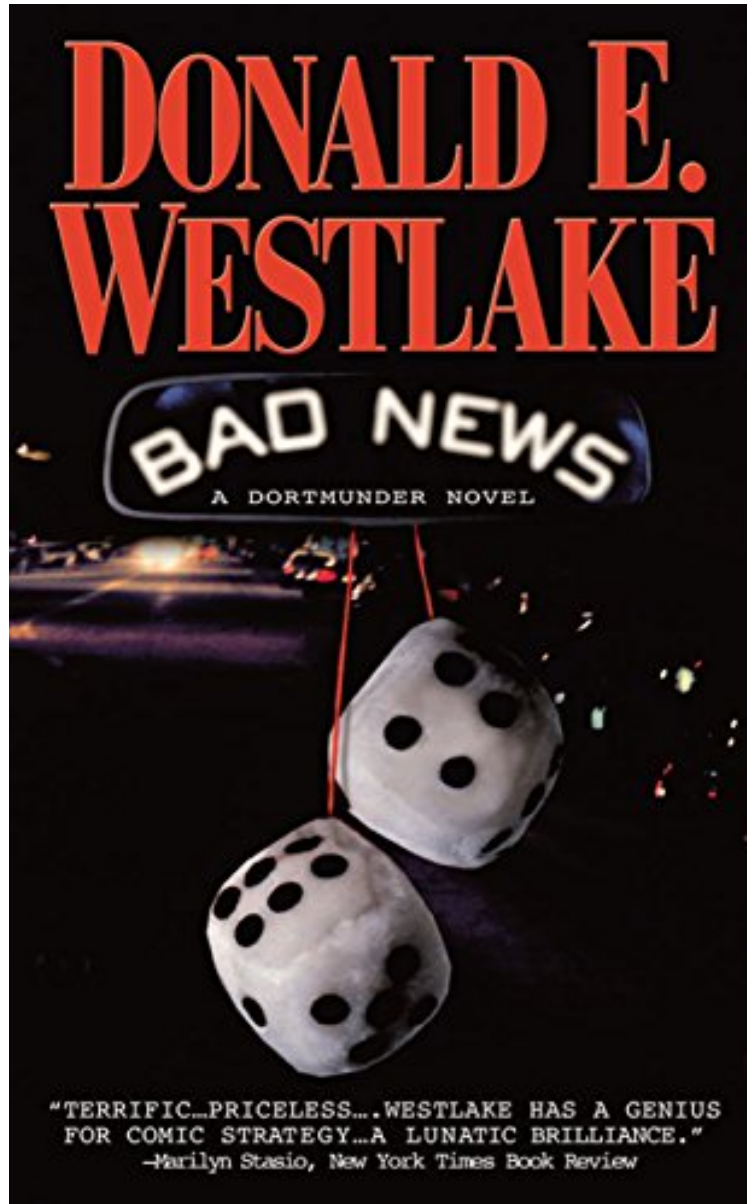


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Bad News (The Dortmunder Novels Book 10) (English Edition)

Von Donald E. Westlake

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Von Donald E. Westlake : Bad News (The Dortmunder Novels Book 10) (English Edition) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Bad News (The Dortmunder Novels Book 10) (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. The Old

Switcheroo! Von Donald Mitchell Donald E. Westlake does a brilliant job here of using comedy to display the ironies of life in proving that Murphy's Law (anything that can go wrong . . . will) is still in effect. John Dortmunder is well known to Westlake fans as the break-in specialist who constantly faces unexpected misfortune to foil his "can't-miss" plans. Never has Dortmunder had so many plans upset as in *Bad News*. This book is my second favorite in the series, after *Bank Shot*. The book's opening would make a great short story. Dortmunder is about to walk off with \$1,000 worth of camera equipment from a discount store when every alarm and light in the place go off. Using his wits, he quickly improvises an alibi that will leave you chuckling for days. Having lost that \$1,000, Dortmunder agrees to Andy Kelp's offer of a job digging up and moving a body from a nearby cemetery. Andy got the job over the Internet, and it turns out that John and Andy are viewed as expendable by their "employers" -- Fitzroy Guilderpost and Irwin Gabel. In the process of protecting themselves, John and Andy decide that they should try to cut themselves in on whatever the caper is really all about. Eventually, they become "partners" with the two, plus their accomplice, Ms. Shirley Ann Farraff, who operates under the nom de guerre of Little Feather Redcorn, the supposed last of the supposedly extinct Pottaknobbee tribe who have a potential one-third ownership of a Native-American casino on the reservation in upstate New York. They plan to pull an "Anastasia" and prove that Shirley Ann is a Pottaknobbee by burying one of her relatives in the grave of one Joseph Redcorn on Long Island. Dortmunder quickly spots lots of holes in the plan and tries to fix them. From the beginning almost everything goes wrong, with hilarious consequences. Like the fine comic writer that he is, Mr. Westlake invests all parts of the book with humor . . . not just the development of the crime story. There are lots of humorous examples of the ways that people outsmart themselves. Before you are done, you will have gone through so many switches of key elements of this story that you'll have run out of fingers and toes to count them on. And you'll love it! After you finish the book, think about a time when you tried to get something for nothing . . . and outsmarted yourself. How can you avoid repeating that error in the future? In my case, I remember spending 6 weeks working on a national contest while I was in high school. As I just about completed the contest entry, I realized that I had made a strategic error in my work process . . . and had no chance of winning. I would have made more money if I had worked for 25 cents an hour than I did with my nonexistent gains from working on that contest. I can avoid that problem by accurately assessing whether the likely gain is worth the effort before I start.

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Comic Crime at it's best Von Aloha Dortmunder is one of us. A little Burglar who is unlucky (or lucky) all the time. The Dortmunder Novels from Donald are always the same. A normal situation that could happen to all of us turns into chaos. Here it hits the lovable Dortmunder character who is a small time criminal. The beginning is hilarious. An escape from a not very good guarded shop got straight to your laughing muscle. Especially when the police captain said to the thief: Gedadda here! Sorry for the spoiler. All victims and all friends of Dortmunder are endearingly quirky and funny. When you love witty humour, these Dortmunder Novel will show you how it goes. Hang Loose

Kurzbeschreibung John Dortmunder doesn't like manual labor. So when he gets the offer of money to dig up a grave, he balks . . . then he wonders why Fitzroy Guilderpost, criminal mastermind, wants to pull a switcheroo of two 70-years-dead Indians. . . . When the smartest writer of lighthearted crime fiction brings John Dortmunder back after a five-year hiatus, his fans are in for a double helping of fun. Before the plot takes its first outlandish turn, Dortmunder's having a kind of midlife crisis: what's a career crook to do when his most recent attempt at restocking the family coffers ends in a botched burglary? Dortmunder makes his escape by pretending to be a customer caught napping in the optician's office of a New Jersey discount store after midnight, but he's unable to set up a new heist. Hoping to recoup his losses, he signs on with his old friend Andy Kelp, who's made an Internet connection with a bizarre scam artist named Fitzroy Guilderpost. Guilderpost's plan to take over an Indian gambling casino requires the replacement of one dead Indian buried in a Queens cemetery with another corpse, who's actually related to Guilderpost's partner, a Las Vegas chorine named Little Feather. Dortmunder and pals have to spirit Joseph Redcorn out of the plot he's been occupying for nearly a century and replace him with Little Feather's grandfather, who's been dead for quite a spell himself. Little Feather will inherit a third of the casino if she can prove she's related to the newly planted Indian, who belonged to a vanishing tribe, the Pottaknobbees. Dortmunder can smell the wool being pulled over his eyes and has no intention of playing the fleeced sheep, not when he sees a way to cut himself and Andy in for a partner's share of the profits. But the casino's current owners are as crooked as Fitzroy Guilderpost, so while switching one dead Indian with another isn't tough, even for a fellow who hates physical labor as much as Dortmunder does, keeping him planted long enough for the law to match his DNA with Little Feather's is a much more problematic enterprise. This is one of Dortmunder's most picaresque adventures (*The Hot Rock*, *Don't Ask*, etc.), and shows off author Donald E. Westlake's gifts: the pacing as swift as a dealer's shuffle, the secondary characters and the convoluted twists and turns of the plot worthy of the late Ross Thomas. And speaking of switched bodies and stolen identities is it possible that Donald Westlake is Ross Thomas? (Don't panic; it's just wishful thinking from a big fan of the comic caper genre. But when you've worked your way through Westlake's oeuvre of over 50 novels, and reread every Elmore Leonard you can get

your hands on, you might want to make your way to Ross Thomas's back list, too). --Jane Adams.com

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