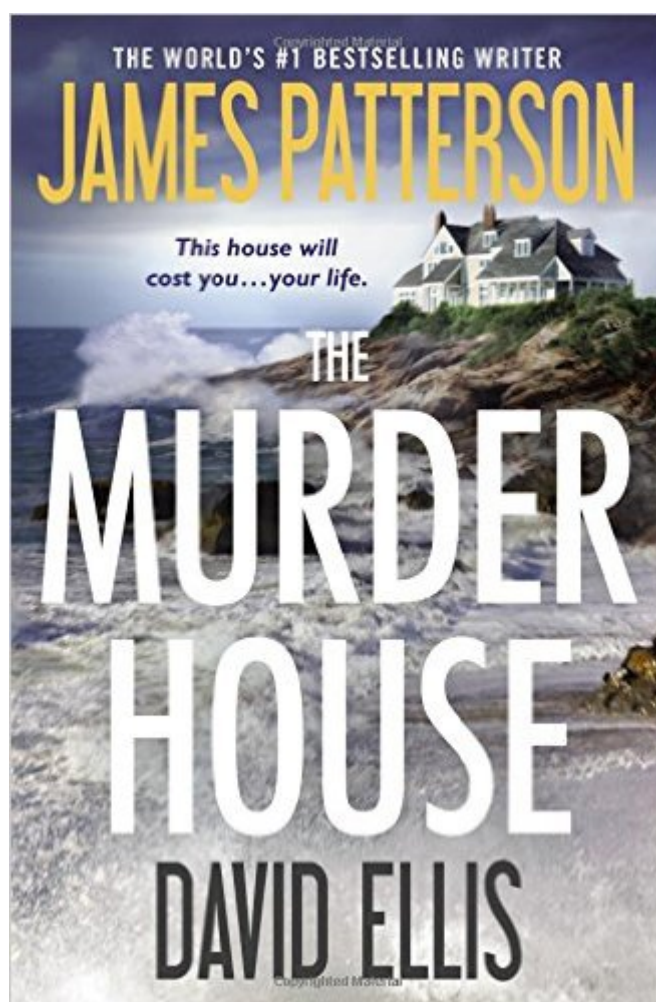


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# The Murder House



## Synopsis

It has an ocean-front view, a private beach--and a deadly secret that won't stay buried.No. 7 Ocean Drive is a gorgeous, multi-million-dollar beachfront estate in the Hamptons, where money and privilege know no bounds. But its beautiful gothic exterior hides a horrific past: it was the scene of a series of depraved killings that have never been solved. Neglected, empty, and rumored to be cursed, it's known as the Murder House, and locals keep their distance. Detective Jenna Murphy used to consider herself a local, but she hasn't been back since she was a girl. Trying to escape her troubled past and rehabilitate a career on the rocks, the former New York City cop hardly expects her lush and wealthy surroundings to be a hotbed of grisly depravity. But when a Hollywood power broker and his mistress are found dead in the abandoned Murder House, the gruesome crime scene rivals anything Jenna experienced in Manhattan. And what at first seems like an open and shut case turns out to have as many shocking secrets as the Murder House itself, as Jenna quickly realizes that the mansion's history is much darker than even the town's most salacious gossips could have imagined. As more bodies surface, and the secret that Jenna has tried desperately to escape closes in on her, she must risk her own life to expose the truth--before the Murder House claims another victim.Full of the twists and turns that have made James Patterson the world's #1 bestselling writer, THE MURDER HOUSE is a chilling, page-turning story of murder, money, and revenge.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This book was so suspenseful that I actually tore off a couple of fingernails. One of the best stand alone books so far! I did not guess the ending. I also didn't get much housework done because I could not put the book down. Excellent writing style, good character development and fast paced just the way I like my books to be. The one complaint is that the price for an e-book of \$15 is ridiculously high!!! I see no reason for that except greed on the part of somebody. I still gave it 5 stars although I wanted to drop it down to 4 stars for the overcharging. But the book was excellent!

My only problem with any of the James Patterson books are the price. They are very quick fast reads with short chapters. But I really have a problem with a digital book that is \$15 and the hardcover that is less than \$2 more. His Digital book prices are the reason I don't buy them as often. I wonder if others feel the same.

This collaboration between award winning James Patterson and author David Ellis has produced interesting results. If you like the murder/mystery genre you won't be disappointed with this new novel. The characters are well designed, dialog is witty & appropriate and the plot, while occasionally borderline "spooky," works very well at holding the suspense and a readers interest. The collaboration seems to have brought some new original texture into Patterson's successful writing style, adding a breath of fresh air. Well done.

I don't think I've ever read a James Patterson book that I didn't like, but of course some are better than others. This is one of the best Patterson crime thrillers I've read in a while. Jenna Murphy was a dedicated NYC detective but was forced to resign after being accused by corrupt cops of being on the take. Fortunately, her uncle Landon, the police chief of Bridgehampton, recognizes that she is a good and honest cop, and hires her. Jenna is soon investigating the murder of a Hollywood agent and his up and coming actress girlfriend. Her uncle arrests someone for the murder, but Jenna is convinced that he didn't do it and so continues her investigation. The murders continue to pile up and they are all somehow related to an abandoned mansion known to the locals as "The Murder House." Jenna has some history connected to the house, but she has completely suppressed the memory. I was kept guessing as to the identity of the murderer until the very end. The characters were interesting and multi-dimensional, and the writing superb. The short chapters, fast pace, and plot twists, makes this novel the epitome of a page turner.

**MURDER HOUSE**, by James Patterson and David Ellis. The object of suspense in this thriller is a

two-centuries-old, mostly abandoned, creepy house located at No. 7 Ocean Drive in the Hamptons. Former NYPD undercover detective, Jenna Rose Murphy, is hired by her uncle, Landon James, the police chief of the small town of Bridgehampton. Jenna has often been fearful of exactly what she's not sure since her arrival in the town. As a very young girl she remembers visiting the town during several summers with her parents. She recently came to associate the monster mansion with its gargoyles and spears on the roof with her nightmares and sleepless nights. She feels something traumatic took place at the mansion that involved her in some way when she was very young. Jenna's first assignment as the town's detective is to investigate the brutal murder of a Hollywood mogul and his girlfriend whose butchered bodies were discovered in the mansion. Six more barbaric murders soon follow. The author's clever writing leaves the reader in the dark as to the killer/killers until the very last chapter. Patterson and Ellis developed their characters well. The dialogue is catchy as Jenna leads us on her journey through the mystery with its page turning twists and turns. Patterson's short chapters make for easy reading. Murder House is a good novel, the best the author has written in a couple of years. I give the story a 5-star rating.

Haven't enjoyed a book this much in a long.....James Patterson lost me for a while, just didn't like the books he was writing but this one I couldn't put down. I think you're back James Patterson!

I'm a big fan of (almost) all James Patterson's books but this one falls short. It doesn't read like a Patterson novel and I don't care for the change. Perhaps it was the collaboration with the other author David Ellis. Not a good combination. Most Patterson novels have me hooked in the first chapter and get progressively better until the end. With Murder House, I kept waiting to be drawn in. I made it through the whole book but it was drudgery.

There is a story here, but it's tough to find and settle into due to the construction of this novel. There are good stories in the franchise and not-so-good stories. The good ones are cleverly plotted, so I hung in there hoping for a payoff despite the jumbled style. There was none, unfortunately. A string of murders, an obvious villain, and ridiculous motivation. I can suspend belief with the best of them, but please. In the end, it was more about trying to keep the storyline straight than enjoying the actual read. Skip this one.

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