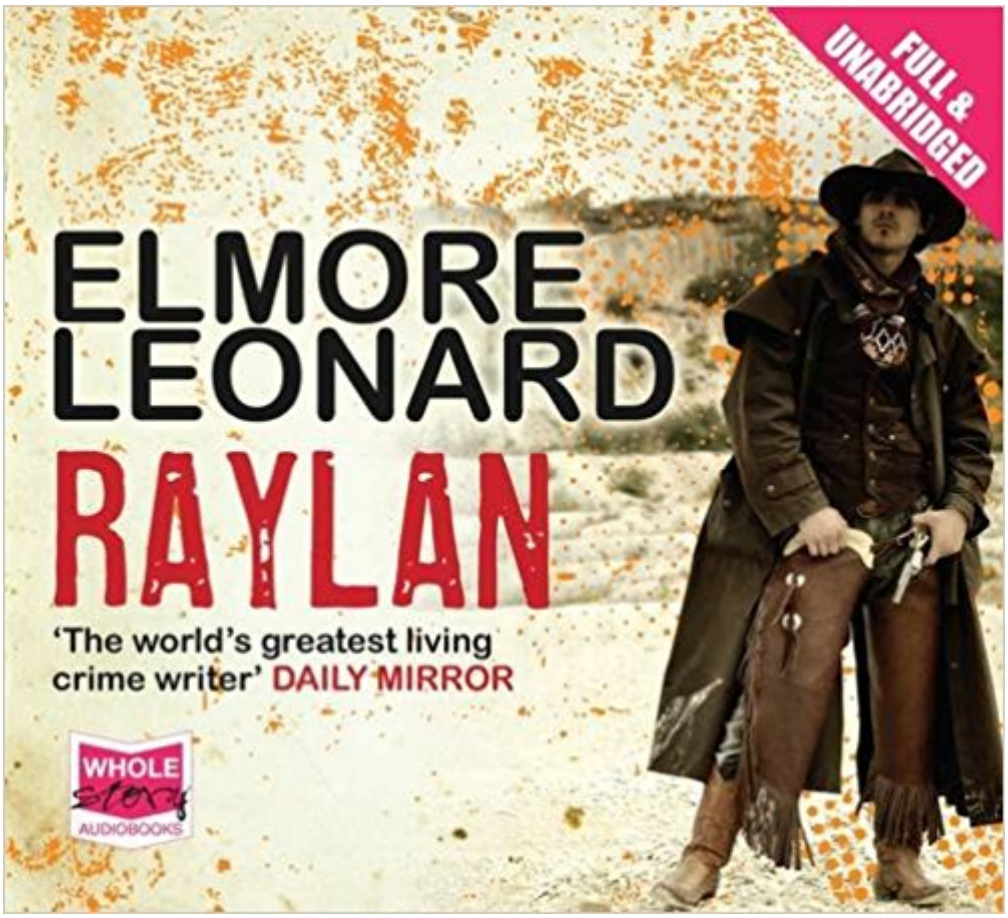
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Raylan



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Synopsis

US Marshal Raylan Givens is back in action, with a federal warrant to serve on a dope dealer named Angel Arenas. The state troopers are impressed when the marshal struts into the convict's hotel room without drawing his gun, but Raylan soon finds that Angel's already been the victim of another crime; one that's way bigger than a bit of pot, and clearly the work of a professional...

Book Information

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Best Sellers Rank: #9,977,939 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #50 inÃ Â Books > Books on CD > Authors, A-Z > (L) > Leonard, Elmore #16126 inÃ Â Books > Books on CD > Mystery & Thrillers #38637 inÃ Â Books > Books on CD > Literature & Fiction > General

Customer Reviews

To say that Leonard is considered a legend in the crime fiction genre might be said to understate the case - this is why. * GOOD BOOK GUIDE * Leonard's dizzyingly economical style, packed with information and never wasting a word, continues apace in this unusual case. * SUNDAY HERALD * --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

The revered New York Times bestselling author, recognized as Ã¢â ¬Å“AmericaÃ¢â ¬â„¢s greatest crime writerÃ¢â ¬Â• (Newsweek), brings back U.S. Marshal Raylan Givens, the mesmerizing hero of Pronto, Riding the Rap, and the hit FX series Justified. With the closing of the Harlan County, Kentucky, coal mines, marijuana has become the biggest cash crop in the state. A hundred pounds of it can gross $300,000, but thatÃ¢â ¬â„¢s chump change compared to the quarter million a human body can get youÃ¢â ¬â •especially when itÃ¢â ¬â„¢s sold off piece by piece. So when Dickie and Coover Crowe, dope-dealing brothers known for sampling their own supply, decide to branch out into the body business, itÃ¢â ¬â„¢s up to U.S. Marshal Raylan Givens to stop them. But Raylan isnÃ¢â ¬â„¢t your average marshal; heÃ¢â ¬â„¢s the laconic,

Stetson-wearing, fast-drawing lawman who juggles dozens of cases at a time and always shoots to kill. But by the time Raylan finds out whoÃ¢â ¬â„¢s making the cuts, heÃ¢â ¬â„¢s lying naked in a bathtub, with Layla, the cool transplant nurse, about to go for his kidneys.The bad guys are mostly gals this time around: Layla, the nurse who collects kidneys and sells them for ten grand a piece; Carol Conlan, a hard-charging coal-mine executive not above ordering a cohort to shoot point-blank a man whoÃ¢â ¬â„¢s standing in her way; and Jackie Nevada, a beautiful sometime college student who can outplay anyone at the poker table and who suddenly finds herself being tracked by a handsome U.S. marshal. Dark and droll, Raylan is pure Elmore LeonardÃ¢â ¬â •a page-turner filled with the sparkling dialogue and sly suspense that are the hallmarks of this modern master.
--This text refers to the Paperback edition.

As a huge fan of the show I was hoping this would be even better but it seems actually to be based on one of the episodes (or vice versa). Also, in the series Boyd Crowder (and the other supervillians that take a whole season to dispatch) seems like a freak of nature, a killer with a real soul and real character, which is great The extra development (interior and exterior monologues, extra scenes, etc) that the novel format allows make it clear that Elmore Leonard thinks ALL his killers are that rich, and I don't buy that at all ... they just think they are, and the series wisely gives them shorter shrift. I'm not being moralistic, exactly this quality makes gives his work a kind of queasy feeling for me, like milk you can't quite decide is spoiled or not. Tarantino, by the way, who is devoted to Leonard, seems to understand this ... his characters never seem to take up more of our time and sympathy than they're worth. James Ellroy, on the other hand, makes entering the minds and souls of psychos and murderers the down-the-bloody-rabbit-hole thrill ride that is much more easily accepted as true. But whether or not you agree, you'll certainly enjoy the book.

Raylin is so real, it is hard to believe this is fiction. He never fools around with due process when he believes a well-placed bullet would be a greater service to the people. His does cut people a lot of slack if he thinks that is the right thing to do. He is no superhero, but he is smart and patient and diligent. His personal life is a bit messy, but he has a great capacity for love once he figures out how to deal with it. He is a very likeble character; his flaws simply make him more human and more believable. Elmore Leonard is a very, very good author.

Raylan is a great character and is fully realized in this portrayal of him. It's a great read. Along with the othe other Raylan stories (Fire in the Hole, etc...), it is probably my favorite of Leonard's stories.

The only problem is that I had been watching justified for several years by the time I read it and the subtle differences between the character as portrayed by Timothy Oliphant and as written by Leonard were a little hard to reconcile. Neither better than the other. Both brilliant and not utterly dissimilar (this is true of all the other crossover characters)...just subtly different, so for the reader who is coming to the written Raylan stories from the TV show as I have, should be prepared for what feels like a sort of binocular effect. The characters are almost the same but not quite and so it’s hard to read the stories without flipping back and for the between the two protrayls/interpretations in a slightly uncomfortable way.The effect is not disturbing ought to ruin the sperience, however, and - brilliant though Oliphant’s interpretation is - Leonard’s Raylan must of course be given pride of position as he created him as opposed to "merely" interpreted him (however brilliantly) as Oliphant’s has.Summary; well worth the read and, I think, Leonard’s best character. If you haven’t yet watch justified, read the stories first and then settle into the Oliphant’s version. Still well worth the read in the over direction though!

I bought this book after seeing the Justified series on a streaming service. I was initially put off because I thought the characters and evants were portrayed differently on the TV series. However when I read the afterward, I discovered Elmore Leonard had finished this book just after the first season had concluded. He then sent the show’s producers chapters with instructions to use them any way they wanted. In the ensuing servies seasons, they did change things about a bit == hence the confusion.Judging tyhe book on its own merits, I think the aothro did a good jpb of setting a situation. Well known for his characters, the author did a great job.I highly recommend this book.

After I finished the Justify series, I discovered this book and, almost as an afterthought, I started reading it. It was strange and delicious at the same time; the characters were all there, but they were all just a tad different. At first it bothered me, but after a while I grew to like it. I started reading the kindle book, and then set it down. On a trip to Alaska, I began reading it again and was hooked.I hadn’t read Elmore Leonard for years, but pretty soon I discovered how much I enjoyed his writing.It has a kind of rhythm, Elmore’s writing has, and once you ride it, it’s a good ride, like your first wave, or the first time you drive a car really well.I’m looking forward to reading all his Raylan novels. If they’re as good as this one, I’ll be riding Elmore’s wave once again.

I absolutely love the series Justified; and was so happy to find out that a lot of this book was taken for some of season 3 by the producers. What a great collaborative effort. I respect everyone

involved for respecting Mr. Leonard by staying true to his characters and style. Mr. Leonard wtrites with such a compact, modern style that really gives you the gritty feel of each scene happening in real time. While I appreciate all good writings for detectives and lawmen throughout the years, I appreciate that there is no over-exposition. Raylan Givens is not Sherlock Holmes; he doesn't have the time the analyze every situation; he has to react. And you have that feel here, with split-second decision-making, which makes it so believable.Great read; I enjoy all Mr. Leaonard's 'Raylan' books; and, Justified is my favorite show. I will be sad after next year's final season (season 6); but, I appreciate and respect that they will be wrapping everything up and going out on top. No open ended series finale (hopefully); they have promised an end. So, at least I will have the books and the dvd's to keep Raylan, Boyd and Mr. Leonard alive...

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