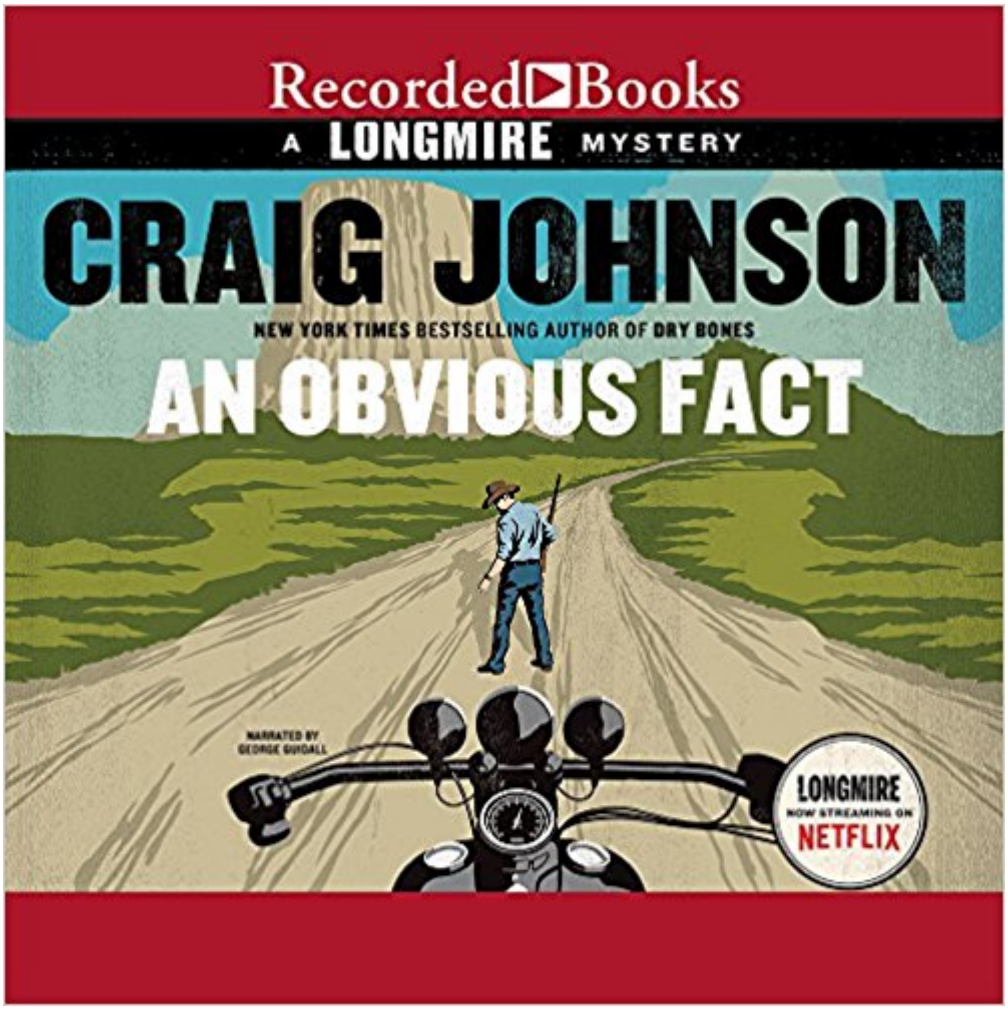
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Obvious Fact, An (Longmire Mysteries)



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Synopsis

In the 12th novel in the New York Times bestselling Longmire series, Walt, Henry, and Vic discover much more than they bargained for when they are called in to investigate a hit-and-run accident near Devils Tower involving a young motorcyclist In the midst of the largest motorcycle rally in the world, a young biker is run off the road and ends up in critical condition. When Sheriff Walt Longmire and his good friend Henry Standing Bear are called to Hulett, Wyoming-the nearest town to America’s first national monument, Devils Tower-to investigate, things start getting complicated. As competing biker gangs, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms, a military-grade vehicle donated to the tiny local police force by a wealthy entrepreneur, and Lola, the real-life femme fatale and namesake for Henry’s ’59 Thunderbird (and, by extension, Walt’s granddaughter) come into play, it rapidly becomes clear that there is more to get to the bottom of at this year’s Sturgis Motorcycle Rally than a bike accident. After all, in the words of Arthur Conan Doyle, whose Adventures of Sherlock Holmes the Bear won’t stop quoting, "There is nothing more deceptive than an obvious fact."

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Ã¢â ¬Å“Thrilling . . . Whether heÃ¢â ¬â„¢s squaring off against biker gangs or teasing out long-simmering feuds involving his closest friends, Walt Longmire is always the man for the job.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â •Publishers WeeklyÃ¢â ¬Å“Plenty of action, humor, and literary allusions drive the story to a bang-up conclusion. Johnson . . . never disappoints.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â •Kirkus

ReviewsÃ¢â ¬Å“A Walt Longmire novel is like going on a ride-along with an old friend, watching him ferret out the bad guys with wit and humanity (and more than a few bullets), while we swap stories and catch up on old timesÃ¢â ¬Â¦itÃ¢â ¬â„¢s An Obvious FactÃ¢â ¬â •itÃ¢â ¬â„¢s good to have Walt back on the scene.Ã¢â ¬Â•Ã Â Ã¢â ¬â •Mystery SceneÃ¢â ¬Å“The laconic modern-day cowboy Walt Longmire, is a guy you'd like to have a Rainier beer with.Ã¢â ¬Â•Ã¢â ¬â •The Oklahoman Ã¢â ¬Å“[An Obvious Fact is] one of his best Longmire tales to date.Ã¢â ¬Â•Ã¢â ¬â •Austin American-Statesman"[Craig Johnson]Ã Â weaves in plenty of humorous banter, emotional bonding and deep characterization to bring his extended cast of Walt, Undersheriff Victoria Moretti and Henry Standing Bear to life."Ã Â Ã¢â ¬â •BookPage"No urban crime series is more sophisticated or more amusing than the Longmire novels when it comes to the complicated psychology of criminals and their victims."Ã Â Ã¢â ¬â •The Connecticut PostPraise for Dry Bones"Fast-paced [and] entertaining." Ã¢â ¬â •The Denver Post"An especially good tale . . . If you are not familiar with Longmire, you might want to meet him. If you know him, don't miss his latest case." Ã¢â ¬â •Charleston Post & CourierÃ¢â ¬Å“Yet another classic Craig Johnson mystery.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â •Deseret News"The [Longmire] series continues to be fresh and innovative. . . . Devoted series fans won't feel a sense of dÃƒÂ©jÃƒÂ vu in Dry Bones, but they will easily identify Johnson's tendency toward innovative imagery . . . crack dialogue, humor and a strong sense of place. Absaroka's maker brings dem bones to life, and readers are sure to rejoice." Ã¢â ¬â •Shelf Awareness"[Walt Longmire] remains tough, smart, honest, and capable of entertaining fans with another difficult, dangerous case." Ã¢â ¬â •Kirkus Reviews"[Longmire] never disappoints the reader: he's a hero through thick and thin." Ã¢â ¬â •Publishers WeeklyPraise for Craig Johnson and the Walt Longmire Mystery Series"It's the sceneryÃ¢â ¬â •and the big guy standing in front of the sceneryÃ¢â ¬â •that keeps us coming back to Craig Johnson's lean and leathery mysteries." Ã¢â ¬â •The New York Times Book Review"Johnson's hero only gets betterÃ¢â ¬â •both at solving cases and at hooking readersÃ¢â ¬â •with age." Ã¢â ¬â •Publishers Weekly"Like the greatest crime novelists, Johnson is a student of human nature. Walt Longmire is strong but fallible, a man whose devil-may-care stoicism masks a heightened sensitivity to the horrors he's witnessed." Ã¢â ¬â •Los Angeles Times"Johnson's trademarks [are] great characters, witty banter, serious sleuthing, and a love of Wyoming bigger than a stack of derelict cars." Ã¢â ¬â •The Boston Globe"The characters talk straight from the hip and the Wyoming landscape is its own kind of eloquence." Ã¢â ¬â •The New York Times"[Walt Longmire] is an easy man to like. . . . Johnson evokes the rugged landscape with reverential prose, lending a heady atmosphere to his story." Ã¢â ¬â •The Philadelphia Inquirer"Stepping into Walt's world is like slipping on a favorite pair

of slippers, and it’s where those slippers lead that provides a thrill. Johnson pens a series that should become a ’must’ read, so curl up, get comfortable, and enjoy the ride." Ã¢â ¬â •The Denver PostÃ Â "Johnson’s pacing is tight and his dialogue snaps." Ã¢â ¬â •Entertainment Weekly --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

Craig JohnsonÃ Â is theÃ Â New York TimesÃ Â bestselling author of the Longmire mysteries, the basis for the hit Netflix original seriesÃ Â Longmire. He is the recipient of the Western Writers of America Spur Award for fiction, the Mountains and Plains Booksellers Award for fiction, the Nouvel Observateur Prix du Roman Noir,Ã Â and the Prix SNCF du Polar. His novellaÃ Â Spirit of SteamboatÃ Â was the first One Book Wyoming selection. He lives in Ucross, Wyoming, population twenty-five.From the Hardcover edition. --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

As much as I enjoy Craig Johnson’s "Longmire" books (and I’ve read them all), this one is just a little bit too much tongue-in-cheek. The plot was good, even though it was obvious from the get-go who the villain was, but in "An Obvious Fact" Johnson’s tongue has just about bored a hole through his cheek. I’d hate to see him follow the path of James Doss who wrote the Charlie Moon mysteries. Doss’s first books were good reads but somewhere along the way he got off track with the humor of it all, and the series went downhill. His last books were not his best work. Johnson is a good writer but considering the discoveries, etc. in this story, his approach is just a little too light-hearted. His characters deserve more from their author.

Quite possibly the best Longmire novel thus far in many respects. I’ll admit the mystery itself wasn’t the most intriguing and the mood of this story seemed somehow different, lighter maybe than past books. You can read the plot description elsewhere; set away from their home turf allowed Craig Johnson to focus on Walt, Henry and to a lesser degree undersherrif Vic Morretti without the distractions of the other series regulars. I enjoyed the fact that this may be the first story where Walt does NOT have experiences with the spirit world and interactions with dead Native Americans. Also, Walt even admits that he’s "getting old" so finally no unrealistic mega-brawls, knife fights, near death experiences by drowning, falling down mountains, etc., and shootings. In prior tales the sherrif endured the kind of pain and punishment that would tax a superhero. Walt and Henry are Vietnam vets so have to be pushing 70 years old, to that end it was also a nice break that his May/December (not to mention unprofessional) romance with Vic was not part of the action this outing either. The gang does get away with a ton of illegal activities outside their jurisdiction with nothing more than a

talking to from the local law enforcement folks. Vic breaks about every moving violation code in the books with a rented muscle car without consequence, she also enters a skeet shooting competition never having participated in the sport before and beats a field of accomplished champions...I don't think so. Aging Henry races in a motorcycle hill climbing event he won back in the 60's and what do you know, he wins again! The narrative of this tale emphasizes to the extreme the physical size and power of Henry Standing Bear, for those fans of the TV Longmire, contrast this to the miscast Lou Diamond Phillips and tell me the show producers didn't blow it. The title of the book comes from a quote from a Sherlock Holmes story which Henry is reading and there are many more Holmesian quotes for Arthur Conan Doyle fans along with many other literary references that seemed more like Spenser than Longmire. Complaints aside though An Obvious Fact was an enjoyable read with some great dialog and is another worthy addition to the Longmire saga.

The Walt Longmire series is an excellent example of the books being much better than the show. The feeling, dialogue, and descriptions in the books just don't translate to TV. For example, how do you visually convey the words "and he slipped away like an afterthought?"In Obvious Fact, Craig Johnson tells a great deal about Henry Standing Bear`s back story as he weaves a great tale about law enforcement in the West. We have all the usual characters plus Lola, the woman from Henry`s past. Johnson draws a stark contrast between a manipulative controlling woman and one who is simply herself. Both are women well outside traditional societal expectations, yet Johnson portrays them as people not characatures which so many authors do. Simultaneously, Johnson keeps the reader turning pages with the story itself -- the hallmark of a master.I recommend this book for the usual group that likes a good tale; additionally I believe that more character oriented readers would find it an excellent read as well.

This is certainly not the best of the the books in the series but it's okay for fans. I liked it fine but it reads more like a short story that Johnson fleshed out to make book length. Sections just go on and on without any significance to the storyline and the characters seem less like the characters we've come to know and love over the life of the series. There's too much banter on the part of Walt and too much brooding on the part of Henry. I'll not go into detail of the plot since I'm sure some of the reviews have done so at length. Suffice it to say it's not a crowning achievement for the author but it's decent enough for followers of the series to enjoy.

As a long-time Longmire fan, a reader of each new offering as soon as I can get my hands on them,

I found this book disappointing. Neither the characters, their words and actions seemed true to what I have come to expect. My sense is that the author/ publisher rushed this book and that Mr. Johnson was assisted by others whose writing styles differ from his.

This is an okay Longmire book, just not the best Longmire book. Feels more like one of the short stories somehow. It ends with the same sort of sighing melancholy as the short stories, despite having a novel’s storyline.I think I was just disappointed with the climax and resolution. There are minor scenes in other Longmire books that are more suspenseful and breathtaking than the most exciting scene in this book.Still, it’s a good book and even a decent Longmire book. Can’t wait for the next one.

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