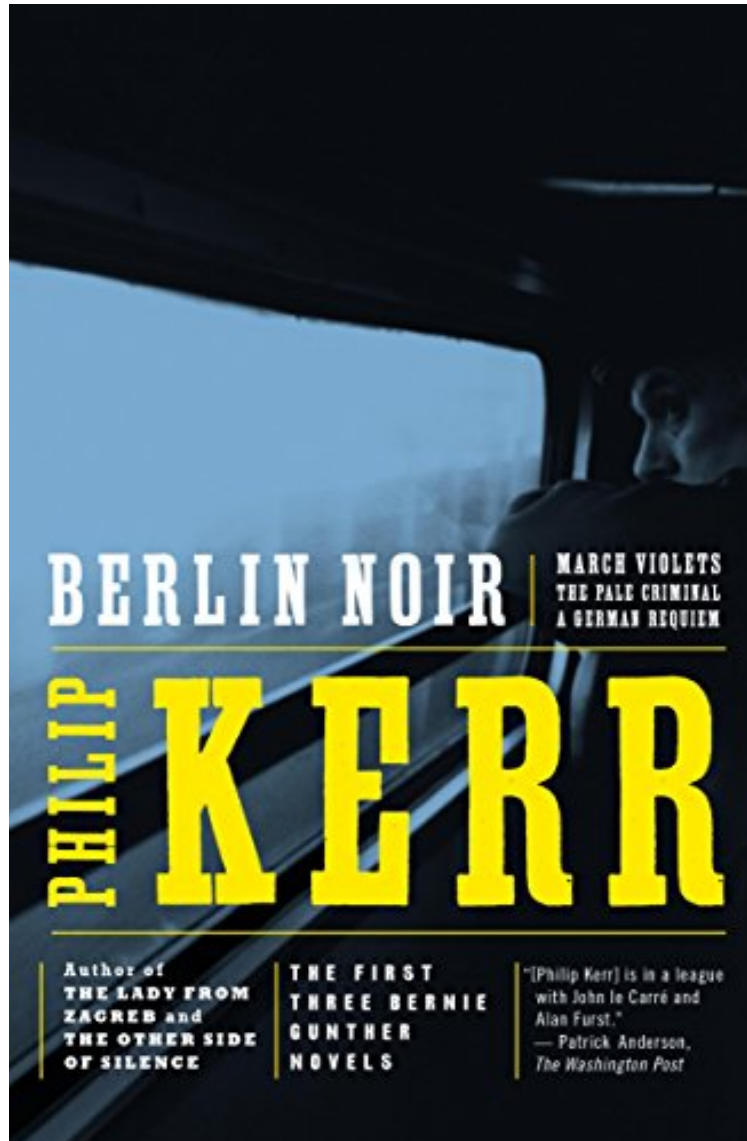


[Mobile book] Berlin Noir: Penguin eBook: . (Bernie Gunther Mystery)

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Von Philip Kerr

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Von Philip Kerr : Berlin Noir: Penguin eBook: . (Bernie Gunther Mystery) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Berlin Noir: Penguin eBook: . (Bernie Gunther Mystery):

Kundenrezensionen Hilfreichste Kundenrezensionen 3 von 3 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Bernie Gunther - Private Investigator Von Mark O'Neill As far as I'm concerned, this is one of the best books I have read in years - and I am one of the most fussiest pickiest readers in all of Europe! Books one two are great while book three is also good but pales in comparison to the first two. The books revolve around an ex-Berlin criminal detective called

Bernhard "Bernie" Gunther who leaves the police force in 1933 after the rise of Hitler and instead he becomes a private investigator. What makes these books so great is that Philip Kerr gives us a deep and detailed insight into what life was like in 1930's Germany and how your every move could put you in conflict with the Nazi regime. Berlin Noir is a collection of the three Gunther novels, the first one set in 1936, the second in 1938 and the third in 1948 (in the aftermath of the war). This is one criticism I will make about the books - there is a 10 year time gap between books 2 & 3. I would have thought it'd make sense to write book 3 sometime in the early 1940's and have "A German Requiem" made as book 4 instead. Instead we have a 10 year leap between stories which makes things in book 3 a little disjointed. In book 3, the author briefly describes what happened to Gunther during the war, the fact he served in the SS and Abwehr in Russia before being captured by the Russians becoming a prisoner of war. That's fine to know but why not write a whole new story around it instead? OK, let's take a look at each book in turn. Book one - MARCH VIOLETS - set in the backdrop of the 1936 Olympics, this story introduces us to Gunther and then onto a case where he is hired by a German billionaire to investigate the arson deaths of his daughter and son-in-law. In fact all he actually wants is for Gunther to discover where a precious necklace belonging to his daughter is but it isn't long before Gunther is digging into the family's dirty laundry. Both the daughter and the son-in-law (a rising star in the Nazi Party) were shot repeatedly in the head before the fire started and both the necklace and important papers are missing. The case brings Gunther into violent contact with the Nazis (in the shape of Reinhard Heydrich) and also German organised crime. Book two - THE PALE CRIMINAL - Gunther is forced by Heydrich to temporarily re-join the Berlin criminal police after a serial killer is on the loose in Berlin, murdering blonde Aryan girls. The police have no leads which is highly embarrassing for the regime so Gunther is pressed back into service with a promotion to the rank of Kommissar. He soon finds that this case reaches into the highest levels of the Nazi Party and he finds himself investigating corrupt SS officials with a sinister agenda... Book three - A GERMAN REQUIEM - as I said before, this story suffers from a 10 year lapse from book 2. Gunther is now much older, much wiser and also recovering from his experiences in Russia including a stint in a Russian POW camp. He is now back in ruined Berlin with his wife which is under 4 power occupation. Working from his ruined home, Gunther finds out that one of his former police colleagues, Emil Becker, is under arrest in Vienna and faces the death sentence for the murder of a US Army captain who was investigating Nazi war crimes. A friend of Becker, a Russian Intelligence major, coerces Gunther with lots of money into going to Vienna and working with Becker's defence lawyer to prove Becker's innocence. It doesn't help that Becker is now a gangster and a black-marketeer, mixing with the wrong people. Gunther soon comes into contact with a US Intelligence officer and a US Military Policeman, who are running separate investigations into the captain's death. Gunther's investigation also brings him into contact with Viennese gangsters, prostitutes and familiar faces from his past, including war criminals on the Allied Most Wanted list.... At a total of 835 pages, this will take you some time to read but it is well worth it. If you have an interest in the Nazi regime, 1930's 1940's history politics and a desire to read three good well-written detective stories then this book is for you. Highly recommended! 3 von 3 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Three 1930s Detective Novels -- This Time in Nazi Germany Von Brad S. Leyhe Phillip Kerr writes in the clearest of prose and is certainly one of the most gifted of our modern thriller/mystery writers. It is a sincere pleasure to read a well-written book, in this case a compilation of three books that seamlessly span the Nazi Germany years. This volume captures his three Bernie Gunther novels, each a gem on its own. They are rich in the atmosphere of those strange, terrible years of Nazi Germany. These novels dare to set forth true police procedurals in the upside down world of a truly lawless society. Few of us can ever image how everyday life would be in a totalitarian society. These novels get the job done with a realistic, human hero. It is a pleasure to have a story unfold through the eyes of a rare, truly brave person with human frailties, not the more common super-hero that unfortunately litters most thrillers. It is thought-provoking to remember that many members of pre-war German society were ethical, moral people that felt outrage at a society with no rule of law. Further, we contemplate why there were not enough Bernie Gunther's left to oppose and strive. I hope that Phillip Kerr gives us another installment of this wonderful Bernie Gunther mini-series. 3 von 5 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Mediocre violets Von Andy Briggs I'm sorry to be going against the grain of popular opinion but after reading March Violets I felt that my opinion was necessary. And in my opinion March Violets possesses the wit and charm of a cereal packet. How it received such high accolades is beyond me. Marlow meets Hitler, come on, Die Hard meets propaganda more like! This problem with this book is that it is littered with too much hindsight and bias and never succeeds in engaging me with empathy. A metaphor told with the charm of a bad Bruce Willis film (Admit it, he's the obvious choice to play Gunther in the movie!) This book tries to shock the reader by holding up a mirror of the Nazi society through which we are supposed to feel engaged with the characters. Well, good riddance to a bad lot is how I honestly felt! I felt as emotionally attached to these characters as I am to, say, a toilet seat, yes it's there and it does its job, but no, I don't think about it once I have finished. The annoying thing is that Kerr is a damn good writer - read A Philosophical Investigation if you don't believe me. (read my review of that as well!) So I know he can do a lot better. As for me, I'm going to ignore the reviews and read some more Iain Banks! Sorry Philip.

Kurzbeschreibung In BERLIN NOIR, Philip Kerr's first three Bernie Gunther novels MARCH VIOLETS, THE PALE CRIMINAL, A GERMAN REQUIEM -- are compiled in one volume, the perfect introduction to the best crime series around today (The Daily Beast). Ex-policeman Bernie Gunther thought he'd seen everything on the streets of 1930s Berlin. But then he went freelance, and each case he tackled sucked him further into the grisly excesses of Nazi subculture. And even after the war, amidst the decayed, imperial splendour of Vienna, Bernie uncovered a legacy that made the wartime atrocities look lily-white in comparison... From the Trade Paperback edition.

Now published in one paperback volume, these three mysteries are exciting and insightful looks at life inside Nazi Germany -- richer and more readable than most histories of the period. We first meet ex-policeman Bernie Gunther in 1936, in March Violets (a term of derision which original Nazis used to describe late converts.) The Olympic Games are about to start; some of Bernie's Jewish friends are beginning to realize that they should have left while they could; and Gunther himself has been hired to look into two murders that reach high into the Nazi Party. In The Pale Criminal, it's 1938, and Gunther has been blackmailed into rejoining the police by Heydrich himself. And in A German Requiem, the saddest and most disturbing of the three books, it's 1947 as Gunther stumbles across a nightmare landscape that conceals even more death than he imagines. (For a review of Kerr's latest novel, The Grid, see our Thrillers section.)

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