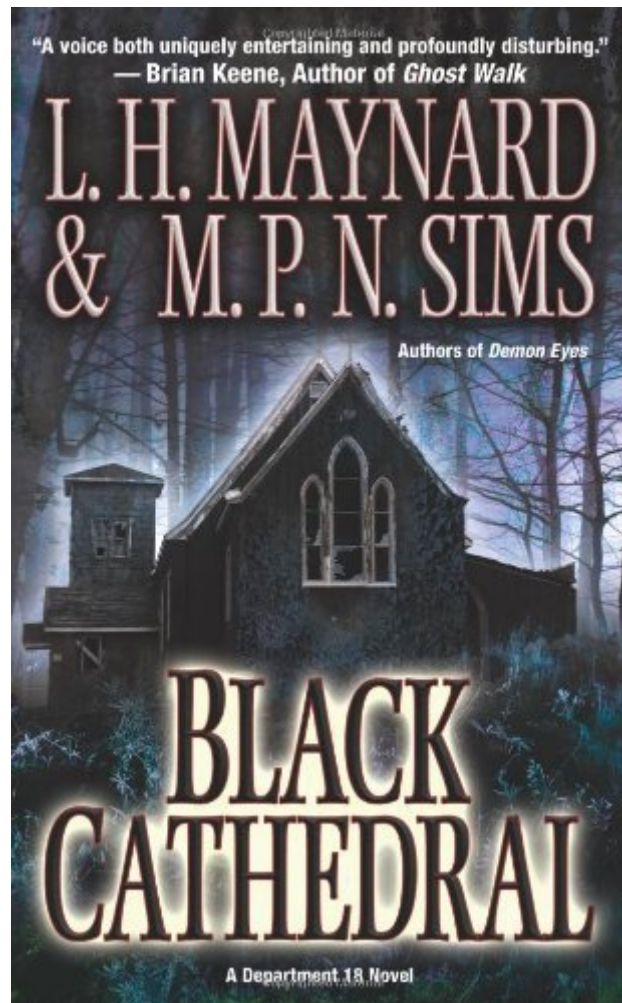




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# Black Cathedral



## Synopsis

At an old manor house on a remote Scottish island, six managers of a large corporation arrive for a week-long stay. Within days they will all suffer horrifying deaths and their bodies will never be found. The government assigns the case to Department 18, the special unit created to investigate the supernatural and the paranormal. However this is no mere haunted house. The evil on this island goes back centuries, but its unholy plots and schemes are hardly things of the past. In fact, while the members of Department 18 race to unravel the island's secrets, the forces of darkness are gathering and preparing to attack. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Overall a good scary story but I did get tired of the main character's psychological hangup with her past. Easy reading.

Loved it!!!

5 stars because it kept me interested. I'll read a really good book in a couple of days but that's only because I don't have the time to sit down and read for hours at a time. Literally, I kept wanting to get back to this book every chance I got. I'd recommend this book to anyone interested in good vs. evil or the supernatural. I really liked the ending, I wasn't expecting it but I also would've liked to have had a little more insight into Talbot and Carter's relationship before and after.

The start can be rather confusing. It reads as if three stories are going on at once and the connections are vague. Throughout the story there are many breaks to what appears to be a totally different story but it ties in at the end.

L. H. Maynard and M. P. N. Sims, *The Black Cathedral* (Leisure, 2009) Maynard and Sims (who according to fantasticfiction have been at this as a partnership since 1979, though only one book exists under their names before 2000) kick off a new series with *The Black Cathedral*, a horror/mystery centered on Department 18, who seem to be a secret British government agency specializing in the investigation of paranormal phenomena. And honestly, my biggest problem with the book may not be a problem at all, though I feel a little vindicated since I dropped by FF and confirmed that this is indeed the first in the series. But I'm getting ahead of myself. Plot: Department 18 are on the government's black books since a handful of cases recently went south, and the director is scrambling for tasks that will keep proving the department's viability. A seemingly perfect--and easy--one comes along when six people on a team-building exercise, along with their helicopter pilot, go missing whilst spending a weekend at a long-abandoned mansion perched on a remote Scottish island. But the members of Dept. 18 themselves may be enough to hamstring the deal--everyone's dealing with emotional baggage, from the top-drawer psychic convinced to come out of retirement for one last job (he still blames himself for one of those jobs gone bad, which resulted in the disappearance and presumed death of his protégé) to the newest member of the team, all are bringing things to the island that any supernatural presences might be able to use against them...It's nothing you haven't seen before (and I specifically mentioned the convincing-someone-to-come-out-of-retirement angle to let you know just how many times), but that in itself is not necessarily a bad thing, and *The Black Cathedral* is a good whack of fun when it's on its game, which is usually. But what bothered me--repeatedly--about the book is the feeling that I had (almost constantly in the first third, and sporadically thereafter) that I was jumping into the middle of a series; there were a lot of incidents alluded to, etc., that we never get a chance to see, and we're never given background on. If I really had jumped into the middle of a series, I wouldn't

be taking any points off, but like I said, at least according to FF, this is the first book. So I found myself a bit confused a little more than I'd like, and usually for the wrong reasons--but if you can get past that, The Black Cathedral is a solid little horror novel, and I will be checking out book two when I get a moment. \*\* Ã Â

The only thing i don't like is the fact that these awesome writers have at least 4 books in this series but kindle only carries 2 of them. They have ALL their other books but not the last two of this series...ughhh. that's how much I enjoyed this one. Very mysterious, even with the very descriptive prelude that slowly builds to a silent but deadly crescendo. With baited breath you reach the final pages thinking it's all falling into place and then BAM, these tiny little hints and seemingly unimportant loose ends; wind up dropping another bigger bomb with a twist ending that i never saw coming. Awesome. Did i say awesome because I meant AWESOME. Thrills, chills, paranormal frills and everything but the kitchen sink.

This was a great haunted house story up until the end. I didn't care for the ending, and that kind of rains the rest of the book for me. But this has some great imagery, and some wonderfully creepy moments.

Hooked me from the beginning and held my interest all the way through. Ending was not what I expected.

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