sexual in nature -even the evil vines. The book had potential to be a great gothic suspense chiller, and while there was a historical back story to the vines, the book could have benefited greatly from more flash backs to the past, more emotion in the history. He tries to be in-your-face shocking and jarring, but unlike Stephen King, Christopher Rice can't pull it off.

The plot had potential at the start but it quickly lost any cohesion. The story was confusing, the characters were one-dimensional and predictable, the ending was weird. I should have stopped reading it half-way through but didn't listen to that inner warning. Luckily, it was a quick read.

Interesting story, but somewhat reminiscent of a story set in an archaeological site in Mexico. Carnivorous vines which do not permit anyone to leave once on site. Insects were not an integral part of that story, as they were in this story. Nonetheless, a fast paced, imaginative story, and an enjoyable read.

It was an OK book, but a little hard to believe in places. In my experience the best of the horror stories are those that are less contrived and more ordinary. Think "Odd Thomas". This book has vines coming up through the ground (Sometimes accompanied by bugs) and they are very specific about their targeted victims. I read all of it, but sometimes wondered when it would get to the point. The references to plantation slavery and a seeming ghost of one of the slaves just didn't satisfy. It was OK for me, because at the time of reading, I had a lot of time to waste. I think Christopher Rice will develop into a good writer, and someday will read another of his books.

Actually, I did not finish this book. All I can say is that sometimes the apple does not fall far from the tree, and sometimes the apple bounces and rolls off into a ditch.

I have have read all of Christopher's books hoping they'll reach the level of his first novel. While they seem to be enjoyable enough...the seem to be getting shallower with each novel. Once put down the characters aren't engaging enough to really care about what's happening to them, or the plot of the book. I had to force myself to finish this novel.

This is the first Christopher Rice I've read.... I didn't care for it. The best thing is it's not long or I probably wouldn't have finished it.

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