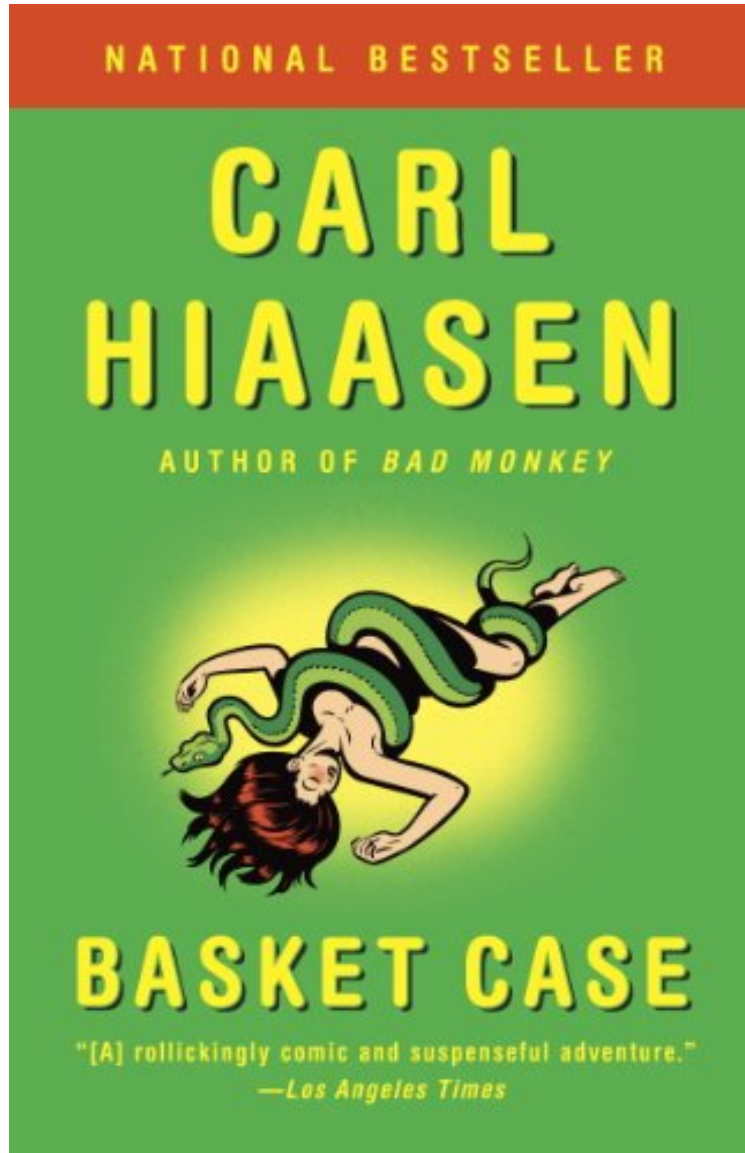


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Basket Case

Von Carl Hiaasen

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

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich.
Spectacularly Performed Unabridged AudioVon Donald MitchellWhen Basket Case first came out, I read the book and enjoyed it very much. Finding myself in the mood for some humor in my audio cassette listening while I drive, I was delighted to see that Recorded Books has produced an unabridged version of the book narrated by George Wilson.

His treatment of the book greatly improved how much I enjoyed it the second time. If you have neither read the book nor listened to an audio cassette version, I recommend that you listen to the audio and skip the book. You will double your laughs if you do! Only a talented journalist could have ever concocted this story. It's filled with love for the profession and appropriate warnings against too much focus on the bottom line. As the book opens, Jack Tagger, aged 46, explains how he came to serve as an obituary writer on the Union-Register, now owned by the publicly traded Maggad-Feist. In protest against the ham-handed policies of the new owners, Jack insulted the CEO (whom he likes to call Master Race Maggad III) at the shareholder's meeting. Maggad was afraid to fire Jack because of the potential for a law suit, so Jack was relegated to the obituary pages . . . hoping he would resign in disgust. Instead, he hangs on for dear life, hoping to make life difficult for all those around him, including his young editor, Emma. His objective is to drive her out of journalism (for her own good). The humor quickly becomes apparent as Jack reveals a morbid fascination with how old celebrities were when they died. Did you know that Jack Kerouac died at 47? Into this mess of a frustrated career and life falls a brief notice of a death of one James Bradley Stomarti at 39. Something rings a bell, and suddenly Jack realizes that Stomarti is also known as Jimmy Stoma of the recording group, Jimmy and the Slut Puppies. Jack sells Emma on the idea of doing a feature on this, pointing out that the new managing editor is a Slut Puppies fan. Over the course of the book, you'll learn what caused Jimmy Stoma to die, the ages at which a lot of celebrities died, and quite a bit about the newspaper business. The main theme is that good reporting will win out, and make the world a better place . . . both for the readers and for the reporters and editors. This story has enough charm and convolutions to keep anyone amused for weeks. I recommend that you listen to the audio in small doses so you can cherish each wonderful line. After you finish listening, think about where persistence can pay off in your life. How can you make the world a better place? 1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Good book, some bad logics... Von Customer All in all -again- a very good book by Carl Hiaasen. Funny Story, authentic Characters and lots of Style make this one a must-have for everyone interested in either Rockstars, the City of Miami, local papers, SWAT-Strippers, Murders or Reptiles ... trust me. The only complaint I have to make is about some minor logic mistakes in the last quarter of this book regarding the motives and actions of the "bad guys" and the (a little bit too) happy ending. 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Another great one from this exceptional author. Von Thomas Rupp Not quite as packing as some other of his books, but 4 out of 5 stars would not do justice. 5 it is then!

Kurzbeschreibung A rollicking and hilarious novel from the bestselling author of *Bad Monkey* and *Razor Girl*. Jack Taggers years in exile at the obituaries desk of a South Florida daily haven't dulled his investigative reporters nose for a good story. When Jimmy Stoma, the infamous front man of Jimmy and the Slut Puppies, dies in a fishy scuba accident, Jack sees his ticket back to page one if only he can figure out what really happened. Standing in his way are, just for starters, his ambitious young editor, who hasn't yet fired anyone but plans to break her cherry on Jack; the rock stars pop-singer widow, who's using the occasion of her husband's death to relaunch her own career; and the soulless, profit-hungry owner of the newspaper, whom Jack once publicly humiliated at a stockholders meeting. Following clues from the late rock singers own music, Jack tries to unravel the lies surrounding Jimmy Stomas strange fate. deCarl Hiaasen has long been at the forefront of satire and outrageous comedy in crime writing but his last few books had lacked the righteous anger of his earlier efforts. *Basket Case* proves a welcome and thoroughly enjoyable return to corrosive form for the crusading Miami Herald journalist it's better not to cross. Instead of his customary and by now predictable targets of venal developers and corporate greed, Hiaasen here skewers the rock roll business and its attendant denizens and hangers-on with wilful glee and a mischievous use of insider information (the title of the book is also that of a song from the forthcoming album by Warren Zevon, an iconoclastic singer with whom Hiaasen has collaborated before). A flamboyant rock singer dies in a suspicious diving accident off the Bahamas coast and disgraced and bolshie reporter Jack Tagger assigned to his obituary uncovers a nest of puzzles. Did his Courtney Love look-alike younger wife kill him to appropriate the tapes of his comeback album? Will Jack best his venal proprietors and redeem his journalistic integrity? Why does his young and nubile editor wear sexy nail polish on her toes? The jokes and witty observations come fast and furious, and it's a pleasing ride through more Florida craziness and a scintillating gallery of characters gleaned from headlines including a parade of musical crazies straight from Spinal Tap, ex-girlfriends with obligatory jailbait daughters and journalists you would never think of trusting your life to. -- Maxim Jakubowski.com Take one dead rock roll star, his Courtney Love-type widow, the mysterious deaths of his former bandmates, and the lost tracks of a comeback album. Stir in Jack Tagger, a middle-aged investigative reporter obsessed with death since his banishment to the obit desk; a fetching young editor with a yen for our hero; and a boss looking for a reason to fire him. Put them in the hands of a master like Carl Hiaasen, who adds his trademark flourishes (who else would use a frozen lizard as a weapon?) to a creaky plot like this one, and the result is a winner. Florida is full of caper writers with journalistic credentials, and plenty of them have a deft hand with quirky characters,

but no one in the genre is better than Hiaasen. --Jane Adams