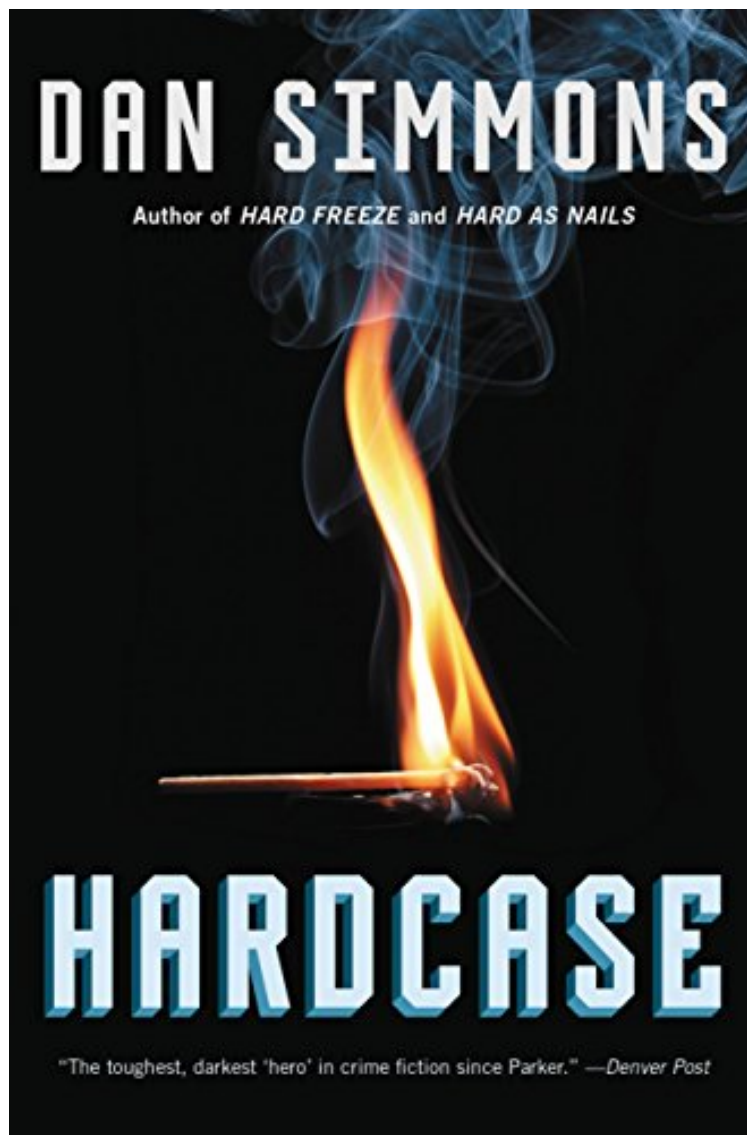


[Mobile library] Hardcase (English Edition)

Hardcase (English Edition)

Von Dan Simmons

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Von Dan Simmons : Hardcase (English Edition) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Hardcase (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen6 von 6 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich.
Schnrkellos, geradlienig und (manchmal) sehr brutal.Von Ein KundeNach seinen Ausflgen in das Horror- und Fantasy-
Genre wendet sich Dan Simmons nun bereits seit "Crook Factory" einem weiteren Genre zu: Dem Thriller. Wo
"Crook Factory" durch seine historische und "Darwin's Blade" durch seine technische Genauigkeit bestechen, flit bei

"Hardcase" vor allem dessen Schnrkellosigkeit auf. Die Handlung geht geradlinig voran. Es wird sich nicht mit irgendwelchen Nebenhandlungen oder inneren Monologen aufgehalten. Die Personen in diesem Roman sind weitestgehend damit beschäftigt zu agieren und zu reagieren und halten sich nicht mit Nebenschlichem auf, da zumeist von ihrem Handeln ihr Leben abhängt. John Kurtz, der "Held" dieser Geschichte und ehemaliger Privatdetektiv wird nach zwölf Jahren Haft aus dem Gefängnis entlassen. Er hatte damals die beiden Männer getötet, die seine Partnerin bestialisch ermordet hatten. Nun bietet er einem Mafioso seine Dienste an, dessen Sohn er im Gefängnis kennenlernte. Sein erster Auftrag besteht darin, herauszufinden, wer hinter dem kürzlich begangenen Mord an einem Buchhalter der Mafia-"Familie" steckt. Hierbei sticht Kurtz in ein Wespennest und deckt eine Intrige auf, in der es um die Vorherrschaft in der "Familie" geht. In der Geschichte wimmelt es von Mafiosi, Berufskillern, Crackdealern, Psychopathen und hinterwäldlerischen Mchtegernganoven. Die Zahl der Leichen steigt stetig und das hohe Erzähltempo wird bis zum Schluss beibehalten. Ein Buch, das man nicht mehr aus der Hand legen möchte, sondern in einem Rutsch wegen seiner Spannung durchlesen muss. Dan Simmons beweist, dass er nicht nur in einem Genre zuhause ist. Ich bin immer wieder erstaunt, wie vielseitig dieser Autor schreiben kann. Der einzige Grund, weshalb ich diesem Buch nicht die volle Punktzahl gegeben habe, ist der Umstand, dass die Hyperion- und Endymion-Saga einfach unbertroffen ist. 1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. From the chameleon writer of many genres, a good detective novel Von Larry Ketchersid Dan Simmons writes Science Fiction (he won the Hugo award for Hyperion in 1989). Dan Simmons writes Horror (Bram Stoker Award, Carrion Comfort). Dan Simmons writes Fantast (World Fantasy Award, Song of Kali). And Mr. Simmons writes detective fiction. These different genres mostly have different writing styles. Instead of trying to force one type of writing into another genre, Mr. Simmons changes his colors, adjusts his pacing, wording and style for the hard-core nasty world of private investigation. Hardcase is the first of three (and we hope more) Joe Kurtz novels. Hard Freeze (A Joe Kurtz Novel) and Hard as Nails (A Joe Kurtz Novel) are the other two. Joe Kurtz isn't mean and nasty, but he also has no compunction about sticking a man's hand in a disposal or running over an unconscious man's legs. Kurtz has his own code. Getting out of jail after following that code, Kurtz throws himself in the middle of a Mafia mess that he learned about in prison, and starts churning up the mob and old acquaintances. The pacing of this novel is well done, the dialogue believable. The plot integrates several subplots well, although some of the plot twists are tipped off early (ain't this called foreshadowing?). I also liked how Mr. Simmons slides in a reference to one of his other books, The Crook Factory, about a spying in Cuba run by Hemingway (see page 221 in the paperback for the reference). Language and graphic violence make this an unsuitable read for kids. Everyone else will enjoy it.

Kurzbeschreibung Once Joe Kurtz needed revenge--and revenge cost him eleven years in Attica prison. Now Kurtz needs a job, and the price is going to be higher. Out of prison, out of touch, Kurtz signs on with the Byron Farino, Don of a Mob family whose son Kurtz had been protecting on the inside. Farino enlists Kurtz's help to track down the Family's missing accountant--a man with too much knowledge of Family business to have on the loose. But someone doesn't want the accountant found--and with enemies inside the Family vying for his throne, and turf warfare just around the corner, Farino needs an outsider like Kurtz to flush out who's really behind this latest affront. As the story twists and turns and the body count rises, Kurtz no longer knows who he can trust. Everyone seems to be after something, from the mob boss's sultry yet dangerous daughter, to a hit man named The Dane, an albino killer who is good with a knife, and a dwarf who is armed to the teeth and hell-bent on revenge. Kurtz has always been an ace investigator. Now he's about to discover that to get at the truth, sometimes you have to go after it--hard. dePenzler Pick, July 2001: Dan Simmons is not an author who writes the same book twice. He doesn't even come close. Since switching from fantasy/horror to mystery, Simmons has written Crook Factory, set in Cuba and starring Ernest Hemingway, and Darwin's Blade, featuring a genius insurance claims investigator who only has to look at a demolished vehicle to be able to know exactly what led up to the crash. With Hardcase, Simmons both pays homage to over-the-top pulp fiction and writes a remarkably good example of it. Joe Kurtz has no intention of giving up his chosen profession of private investigator, even though he's just spent 12 years in jail. He believes it's only a matter of finding the right case. But that case will never come to him, so he pays a call on Byron Tatick Farino, mob boss, and suggests that for \$400 a day plus expenses, he'll try to find the Family's missing accountant and also figure out who's hijacking the Family's trucks. Farino is inclined to let him do this since he has nothing to lose, and Joe did save his son from a fate worse than death in Cell Block D. So Joe is off and running, and after picking up his ex-assistant, Arlene, he opens an office in the basement of a porn store and begins looking into the Mob's business. He no sooner interviews the accountant's wife than she is found dead and horribly mutilated. The list of those who want Joe to butt out is long, and they are evidently very serious about preventing Joe from finding out too much. There's the person who is hijacking the trucks, and wants to continue. There's also a couple of sociopaths (if not psychopaths) named Malcolm and Cutter who work for the Mob's lawyer. Unsurprisingly, they are not exactly loyal and know that there's a \$10,000 reward for the guy who wasted Ali, one of the Death Mosque brothers in Cell Block D. Finally, there are the Levine

brothers, Manny and Sammy. Joe hasn't heard of either of them, but word is that Manny blames Joe for Sammy's death. These numerous and varied storylines remain remarkably lucid as Simmons treats us to a fast-paced thriller with excitement on every page. --Otto Penzler.com
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