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Tishomingo Blues



Book Information

Audio CD

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Authors, A-Z > (L) > Leonard, Elmore

Customer Reviews

I'm a big Leonard fan, but this piece of crap is far from his usual standard. The intro to the main character, Dennis, piques your interest, and placing him in Tunica, MS with its' gambling and assorted lowlifes brings the plot forward. But it falls apart quickly, with Dennis being let off with a warning after witnessing a murder. Leonard is a master of character development, but outside of Dennis, there is none. Charlie, the former baseball pitcher, is a bore. The character of Verniece has no development, or place in the plot, at all. We get to meet the local bad guys, who maintain interest for a while. But then Leonard goes completely off in a new direction with the introduction of new lowlifes, Robert (and later his pals). The plot (such as it is) meanders around, going nowhere, for a long while, then devolves into the basics of what will be the action, Confederate re-enactment of a Civil War battle. It turns out that Robert and his bad guys want to take over the drug trafficking from Arlen and his worse lowlifes (they are worse because they are also racist). Robert is shown as some kind of genius because he uses psychological wiles to "control" what is going to happen. Slowly (and I do mean slowly) both sets of bad guys try to set up the others for a real-life shootout during the re-enactment. By this time it is hard to care about any of the characters (and hard to keep many of them straight). By the last 40 pages or so, I was so bored I didn't even care if I finished the book, but I did, glancing quickly to see if anything of interest was going to happen (trust me, nothing does), I skimmed the last few chapters and read the last page to find out how things turn out.

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