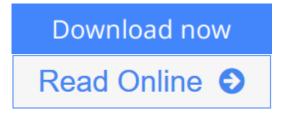


# **Dark Echo: A Ghost Story**

By F. G. Cottam



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*Dark Echo* is an unlucky boat. Despite this knowledge, Martin Stannard falls under her spell and prepares to sail her across the Atlantic with his wealthy father. But his lover Suzanne begins exploring the yacht's past. What she finds is terrifying.

Because this boat isn't just unlucky, it's evil. It was built for Henry Spalding, a soldier and sorcerer who committed suicide yet still casts his malevolent spell nearly a century after his death. Suzanne must uncover his last, terrible secret before *Dark Echo* destroys the man she loves.



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#### **Editorial Review**

#### From Publishers Weekly

When businessman Magnus Stannard buys Dark Echo, a haunted yacht, at the start of Cottam's overstuffed occult thriller, it fulfills a dream from his impoverished childhood: to own the luxury boat he saw in one of his favorite books. But Dark Echo's American builder, WWI hero Harry Spalding, had an unsavory history of evil exploits, and everyone who's owned the ship since his suicide has suffered misfortune and a grim death. Magnus and his son, Martin, become the latest victims of the yacht's malignant legacy when, after setting out in it to cross the Atlantic, the ship reveals the malevolent mission it has chosen them to complete. Cottam (The House of Lost Souls) works up a byzantine backstory for his spook ship that's imaginatively complex, but that thwarts thrills with its confusing historical detail, digressions into Martin and Magnus's relationship, and shifts of narrative viewpoint. What could have been an exceptional tale of maritime terrors reads more like a horror story adrift at sea.

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### From **Booklist**

Can a haunted object continue to cast the spell created by its evil, long-dead creator? That may be the case of Dark Echo, the oceangoing yacht in this religious-suspense/horror blend spanning the better part of a decade. Cottam sets the scene with a stunning description of nonhuman malevolence embodied in the fog covering 1917 Rouen. Add five deeply buried corpses forming a five-pointed star, a pentagram used in rituals involving animal sacrifice, and a priceless and missing holy relic thought to have delivered the final death blow to the crucified Christ, and this is one compelling story. Along the way, readers will enjoy uncovering the secrets of the regatta-winning racing schooner and its owner, the dashing millionaire Harry Spalding, as Suzanne, a contemporary heroine with a knack for research and the determination to save the man she loves, delves deep and discovers a box filled with 80 years of darkness. A shivery and entertaining read for the beach or firelit evenings. --Whitney Scott

#### Review

F.G. Cottam's complex, tautly atmospheric thriller delivers plenty of chills ... the perfect dark winter night yarn' -- Daily Mail 20081031 'Beautifully written and highly engaging' -- Daily Mirror 20081031 'A terrifying encounter with manifest evil ... chilling novel ... His adrenaline-charged prose is drawn tight with suspense' -- James Urquhart, Financial Times on THE HOUSE OF LOST SOULS 20080301 'Full of interest and not a little tension ... (Cottam) knows a lot more about good writing than his supposedly more upmarket competitors' -- Guardian 20081129 'A very good read ... the characters are convincing, the settings authentic and it is well paced, with room for slow menace as well as hectic action' -- Historical Novels Review 20081101 'Just the thing for a dark, cold January night: a supernatural spine-chiller and romantic heartwarmer.' -- Saga 20081101 'A beautifully-written, superior supernatural thriller, Dark Echo dons the mantle of past great British adventure writers. He is a natural heir of Rider Haggard, Conan Doyle and Buchan, via the Edwardian master ghost story writer, MR James.' -- Liverpool Daily Post 20081101 'Old-fashioned suspense combined with modern horror imagery to produce a fine example of the genre.' -- The Times on THE HOUSE OF LOST SOULS 20080322 'A clever thriller: spooky, atmospheric, often genuinely frightening. Another auspicious debut.' -- Peter Guttridge on THE HOUSE OF LOST SOULS 20080121

### **Users Review**

#### From reader reviews:

## **Marilyn Washington:**

Nowadays reading books become more than want or need but also become a life style. This reading addiction give you lot of advantages. Associate programs you got of course the knowledge your information inside the book this improve your knowledge and information. The data you get based on what kind of guide you read, if you want attract knowledge just go with knowledge books but if you want really feel happy read one with theme for entertaining for instance comic or novel. Often the Dark Echo: A Ghost Story is kind of book which is giving the reader capricious experience.

### Lewis Tuggle:

In this period globalization it is important to someone to find information. The information will make someone to understand the condition of the world. The healthiness of the world makes the information quicker to share. You can find a lot of sources to get information example: internet, newspapers, book, and soon. You will see that now, a lot of publisher that print many kinds of book. Typically the book that recommended for you is Dark Echo: A Ghost Story this publication consist a lot of the information on the condition of this world now. This particular book was represented just how can the world has grown up. The terminology styles that writer use to explain it is easy to understand. Often the writer made some research when he makes this book. That is why this book suitable all of you.

## Carolyn Cook:

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