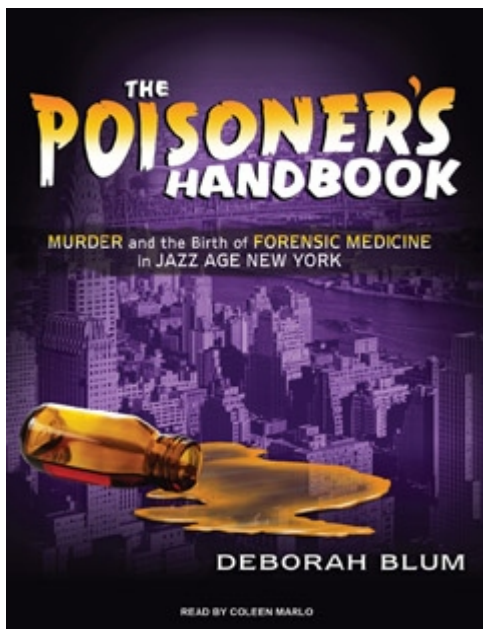


SIMULTANEOUS RELEASE

PUBLISHERS WEEKLY ★
AUDIO REVIEW

Read by Coleen Marlo

Category: True Crime

Running Time: 10 hrs - Unabridged

Hardcover: 02/18/2010 (50,000 Penguin)

On Sale Date: 02/18/2010

Territory: North America

Trade 9781400115501 8 Audio CD \$34.99

Library 9781400145508 8 Audio CD \$69.99

MP3 9781400165506 1 MP3-CD \$24.99



Deborah Blum is a professor of science journalism at the University of Wisconsin. She worked as a newspaper science writer for twenty years, winning the Pulitzer Prize in 1992 for her writing about primate research.

She is the author of *Ghost Hunters* and coeditor of *A Field Guide for Science Writers*, and she has written about scientific research for the *Los Angeles Times*, the *New York Times*, *Discover*, *Health*, and *Mother Jones*.

Coleen Marlo is an accomplished actor who has appeared on stage, in film, and on television, and a member of the prestigious Actors Studio. She taught acting for ten years at the Lee Strasberg Theatre and Film Institute. Through her audiobook narration, Coleen enjoys marrying two of her great passions: literature and acting.

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DEBORAH BLUM

THE POISONER'S
HANDBOOKMurder and the Birth of Forensic Medicine in Jazz
Age New York

Pulitzer Prize—winning science writer Deborah Blum follows New York City's first forensic scientists to discover a fascinating Jazz Age story of chemistry and detection, poison and murder.

Drama unfolds case by case as the heroes of *The Poisoner's Handbook*—chief medical examiner Charles Norris and toxicologist Alexander Gettler—investigate a family mysteriously stricken bald, Barnum and Bailey's Famous Blue Man, and many others. Each case presents a deadly new puzzle, and Norris and Gettler work with a creativity that rivals that of the most imaginative murderer, creating revolutionary experiments to tease out even the wildest compounds from human tissue. Yet in the tricky game of toxins, even science can't always be trusted, as proven when one of Gettler's experiments erroneously sets free a suburban housewife later nicknamed "America's Lucretia Borgia" to continue her nefarious work.

Norris and Gettler triumph over seemingly unbeatable odds to become the pioneers of forensic chemistry and the gatekeepers of justice during a remarkably deadly time. A beguiling concoction that is equal parts true crime, twentieth-century history, and science thriller, *The Poisoner's Handbook* is a compelling account of a forgotten New York.

KEY POINTS/MARKETING

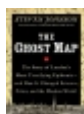
- Author won a Pulitzer Prize in 1992 for her writing on primate research
- National media campaign
- National publicity and review attention
- In-house radio phoner campaign
- Target the national and regional science print and broadcast media

PRAISE FOR THE POISONER'S HANDBOOK

"Marlo's voice is smoky and tinged with humor, irony, and light mocking as she revisits the rudimentary methods of the murder and equally rudimentary science of the Jazz Age."—*Publishers Weekly* ★ **Audio Review**

"Blum effectively balances the fast-moving detective story with a clear view of the scientific advances that her protagonists brought to the field. Caviar for true-crime fans and science buffs alike."—*Kirkus*

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