

White Male Infant

By Barbara D'Amato



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Dr. Dooley McSweeny and his wife, Claudia, dearly love the son they adopted from Russia four years ago. But when medical tests indicate that their little boy could not possibly have come from Russia, the couple is plunged into the dark, complex and emotionally fraught world of international adoption.

Who is their son? Where did he come from? How did he come to them? The answers to these questions threaten to destroy their marriage, their happiness-and their lives-as they explode a powder keg of betrayal and deceit.

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White Male Infant By Barbara D'Amato Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

This versatile author has always had the ability to raise goose bumps (Authorized Personnel Only; Good Cop, Bad Cop; etc.), but in this stand-alone thriller she makes our spines absolutely tingle. What began as an uncomplicated adoption of a Russian infant by wealthy American parents, New York surgeon Dooley McSweeney and his lawyer wife, Claudia, turns out to be anything but simple. After a bone marrow biopsy on four-year-old Teddy and some additional medical tests, Dooley realizes that his beautiful red-haired, green-eyed son is not the Russian baby they thought they'd legally adopted three years earlier, but an unknown child, kidnapped from God-knows-where. A man of great integrity, Dooley decides the real parents must be found. He refrains from telling Claudia of his fears, as he's sure she would run away with Teddy, leaving him sans child and wife. Meanwhile, an American journalist, Gabrielle Coulter, and her videographer, Justin Craig, are in Moscow working on a documentary on orphans around the world. The two plots coalesce when Justin is brutally murdered at the Hotel Metropol and "Go Home!" is spray-painted on a nearby wall. Hooligans wreck all their video equipment, except three tapes that Gabrielle has secreted in her handbag. Keep Kleenex ready as you near novel's end, for Dooley and Gabrielle's search for Teddy's true identity inevitably leads to heartbreak.

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From **Booklist**

D'Amato, winner of the Mary Higgins Clark Award for *Authorized Personnel Only* (2000) and the Carl Sandburg Award for *Good Cop, Bad* Cop (1998), knows how to wring suspense out of her subjects. Here, the subject, a baby-selling cartel, is fraught with tension to begin with. D'Amato makes matters intriguingly worse by mixing together a couple who are fighting against their suspicions that their greatly loved adopted son is not who they thought he was; a CNN reporter and her cameraman who see, firsthand, the deplorable conditions in European and Russian orphanages; and an FBI investigation into a highly profitable and corrupt international adoption agency. The separate strands of this complex but riveting story start coming together when the couple find evidence suggesting their son was not orphaned but kidnapped at the same time the CNN reporter discovers her cameraman brutally slain in their Russian hotel. Another D'Amato stunner. *Connie Fletcher*

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Review

"Splendid . . . a muckraking thriller that from beginning to end will keep readers gasping with wonder and outrage."-*Chicago Sun-Times*

"With brutal clarity, the story rushes toward an inevitable conclusion, the strength not in its surprise but in D'Amato's power to play the strong emotional material and create an all too believable tale of intrigue and greed."-*The Houston Chronicle*

"Another D'Amato stunner. . . . D'Amato knows how to wring suspense out of her subjects. . . . Fraught with tension . . . complex but riveting."-*Booklist*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

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