

The Devil Aspect by Craig Russell

5 Stars

When does insanity become pure evil?

Dr Viktor Košarek, a clinical psychiatrist, has accepted a position working at the Hrad Orľů Asylum for the Criminally Insane, the Castle where the "Devil's Six" are kept under lock and key. These six most violent killers who have each committed a multitude of crimes so gruesome that they can never be released. Dr Košarek has a theory that these six will help him prove his theory that ***"There were different architectures of madness. The Great Sadness could take any of an infinite range of forms..... Some of these assembled structures, which we all had to some degree, could be sound enough: reinforced supports and protections to help us deal with emotional or psychic trauma. Others, on the other hand, would embellish into grotesqueries; would become gross deformities of personality. Some would even accumulate into great dark palaces of madness that overwhelmed the mind: monstrous belvederes that shadowed and distorted the view in all directions."***

Would studying the six help him prove that the Devil occupied these six to commit their unspeakable crimes? It seemed to Dr Košarek that the very castle the six were being held in, was evil to its core.

Kapitán Lukáš Smolák of the Prague City Police is called to yet another gruesome murder committed by the maniac holding the city to ransom, the killer known as "Leather Apron". Will he capture this man, a person who seems to have ***"A Devil Aspect"***?

I've often wondered if buildings or places hold evil. I know that I've felt very cold or uneasy when I've gone to certain areas. I think this book has convinced me that this "Devil Aspect" is real and not something that I've dreamt up.

Do I believe that people sell their souls to the Devil? Absolutely! Satanism is real. However, I'm still pondering over whether this means that people who practice this could commit some of the crimes that are described in this book. But then I feel that maybe people like Hitler and his closest companions must have had this "Devil Aspect", because how else could they have carried out their deeds?

This is an outstanding book. Filled with some of the most lyrical writing I've seen in print. It's a story that held me captive from the very first sentence until the final page.

I do however feel as though I need to cleanse myself of the horrors, I've read about over the past few days. I need to keep reminding myself that it's merely a story, not real!

Treebeard

Breakaway Reviewers received a copy of the book to review.