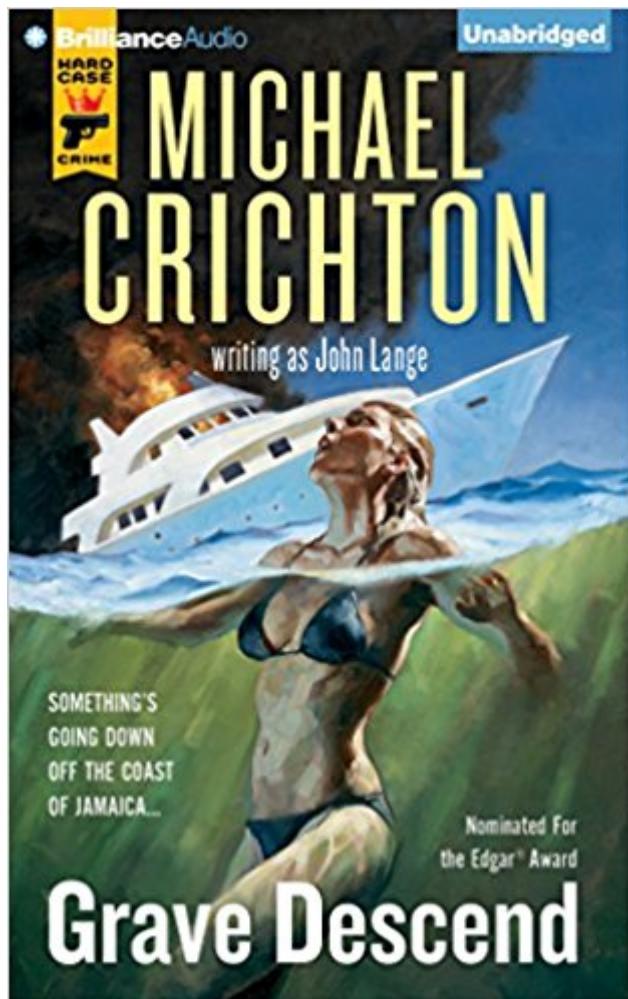


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Grave Descend



Synopsis

Diver James McGregor is used to exploring sunken ships. But there's something strange about the wreck of the Grave Descend. No one aboard tells quite the same story about what happened. Then there's the mysterious cargo they were carrying. In one of the most beautiful places on Earth, a sinister plot is about to unfold. And if McGregor's not careful, he may find himself in over his head.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"It's very intriguing, and like the other Lange books, would make for a fantastic movie." - Trash Mutant" A must-read for Crichton fans" - Fiction Addict "Crichton was able to keep the hook baited and still managed to throw in a few surprises at the end." - Pop Cults "...very entertaining...a fine example of Crichton's innate story-telling ability." - Irresistible Targets"Great delight to Crichton fans who are still mourning his 2008 passing." - Geek Girl Project --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Michael Crichton was a writer and filmmaker, best known as the author of *Jurassic Park* and the creator of *ER*. One of the most popular entertainers in the world, Crichton sold more than 200 million copies of his books which have been translated into 40 languages and adapted into 15 films. Long before the carefully researched techno-thrillers that ultimately brought him to fame, Crichton wrote high-octane suspense novels to support himself while studying at Harvard Medical School. He published eight of these books under the pseudonym John Lange between the years of 1966 and 1972. They provided him with the means to complete his education. He graduated at the top of his

class.

I love Michael Crichton and read anything with his name on it, though I realize this isn't the "real" Crichton, since it was long before his science-based bestsellers. The writing in this is fast paced, mostly dialogue, the characters are almost cliches of men's pulp fiction, and the adventure is first rate, full of underwater action. All that said, I ended up skipping as I read because I was so annoyed with the main character. It was hard to feel too worked up about the danger he was in because there was absolutely no intelligent, or emotional, or ANY reason for him to be involved in the situation. He was smart enough to know that he was being played for a sucker, but decided, oh, well, might as well let them, the money's good. Even though he knew his life and the lives of his friends were on the line. It was hard to drum up any sympathy for him when he wound up in one predicament after another by blindly and almost passively going along with people he knew were out to deep six him in one way or another. And the fact that he got his friends involved didn't help. At the very, very end of the novel, almost the last sentence, the character finally reveals what his motivation is and it actually makes sense--but by then it's too late. It would have been a far better book if we'd known the motivation from the beginning, rather than making it a cheap twist at the end. The book flies by, though, with lots of action and some fairly witty moments--I laughed out loud more than once at the main character's hardcase point of view--so it wasn't exactly a hardship to read. I just wish Michael Crichton, at the peak of his powers, had re-written these early books and given them a chance to live up to their potential.

Certainly an early effort. I stuck with it because I like SCUBA diving. But the plot is a joke and the writing style is artless. Sorry Michael, this was not even your mediocre hour.

Hardcase Books had released the library of early Michael Crichton novels written under his John Lange alias. They all have beautiful new painted covers and vary in quality. This is one of the better novels and a fun read or listen if bought the BrillianceAudio on Disc. I own both. The story involves diver James McGregor who is asked to salvage certain items from the wreck of the *Grave Descend*. Numerous problems present themselves chief among them is the vessel has not been wrecked yet. But for the right price McGregor takes the job anyways. The book moves fast with lots of mysteries and plot twists plus violence and sexy women. The Unabridged CD runs 3 hours and 39 minutes on three CD's. Narrator Christopher Lane does an excellent job with one exception. Since the novel takes place in Jamaica he is required to do a Jamaican accent which he does well but uniformly the

same. So that all Jamaican characters sound the same. A fun way to pass a couple hours.

> Not "classic", Michael Crichton. Well written action-suspense fiction, but not "educational", in the way of classic", Michael Crichton.> If you like John D. MacDonald's Travis McGee novels, or Randy Wayne White's Doc Ford Novels, then you'll like Grave Descend.> A few serious loose ends.> Short. The unabridged audiobook version is just 3 CDs> Click on "Stoney" just below the product title to see my other reviews, or leave a comment to ask questions.

If you are a Michael Crichton fan, disappointment is within your grasp if you pick this book to read. Lacks depth, no character development and shallow story line.

I'm loving these old Crichton novels. Finished this one in a few days. Not terribly complex - following the POV of a single character - but it sucked me in and made for some fine summer time reading. Ready for the next one!

The plot is sound, though not very thick. Everything about this novel says "early book". It is very short. There is no depth anywhere in the story. It could have been written in one long weekend. It is, however, entertaining.

A great early Crichton read, but you can tell it's not up to snuff enough to be under his real name quite yet. Characters are little flat and plot is cliched. That being said, it's a good quick read with a nice backdrop.

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