

[PDF] Amos Walker: The Complete Story Collection

Loren D. Estleman - pdf download free book

Books Details:

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Author: Loren D. Estleman

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Description:

From Publishers Weekly Starred Review. All the elements that have made Estleman one of the best hard-boiled writers of all time--just a notch below Chandler and Hammett--are present in these 32 short stories. Remarkably, he has kept his Detroit-based Amos Walker series (Motor City Blue) fresh after three decades and 20 novels, and any fan of the genre who has yet to encounter the ex-cop turned PI will get a great introduction through this collection. What's most impressive is Estleman's ability to blend sharp-edged language, cynical characters, betrayals, twists, and a memorable narrative voice within the short story format. He also manages to inject dark humor into his work that keeps the violence, corruption, and double-crosses from becoming too grim ("I don't have so many friends I can afford to drop one just because he tried to kill me"). Longtime fans will welcome the author's informative introduction.

From Hard-boiled Detroit private investigator Amos Walker debuted 30 years ago in the novel *Motor City Blue* (1980). The series has earned Estleman four Shamus Awards, and two entries in the series were *New York Times* Notable Books selections. The 32 stories in the collection range from standard missing-person cases, to a bizarre investigation that hinges on a tattoo, to a few in which Walker ventures outside his black-and-white hometown to the greener but sometimes more deadly Michigan countryside. In the latter category is “Cigarette Stop” in which deadly trouble follows Walker after he makes a simple stop for a pack of smokes. Walker investigates a possible suicide in “Major Crimes” for an insurance company looking to avoid a large life insurance payout. Even Walker’s cynicism is tested when everyone involved in the case—including the insurance company—is complicit in the victim’s death. Walker has a built-in audience of devoted fans; new readers who check out this sampler will be pleased to know they have 30 years of fine novels waiting for them. --Wes Lukowsky

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