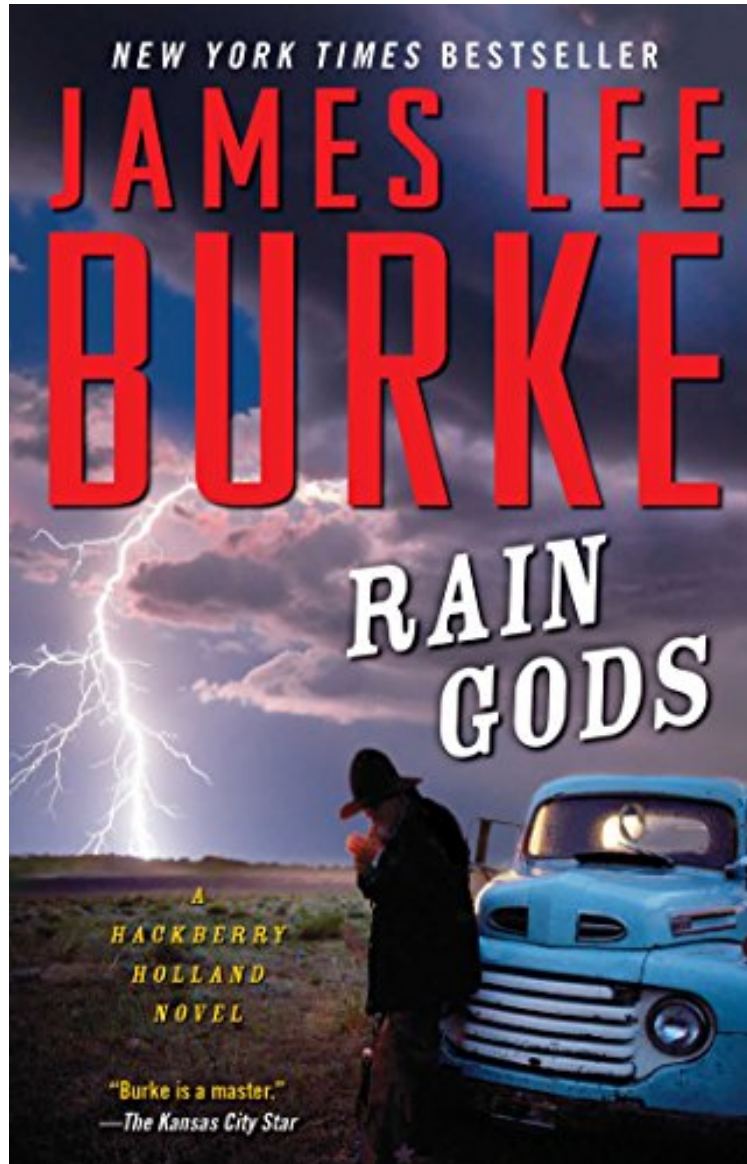


[Online library] Rain Gods: A Novel (Hackberry Holland Book 2) (English Edition)

Rain Gods: A Novel (Hackberry Holland Book 2) (English Edition)

Von James Lee Burke

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Von James Lee Burke : Rain Gods: A Novel (Hackberry Holland Book 2) (English Edition) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Rain Gods: A Novel (Hackberry Holland Book 2) (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen5 von 5 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Characters Worth Developing in an Ugly Story of Seeking RedemptionVon Donald Mitchell"For the day of vengeance was in my heart, and the year of my redemption has come." -- Isaiah 63:4In Rain Gods, James Lee Burke takes flight

from familiar territory and characters to spin a new tale of people mangled by life who try to gain redemption on their own. Without God on their side, it's an uphill battle that provides much frustration for all involved. In terms familiar to Burke fans, two of the leading characters have returned broken from war, one internally and the other internally and externally. Caught by their pasts, the characters are slow to pick up on the opportunities in the present. I thought that the best writing in the book came in the descriptions of the hardscrabble Texas plains. I could almost feel the heat, dry wind, and promise of rain in the air. While all of the major characters are conflicted to some degree, Burke's nuanced depiction of a killer for hire with scruples permits us to see that the face of evil is seldom totally black. The Preacher's tendency to be unpredictable is what makes the plot worth unraveling. At the same time, this plot develops very slowly and leaves out major characters for a hundred pages at a time. Unless you like fine patinas of character development, reading this book can seem like watching paint dry for those who like lots of action in their crime stories and police procedurals. I found that the newness of the characters and territory made that slow evolution bearable, not still noticeable. Fans of fine descriptive writing will be pleased with the book. Here's a passing reference to local color: "A redheaded turkey vulture flew by immediately over Hackberry's head, gliding so fast on extended wings that its shadow broke apart on a pile of boulders and was gone before Hackberry could blink." Enjoy!

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Howdy from Texas! Von Lienz James Lee Burke versteht es, mit geschickter Wortwahl schne Bilder in den Kopf des Lesers zu malen. Wessen Amerikanisch gut genug ist, sollte sich dem Genuss im Original hingeben. Die Besonderheit dabei ist die texanische Frbung der Sprache. Deswegen und weil ich die genannten Orte alle kenne, hat mich das Buch im Handumdrehen in seinen Bann gezogen. Ich konnte direkt die staubige Erde, den Duft von Mesquite-Bumen und das Curlymesquite-Gras riechen. Licht, Land und Leute waren sofort prsent. Die Charaktere sind berzeugend gezeichnet, dabei ganz besonders Jack Collins. Er ist ein unberechenbarer Bsewicht mit unerwartet viel Herz. Dieser Charakter ist hervorragend gelungen. Der Protagonist Hackberry Holland mit seiner besonderen Beziehung zu seiner Deputy Pam Tibbs ist einerseits mit zarter Feder berzeugend gezeichnet: ein alternder Mann und und eine Frau in den besten Jahren, die sich in ihn verliebt hat. Auf der anderen, der harten Sheriff-Seite - sprich Agilitt und schnelle Reaktion - kann er mich mit seinen Mitte 70 nicht ganz berzeugen, auch wenn ein Roman viel Wunschdenken enthalten soll und darf. Die Handlung wird aus der Perspektive der verschiedenen Charaktere erzht und ergibt ein im Wesentlichen rundes Ganzes. Tatschlich stren die hufigen Perspektivenwechsel nicht, ich fhle mich dadurch an einen Film mit variierenden Einstellungen erinnert. Warum der Titel "Rain Gods - Regengtter" lautet, ergibt sich aus der Lektre. Das Titelbild auf der amerikanischen Ausgabe gefllt mir wesentlich besser als das auf der deutschen. Denn es passt zu Texas, whrend das deutsche Cover eher nichtssagend erscheint. Die deutsche Ausgabe firmiert als Thriller, auf der amerikanischen steht davon nichts. Und das trifft es auch. Es ist ein Kriminalroman. Wer sich das amerikanische Buch kauft, muss allerdings die schlechte (und in den USA durchaus bliche) Bindung in Kauf nehmen. Anders ausgedrckt: nicht krftig aufblttern, sonst hat man zwei oder mehr Bcher ... Damit verringert sich die Weitergabemglichkeit. Was ich allerdings grundstzlich gut finde. Denn jeder Autor hat viel Mhe in sein Werk gesteckt. Von mir gibt es dreieinhalb von fnf Sternen, weil das Buch meine Erwartungen nicht erfllt hat. Es war trotz des schriftstellerischen Kennens von James Lee Burke und der Vielzahl der positiven Eindrcke schlichtweg zu langsam. Ich habe es nicht zu Ende gelesen, werde das aber wohl irgendwann nachholen. Rain Gods ist jedenfalls lesenswert.

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Eine Neuentdeckung, die ich weiter verfolgen werde Von H. Krauss James Lee Burke ist so anders als viele seiner amerikansichen Kollegen. Die Mischung aus Religiositt und libertrem Brgersinn hat etwas Besonderes. Menschen wie Hackberry Holland und Kolleginnen machen Texas etwas sympatischer.

Kurzbeschreibung Americas best novelist (The Denver Post) brings back one of his most fascinating characters Texas sheriff Hackberry Holland, cousin to lawman Billy Bob Holland in this heart-pounding bestseller. In a heat-cracked border town, the bodies of nine illegal alien women and girls, killed execution-style are unearthed in a shallow grave. Haunted by a past he cant shake and his own private demons, Hack attempts to untangle the grisly case, which may lead to more bloodshed. Damaged young Iraq vet Pete Flores, who saw too much before fleeing the crime scene, and his girlfriend, Vikki Gaddis, are running for their lives. Sorting through the lowlifes who are hunting down Pete, and with Preacher Jack Collins, a Godfearing serial killer for hire, in the mix, Hack is caught up in a terrifying race for survival for Pete, Vikki, and himself.

de In the pantheon of American crime writing giants, it might be argued that James Lee Burke reigns supreme. Elmore Leonard's position is, of course, secure, but wonderful though his books are, they don't have the ambition and sheer heft of Burke. And the man who was perhaps Burkes nearest rival, James Ellroy, is much less consistent (even the author now admits that his last book, the infuriatingly written *The Cold Six Thousand*, was a misfire). We've been avidly consuming Burke's vivid and sprawling pictures of American society (and its miscreants) at least as far back as *Lay Down My Sword and Shield* in 1971, and -- intriguingly -- Burke's new book, *Rain Gods*, travels back to that earlier volume and plucks out a character to be centre stage in the new book: he is the cousin of Burke's beloved protagonist Billy Bob Holland. Hackberry Holland is the sheriff of a small Texas

town, and he is quite one of the most idiomatic (and fully rounded) characters that the author has created (some British readers may find his moniker irresistibly comic, but the slightest acquaintance with the book will soon get them past that). Holland comes across the bodies of nine Thai women who have been cursorily interred in shallow graves near a church. These murdered prostitutes, Holland knows, are the tip of an iceberg, and represent the greatest professional challenge he has ever faced. And the detailed map of corruption and intimidation that he comes up against stretches from a criminal in New Orleans (for whom the most extreme violence is quotidian) to a troubled veteran of the Iraq war struggling with his own demons (as is Holland himself --- he is, after all, a James Lee Burke protagonist). But by far the most sinister of his opponents is an assassin who lives by the tenets of the Bible, and goes by the soubriquet The Preacher. Admirers of Burke (and they are legion) tend to ignore reviews and simply buy each new book. First-time buyers, however, should note that this is the author on kinetic form, delivering all the elements that he is celebrated for with pungency and panache. There is even a bonus for those who are resistant to the slightly proselytising religious strain in Burke's work: his malevolent bible-quoting villain here firmly puts paid to the idea that Burke is subtly doing a little PR work for the Catholic Church. This is the great James Lee Burke on something like vintage form. --Barry Forshaw.co.uk

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