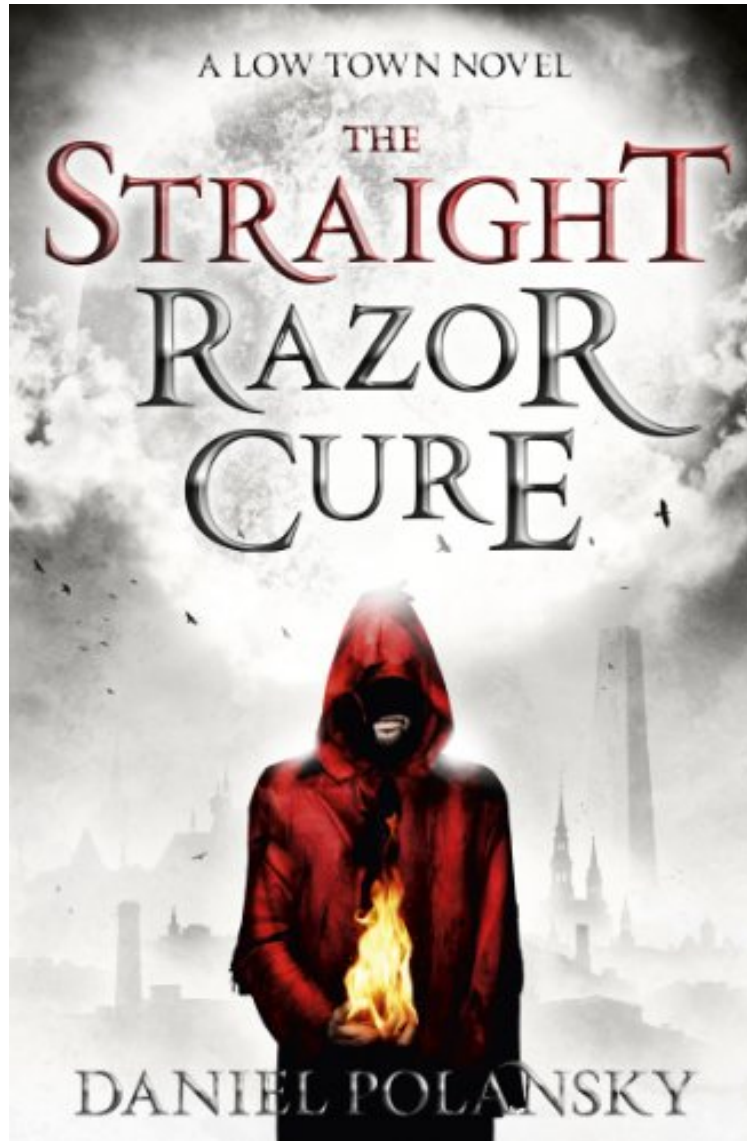


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Von Daniel Polansky

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Von Daniel Polansky : Low Town: The Straight Razor Cure: Low Town 1 before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Low Town: The Straight Razor Cure: Low Town 1:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Meet the Warden - A man like a town : dark, dirty, gritty, violentVon brienneselwynMy ExpectationsI expected a dark and gritty novel with sweat and gore, investigative work in a town with a high crime rate.ThemeDeep in the core it is the story of man who is the reflection of his surrounding in search of the answer for one question: The meaning of life.Let

me say so if you know Low Town in all its facets, the people, the houses, alleys and streets, the history, the smell, dreams, hope, disappointment, violence and , and, and ... then you know the character of the Warden and vice versa. And Daniel Polansky fathom the Warden and Low Town by using an incident which triggers the Warden deep down in the locked ruins of his childhood. On the surface the reader is confronted with a kind of detective noir story which leads the way to discover Low Town and The Warden. Setting Daniel Polansky presents one of main antagonists - the town Low Town - as an medieval European coined town. You know this kind of town where criminal brotherhoods which are mingled with upper class are the secret rulers, where the content of chamber pots is directly disposed on the streets, where cut pursers belong to markets like a bell to a church. And there is a world outside of Low Town. The information we get about the world depends on the Warden's past. Anyway there is religion, a kind of magic and there are supernatural events. The depiction of Low Town is excellent. It opens the matrix in your brain which transport you directly into the streets. Stay away from dark alleys and don't forget your nose clip just in order to avoid to clean your favorite reading chair from your potential vomit. If you cut out and put together all the town description snippets you could easily use it for a pen and paper role playing game. Low Town is the secret star of the book. It is what makes the book unique. Plot The plot has been revealed with the blurb. The Warden in the search of someone who murders children. Of course there are twist and turns and often the reader does not know more than the Warden himself. If you read very carefully you will have a clue how it will end. But for me the plot is just the golden thread which lead the reader through the personality of the Warden and the personality of Low Town which is for me the secret star of the book. On a second sight this book is more a psychogram of the Warden manifested in his surrounding. And drugs, violence, sweat and gore, distrust, cattiness but also trust, love, friendship and a bit of hope are the ingredients of the blood which pulsate through the veins of the story. Character(s) The Warden is the as main antagonist of the story. His personalty is the reflection of Low Town. Like a description of a house or an alleyway find their expression in the depths of the Warden. The more we get to know about the Warden the more we get to know about Low Town . After reading the book you seem to know the Warden like a psychologist his patient after several sessions. Which means that Daniel Polansky did a great job with the characterization of the Warden. Of course there are more people and the author delivers information about them in relation to their importance. Sometimes you get more information about a character within a few sentences where other authors need a page or two. Style The style is without frills, sometimes it punch you right in the face. Dialogue is brisk and on the spot. Daniel Polansky is a word juggler on its on. You find a lot of vocabulary which you would not expect to be used in a fantasy novel. And once a while you will be delighted with a harsh and dry humor which stitch you from a dark and moldy gap. The Inevitable The Straight Razor Cure is a strong debut and a must read for everyone who is looking for a good blend of detective noir and fantasy where the detective noir elements outbalance the fantasy elements like the supernatural/magic. For me it was a great read but not my novel of the year because my relationship to the Warden was mostly cold and distant. Anyway I look forward to the next book by Daniel Polansky. 0 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. As relaxed reading this is good novel Von Helpful Advice "Low Town" by Daniel Polansky is first of currently three novels in author's series that introduced the main character Warden, the former war hero and intelligence agent, who lives in nasty and cruel place, the Low Town. Low Town is an ugly place that lies in the shadows of Rigus, the most beautiful city of the Thirteen Lands. In that city Warden lives and leads a life full of criminal activities, searching each day for new customers and protects his area from his criminal competition. One day Warden will find body of a murdered child in deserted street which will re-awaken a desire to get back to the right path, to investigate this horrible crime that otherwise will go unpunished as most do in Low Town. He begins to follow the trail, discovered on child's body and quickly will find the culprit, who was punished for his sin, but shortly after, another girl will disappear... Warden who still has sharp mind and old but still influential friends in the city, continues his investigation and discovers that the criminal who committed murder is hidden in the mysterious past of the city, among the highest circles of the citizens, and that he's getting closer to him... "Low Town" is type of novel that you read only for pure fun, as some kind of relaxation between more demanding novels, as cleanser for your mind. And when I say it that doesn't mean anything bad, because in its story and characters can be truly enjoyed without expecting some literary masterpiece that you will quote or remember for a long time. Like it's written on its covers, inside reader can find drug dealers, hustlers, brothels, dirty politics, corrupt cops and sorcery, interesting combination though if we exclude the last, not something you don't meet often, in literature, as in real life. On its 350 pages a lot is going on inside though it's pity that the author didn't use some (additional) space to provide reader with a better background of what was happening to the city and land, and why all have became like this, which is missing. The biggest drawback of the novel is actually its literary style, that is somehow of a bit lower quality and could've used more editor work. Unfortunately, this reduces the overall impression though the plot is interesting and Low Town as setting is an interesting place, where we wouldn't still want to live. Also the novel can be reproached for the characterization, due to the fact that main character is not as bad as the author wants to show, as well as for the predictability because already in its first half everything will be clear, but it is a matter of taste, some might enjoy it. All in all, as a relaxed reading, as I said at the

beginning, this is good work. For all above that, I recommend reader to search for another novel.

Kurzbeschreibung Here, the criminal is king. The streets are filled with the screeching of fish hags, the cries of swindled merchants, the inviting murmurs of working girls. Here, people can disappear, and the lacklustre efforts of the guard ensure they are never found. Warden is an ex-soldier who has seen the worst men have to offer; now a narcotics dealer with a rich, bloody past and a way of inviting danger. You'd struggle to find someone with a soul as dark and troubled as his. But then a missing child, murdered and horribly mutilated, is discovered in an alley. And then another. With a mind as sharp as a blade and an old but powerful friend in the city, he's the only man with a hope of finding the killer. If the killer doesn't find him first. Pressestimmen 'Saturated with world-weary snark, this is a thoroughly entertaining page-turner which wears its world building lightly. 4 stars' (SFX Magazine) 'Polansky's writing is confident and punchy from the offset. The action rips along at a brilliant pace allowing us to experience this gritty world through the eyes of a thrilling, dangerous, flawed, yet strangely endearing protagonist. This is modern, dark fantasy at its best and a debut to be envied.' (British Fantasy Society) 'Quite brilliant... The Straight Razor Cure is as good a debut as I've read in along time. [It] has it all - and as the name suggests, it is sharp, steely and viciously bloody. Highly recommended' (John Berlyne, SF Revu) 'Polansky hits all the right notes in his intelligent first novel, a blend of dystopian fantasy and hard-boiled crime... Sharp, noir-tinged dialogue and astute insights into class struggle mark Polansky as a writer with a future' (Publishers Weekly) 'A strong debut novel with a hero who doesn't waste time worrying about the moral implications of cutting someone's throat' (Kirkus s) 'Polansky transplants his love of crime noir into a magic-steeped, secondary-world fantasy setting. It's an inherently troublesome mash-up that could only work in the hands of a silly satirist or a deft, sensitive dramatist with the blackest sense of humor. Polansky is wholeheartedly the latter - and Low Town is brilliant proof ... Wielding vivid characters and scalpel-sharp banter worthy of fellow dark fantasists Scott Lynch and Joe Abercrombie, Polansky ratchets up the pace ... Polansky has managed to craft an assured, roaring, and rollicking hybrid, a cross-genre free-for-all that relishes its tropes while spitting out their bones. And he does it all while spinning one hell of a gripping mystery' (avclub.com) 'I can't remember when I last enjoyed a fantasy book this much' (Books Monthly) 'Daniel Polansky has crafted a thrilling novel steeped in noir sensibilities and relentless action, and set in an original world of stunning imagination, leading to a gut-wrenching, unforeseeable conclusion. Low Town is an attention-grabbing debut that will leave readers riveted . . . and hungry for more' (missiontoread.com) 'An impossible to put down read, showing how dark fantasy can truly be (thefoundingfields.com)' 'The Straight Razor Cure is dark, eloquent work filled with a very real presence that permeates both the world and the characters within it. Polansky has created a wickedly delicious fantasy that leaves a profound impression on the reader. Despite the plague, murderers and dark magic, I can't wait to pay another visit to Low Town' (mithrilwisdom.blogspot.com) 'Polansky brings this world to life with many well-chosen phrases, so that you get the smell and the feel of the place living with you as you read. And unpleasant as it may be at times, Low Town is somewhere you'll want to return to soon. (www.scifibulletin.com) Werbetext Criminal. Killer. Hero. Welcome to Low Town.