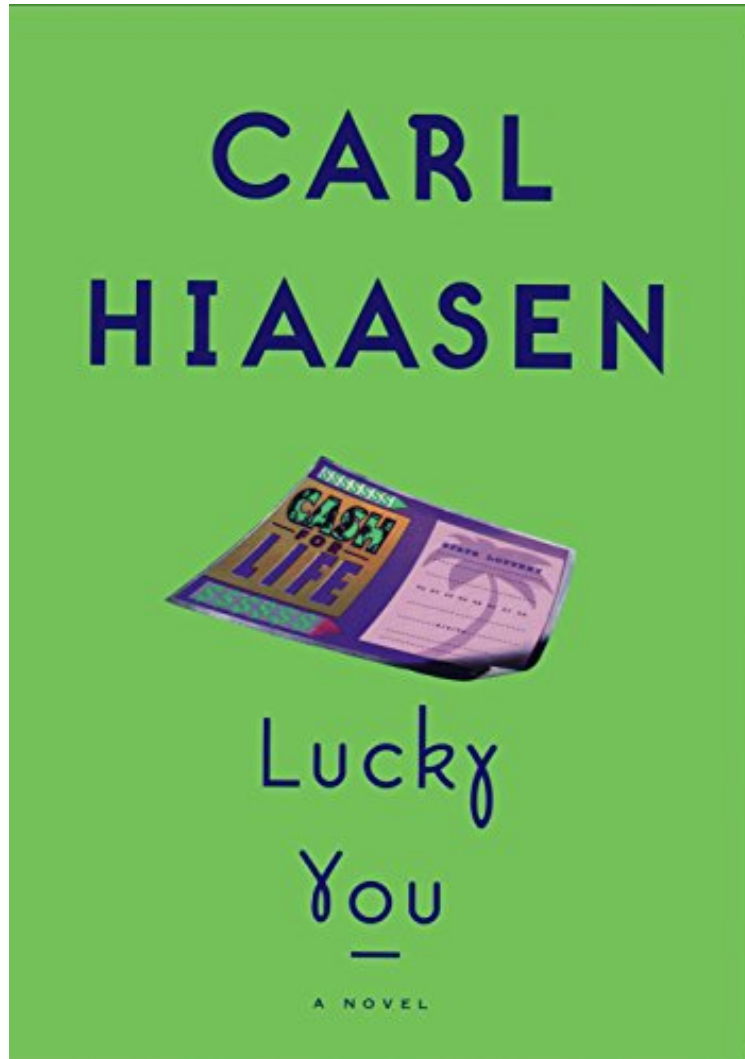


[Free pdf] Lucky You

Lucky You

Von Carl Hiaasen

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Von Carl Hiaasen : Lucky You before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Lucky You:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Get Rich Quick Fever Wrecks Havoc on Scammers!Von Donald MitchellDo you play the lottery? If so, you'll feel an affinity with appropriately named, JoLayne Lucks, the heroine of this novel.How would your life be changed if you suddenly won \$14 million? Naturally, you would find good use for it. But what negative consequences would follow? If you favor your privacy, personal safety and sanity, you will find Lucky You presents a living nightmare of all the things that can go wrong.Naturally, lottery winners become targets for all kinds of fraud. In fact, some will even try to claim

that they own the winning tickets. But how often do envious people actually try to steal the ticket? That's the premise of this book. The plot line though is merely an excuse for the ever satirical Mr. Hiaasen to unloose his humor on those who operate beyond the fringes of legal and ethical behavior including purveyors of fake religious miracles, crooked officials, cheating spouses, white supremacists, racists, the mob, counterfeiter and thieves. In addition, the humor spills over to include those who marry too quickly and unwisely, overeager managers and law clerks, and the overconfidence of men. Those who enjoy reading about writing will be thrilled by the many satirical references in the book to the degradation of the written word in small town newspapers. Mr. Hiaasen is at his best when he focuses narrowly on fields of endeavor that he knows well. There his humor is sharp, on target and original. When he moves outside of his arena, the humor moves into burlesque and broad strokes that tend to belabor an obvious point past its potential. That's the weakness of this book. He's mostly off solid ground for his humor. Because his targets are people for whom we feel little sympathy, the humor sort of works. This book contains one of Mr. Hiaasen's favorite themes: the significance of natural beauty being marred by greedy people. But there's no Skink here to take the story line to its usual brilliant potential. If you are, however, a fan of Mr. Hiaasen, I definitely recommend this book to you. Just realize that this isn't one of his most brilliant efforts. Appreciate what you have and live in harmony!

1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Carl's best yet: great characters, plot, dialogue, ending. Von Ein Kunde

The odds of being struck by lightning is something just under than 7 million to one. The odds of winning the Florida lottery are around 14 million to one, so I always figured that after I got struck the second time, I'd buy me a Lotto ticket. I'm sorry to say, as yet, I haven't got hit so's much as once. Good fortune recently came however, not in a series of six numbers, but in the form of Carl Hiaasen's latest comic novel, "Lucky You." Fans of earlier deranged trips through Florida such as "Native Tongue" and "Double Whammy" will again be rewarded for their investment. Hiaasen has pulled together his best-yet cast of misfits, wannabes, and reluctant heroes to infect the Florida landscape. A lottery ticket worth 14 million has been stolen from a small-town veterinarian's assistant, JoLayne. Feature reporter Tom Krone is onboard for the wild ride as the two track down the pathetic thieves and would-be white supremacists, Bodean and Chub. The small town itself serves as the twisted touchstone for the hilarious plot, a place where Christian pilgrims gather to witness the "Weeping" Madonna ("Charlie"-scented tears), the Apollitic Turtles, and brake-fluid Jesus. When the latter becomes the victim of scheduled road maintenance, a minor character reflects on the loss to the apparition's sponsor, "She's had a bad day. The D.O.T. paved her road stain." The generous dialogue afforded even lesser roles proves beyond doubt that the author has achieved new heights of colloquial brilliance. The pursuit of the missing ticket is interwoven with hilarious sub-plots of divorce, arson, adultery and money-laundering, all which lead back to the smitten feature-writer who leaves a speed-boat wake of turbulence behind him as he and JoLayne seek palmetto justice. Some of Hiaasen's PET PEEVES GET PILLORIED (assistant editors, judges, developers) and this we expect and hope for. Humor makes his contempt that much more scathing. Tom's boss transfigures into Turtle Boy and the contemptible jurist's clever get-away plot is foiled by his adulterous but all-too honest wife ("thirteen times, but that's counting oral relations too.") Once again, Hiaasen offers up some female heroines. Amber, a Hooters waitress, is more than a match for the thieves' accomplice and helps to wind up the headlong story perfectly, offering up just-in-time moral heroics and well, a little luck.

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Predictable as chocolate-chip cookies

Von Ann W. Unemori

First off, Lucky You is basically a fun read, the old what-would-you-do-with-ten-million-dollars dream. Hiaasen still pulls off the fun and crackle of offbeat characters scrounging around in southern Florida; his environmental message as strong as ever. The story is gripping enough to keep going without being unduly demanding. This, unfortunately, is also the novel's major flaw. One realizes that you know where you are going: that the male and female protagonists will end up together; that the ranch will be saved; that Black Bart and Sidekick will receive their just comeuppance. Hiaasen's strength lies in the journey getting you there. That was the main problem, I found the subplot of religious symbols, the secondary characters such as the reporter's neurotic wife or the editor finding peace in a pond of baby turtles more intriguing than the search for the missing ticket. Hiaasen has slid into a common trap, his villains are vicious bastards but starting to be more interesting than the heroes. The presence of one-time Governor Skink is sadly missed. I compare this latest book to yet another batch of perfectly baked tollhouse chocolate chip cookies--Delicious, but how many ways can you make them and still keep everyone's interest? Next time let's add some anchovies!

Kurzbeschreibung

Grange, Florida, is famous for its miracles--the weeping fiberglass Madonna, the Road-Stain Jesus, the stigmata man. And now it has JoLayne Lucks, unlikely winner of the state lottery. Unfortunately, JoLayne's winning ticket isn't the only one. The other belongs to Bodean Gazer and his raunchy sidekick, Chub, who want the whole \$28 million jackpot to start their own underground militia. But JoLayne Lucks has her own plans for the Lotto money, and when Bode and Chub brutally assault her and steal her ticket, she vows to track them down, take it back--and get revenge. The only one who can help is Tom Krone, a big-city investigative journalist now writing frothy features for a mid-sized newspaper. He is about to become part of a story that's bigger and more bizarre than anything

he's ever covered. Chasing two heavily armed psychopaths is reckless enough, but Tom's got other problems-including his fugitive wife and his own growing fondness for the future millionairess with whom he's risking his neck. The pursuit takes them to a buzzard-infested island deep in Florida Bay, where they finally catch up with the fledgling militia-and their baffled hostage, a Hooters waitress. The climax explodes with the hilarious mayhem that is Carl Hiaasen's hallmark. Lucky You is his funniest, most deliriously gripping novel yet. BONUS: This edition includes an excerpt from Carl Hiaasen's Bad Monkey. From Kirkus sAs soon as an informative headnote warns that ``there is no approved dental use for WD-40," you can relax, knowing that you're in for several blissful hours in the hands of a master farceur whose subject this time is what passes in South Florida for providence. Even though she's confirmed the winning numbers on her Lotto ticket, placid veterinary assistant JoLayne Lucks refuses to give an interview to rolling-stone Register features writer Tom Krome. Hoping to rescue the turtles of Simmons Wood from mob-backed development by buying the parcel out of her half of the \$28 million jackpot, she doesn't see any point in telling the world she's rich. Then, suddenly, she isn't, because the holder of the other winning ticket, halfwit white supremacist Bodean Gazzer, decides to double his own payout by heisting her ticket. Bode and his sidekick Chub have their own public-spirited vision for the prize: arming the White Rebel Brotherhood (membership 2 and growing) in preparation for the UN-sponsored invasion of the US via all those unused handicapped-parking spaces. Along with the obligatory romantic complications, Hiaasen provides an alarmingly comical parade of spiritual counterparts to the providential nostrum of the Florida lottery: the weeping fiberglass Madonna, the Road-Stain Jesus, the miraculous apostolic turtles who bring nirvana to the features editor sent to retrieve Krome after he takes off with JoLayne in pursuit of the Lotto thieves. Not even Hiaasen (Stormy Weather, 1995, etc.) can sustain this balancing act forever, and eventually it collapses like a house of cards. But for an impossibly long time, the whole wild sideshow seethes and boils with all the grinning vitality of a ``Have a Nice Day" poster reimagined by Hieronymous Bosch. Just when you think Hiaasen can't outdo himself, he finds more lunatics who just happen to tap into your deepest fears about America. Makes you wonder. (First printing of 200,000; Book-of-the-Month Club alternate selection/Quality Paperback Book Club selection) -- Copyright 1997, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved. From Library Journal JoLayne Lucks has one of two winning lottery tickets each worth a cool \$14 million. She plans to spend it rescuing a local plot of swampland from a strip mall developer. The holders of the other winning ticket, however, are Bode Gazzer and his sidekick, Chubb, who want the whole \$28 million. Afire with paramilitary fervor, Bode and Chubb need the cash to bankroll the start-up of the White Clarion Aryans before NATO takes over America with a handicapped parking sticker scam. They steal JoLayne's ticket, but before they can cash it she mounts a hot pursuit with the help of local journalist Tom Krome. As they chase Bode and Chubb through the swamps and sleazy dives, dodging bullets and local religious fanatics, Tom and JoLayne leave a wake of mayhem and hilarity. This is Hiaasen (Naked Came the Manatee, LJ 1/97) at his wacky best? a steamy amalgam of raunch, righteousness, and riotous laughs. Highly recommended. -? Susan Gene Clifford, Aerospace Corp., El Segundo, Cal. Copyright 1997 Reed Business Information, Inc.