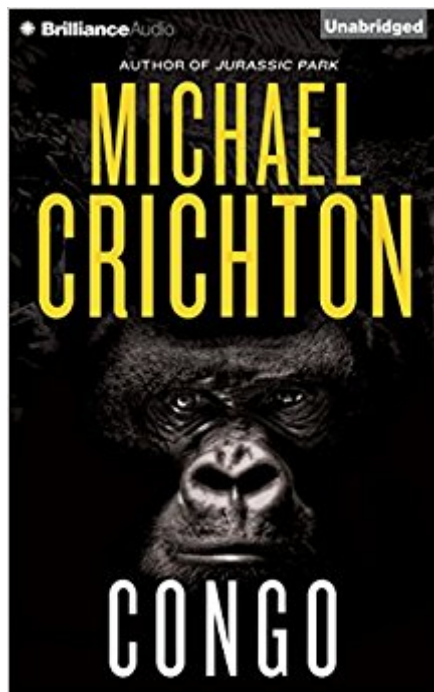




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Congo



Synopsis

Deep in the African rain forest, near the legendary ruins of the Lost City of Zinj, an expedition of eight American geologists are mysteriously and brutally killed in a matter of minutes. Ten thousand miles away, Karen Ross, the Congo Project Supervisor, watches a gruesome video transmission of the aftermath: a camp destroyed, tents crushed and torn, equipment scattered in the mud alongside dead bodies— all motionless except for one moving image— a grainy, dark, man-shaped blur. In San Francisco, primatologist Peter Elliot works with Amy, a gorilla with an extraordinary vocabulary of 620 “signs,” the most ever learned by a primate, and she likes to finger paint. But recently her behavior has been erratic and her drawings match, with stunning accuracy, the brittle pages of a Portuguese print dating back to 1642— a drawing of an ancient lost city. A new expedition— along with Amy— is sent into the Congo, where they enter a secret world, and the only way out may be through a horrifying death. Congo was made into a film directed by Frank Marshall.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

If you saw the 1995 film adaptation of this Crichton thriller, somebody owes you an apology. While you're waiting for that to happen, try reading the vastly more intelligent novel on which the movie was based. The broad lines of the plot remain the same: A research team deep in the jungle disappears after a mysterious and grisly gorilla attack. A subsequent team, including a sign-language-speaking simian named Amy, follows the original team's tracks only to be subjected

to more mysterious and grisly gorilla attacks. If you can look past the breathless treatment of '80s technology, like voice-recognition software and 256K RAM modules (the book was written in 1980), you'll find the same smart use of science and edge-of-your-seat suspense shared by Crichton's other work. --Paul Hughes --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

A group of scientists visits the Congo jungle in search of a lost city and a domestic ape's ancestors, only to find the jungle holds some strange primates who have killer instincts. High drama marks a vivid condensed audio version of a thriller. -- Midwest Book Review --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

This book is pretty good. For when it was written I can't say I know tons and tons about other books that were popular. I can say that almost everyone I know has a strong dislike for the film they made based on this novel. I however, always held the movie as a classic silly favorite. That being said, the book felt a little boring to me. Maybe it's because I read it right after reading Jurassic Park, maybe it's just because it's boring. In any event, if you're on the fence about reading this one, I'd say go for it anyway. The science aspect of the story is certainly cool. I just don't know that I'd ever read it a second time.

Outstanding read! This book was written in 1980 at the relative beginning of Crichton's writing career, but you can see already the level of genius in the meticulous crafting and beautiful story telling that Crichton has become known for in his writings. In some ways, this novel could be regarded as a precursor to some of Crichton's later blockbusters such as Jurassic Park and Lost World as it is truly an exciting adventure book which takes us into the mysterious and unknown lands of Africa. But what makes this book a real masterpiece is the level of research and actual facts that Crichton has incorporated in this novel, giving it a sense of reality. I highly recommend this book.

I just got done reading the book and I have never read a book by Michael Crichton. I really enjoyed the movie when I was little and thought hey why not try the book because the book is usually better than the movie. It is definitely better than the movie. I have no complaints about the book. The only bad thing I will say is that the end let me down a bit and seemed a bit rushed but overall the book was awesome. It kept me coming back and wanting to know what happened next and it actually had some really cool facts in it as well. I'm now reading Jurassic Park and am loving it. Really glad my

friend told me about him and his books. if you're looking for a cheap book and a good story i would definitely get it. hope this helps

After reading the novelization of Jurassic Park, Michael Crichton has become one of my favorite authors. Congo carries his normal technological precision along with primate facts and a thrilling exploration. While the technology mentioned is dated, he has crafted another fascinating tale. It is a gripping story with twists and turns still grounded in great drama. The characters were interesting and I loved Amy the gorilla. The author's attention to detail and interesting facts make this a great read. This was the author's Lost World tale and it is a good one. Another great page Turner that will keep you hooked. Enjoy.

This novel is undoubtedly well-written, though I felt the characters were more like sketches than real people, and the book far surpasses the movie version. While the premise of the novel may seem ridiculous at times, it was fun (and educational in many ways) to follow. Crichton obviously does his research. I enjoyed his Jurassic Park novels more in terms of content, but the story here of a group of people (and one "talking" gorilla) trekking through the Congo to find out what happened to their colleagues on an earlier expedition is entertaining enough. There are a lot of over-the-top scenes and a bit too much conflict (civil war; a volcano on the verge of erupting; dangerous indigenous tribes in the jungle; dangerously-competitive corporate rivals; mutant, murderous gorillas; etc.), but if you can overlook the melodrama, it's a good read.

Crichton invented his own genre years ago: the "Techno Thriller". And while this is one of his earlier efforts, it still holds up surprisingly well. If you are familiar with any of his other works (Sphere, Jurassic Park, etc...), you know what to expect: A team of scientists goes on a dangerous mission. Mayhem ensues. It's an enjoyable read, and infinitely better than the movie version which was made. Recommended.

CONGO (1980) follows the exploits of a small high-tech team of explorers, in an international super-stakes race to find a special diamond mine in the remote jungle, following up an advanced team of explorers that was completely wiped out before them. This story is interesting in its own right - but provides an additional benefit of a history lesson into the Silicon Valley mindset of the computer high-tech world, in 1980 during the beginning of the Microprocessor Revolution (at the height of the Z-80 based CP/M and Pac-Man computer era, just before the world-changing

introduction of the IBM PC using Microsoft DOS the next year... other than with specialized Video Games built for expensive, Arcade-based consoles, costing a quarter for just about 3-4 minutes of playing time, it was a "text-based" computer screen world - with Windows based computers not gaining a full foothold with Windows 3.1, for another dozen years).

An excellent novel and the true story of a real team of scientists that entered the Virunga volcanic basin in 1979. As usual, Crichton mixes scientific reason with an incredible story. In this case he used the real audiotapes from ERTS and interviews of the scientists to recreate the story for us. Truly wonderful and hard to put down.

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