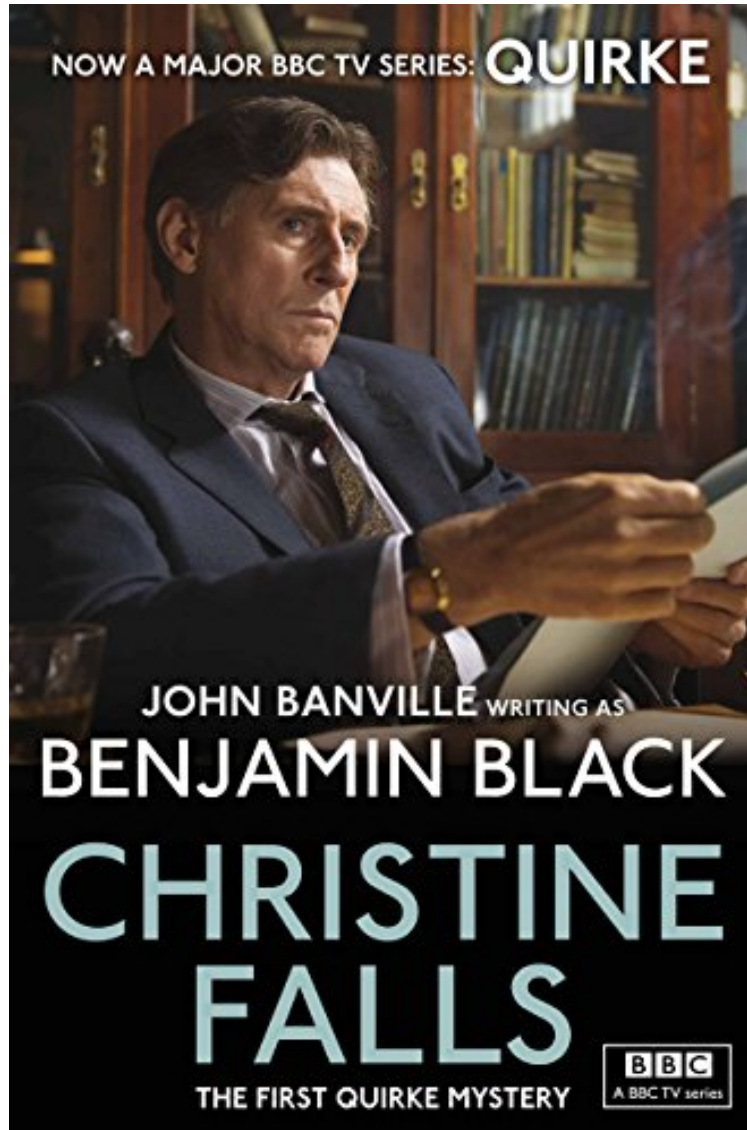


(Library ebook) Christine Falls: Quirke Mysteries Book 1 (English Edition)

Christine Falls: Quirke Mysteries Book 1 (English Edition)

Von Benjamin Black

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Von Benjamin Black : Christine Falls: Quirke Mysteries Book 1 (English Edition) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Christine Falls: Quirke Mysteries Book 1 (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen6 von 6 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. John Banville unter falschem Namen und auf fremden TerrainVon Michael DienstbierJohn Banville war bis zum Oktober 2005 nur einem kleinen Publikum bekannt. Seine kunstvollen Romane auf einem atemberaubenden sprachlichen

Niveau hatten die Massen bis dato eher nicht interessiert. Erst als er 2005 für seinen Roman "The Sea" den Booker-Prize erhielt, strömte Banville in die Bestseller-Listen. In seinem unter dem Pseudonym Benjamin Black veröffentlichtem Roman "Christine Falls" begibt sich der irische Autor nun erstmals in die Niederungen der Belletristik. Das hätte er mal lieber nicht getan. Der Krimi spielt im Dublin der fünfziger Jahre. Der Pathologe Quirke berrascht seinen Schwiegerbruder Malachy Griffin, einen angesehenen Arzt, wie er die Akte der jungen Toten Christine Falls flücht. Quirke forscht nach und stößt in ein Wespennest, in dessen Zentrum die katholische Organisation "Knights of St. Patrick" steht. Doch erst eine Reise nach Amerika enthüllt das Ausmaß von deren Machenschaften. Hauptproblem des Krimis ist, dass er einfach nicht spannend ist. Bereits nach den ersten Kapiteln weiß der Leser, wo der Hase langluft und wird bis zum Ende auch nicht weiter berrascht. Das verwundert nicht, da Banvilles Stärke schon immer in der Zeichnung seiner Charaktere lag, aus dessen Genauigkeit und Präzision sich die Spannung seiner Romane ergab. Dies ist auch der Grund, warum "Christine Falls" noch drei Sterne verdient. Quirke, der verwitwete Trinker, der die Gesellschaft von Toten den Lebenden vorzieht, fasziniert durchaus: "It sometimes seemed to him that he favoured dead bodies over living ones. Yet, he harboured a sort of admiration for cadavers, these wax-skinned, soft, suddenly ceased machines [...] He suspected, too, that he was becoming more and more like them. He would stare at his hands and they would seem to have the same texture as, inert, malleable, porous, as the corpses that he worked on, as if something of their substance were seeping into him by slow but steady degrees" (63f.). Die Szenen, in denen Quirkes Vergangenheit beleuchtet wird, gehen zu den wenigen Stärken des Romans. Man merkt ganz deutlich, dass sich der Autor auf fremden Terrain bewegt. Banville versucht allein durch die Charaktere Spannung zu erzeugen. Dies gelingt ihm in seinen vorhergehenden Romanen vorzüglich. Doch bei einem Krimi ist das zu wenig. Wer lesen will, was Banville wirklich drauf hat, dem sei "The Sea" empfohlen. 2 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Elliptical Tale of a Drunk and His Guilt Von Donald Mitchell If you are not already a fan of John Banville but like suspense stories, you will probably grade this book as a two. Why? The "mystery" is heavily contrived by holding back details that the main characters know from the beginning. That method of story telling is a John Banville specialty that makes his "serious" novels smack you with epiphanies after you are lulled into complacency by "predictable" seeming plots and his lovely prose into assuming that more is well than is. Having a narrator who is usually drunk makes for interesting fiction, if the complication doesn't drive you away from the story. Clearly, that's a "serious" book ploy. Quirke is a pathologist. Malachy (Mal) Griffin is an OB/GYN. They work in the same hospital. In the rest of their lives, they are rivals for the approval of Mal's father, Judge Griffin, and were rivals for the love of Quirke's life, Sarah, who married Mal. The two are brothers-in-law due to Quirke having married Sarah's sister, Delia. Into that conflicted background, Quirke staggers down towards his office after overindulging at a staff party and finds Mal sitting at his desk writing in a patient record. The patient's name? Christine Falls. Her young body lies on a near-by gurney that Quirke accidentally undrapes. Soon, Quirke doesn't even remember the incident until he is reminded. But he cannot get the image off his mind and starts to probe into what happened to her. Strong forces strike back to limit his progress. If you stick it out, you'll be rewarded by appreciating some remarkable causes and effects that trace back over several decades . . . and make you realize that everything we do counts. A good analogy for this story is the effect of dropping a huge stone into a small pond -- the ripples will radiate out to the bank and back creating considerable turbulence for some time. The book is skeptical about the sanctity of the Catholic establishment in Dublin and in Boston. Some may be offended by the turns that the story takes in that direction. 1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Elliptical Tale of a Drunk and His Guilt Von Donald Mitchell If you are not already a fan of John Banville but like suspense stories, you will probably grade this book as a two. Why? The "mystery" is heavily contrived by holding back details that the main characters know from the beginning. 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direction.

Kurzbeschreibung Now a major TV series: Quirke starring Gabriel Byrne and written by Andrew Davies. Quirke's pathology department, set deep beneath the city, is his own gloomy realm: always quiet, always night, and always under his control. Until late one evening after a party he stumbles across a body that should not be there and his brother-in-law falsifying the corpse's cause of death. This is the first time Quirke has encountered Christine Falls, but the investigation he decides to lead into the way she lived and died uncovers a dark secret at the heart of Dublin's high Catholic network; one with the power to shake his own family and everything he holds dear. A ripping detective yarn with the template to follow in the golden bootprints of Rebus Scotsman Superb . . . the final outcome is almost unbearably moving. You're in for a treat Michael Dibdin, *Guardian* Succeeds sensationally . . . An absorbing plot, beguiling characters and evocative settings . . . His pacing is impeccable Marcel Berlins, *The Times* From Publishers Weekly In this expertly paced debut thriller from Irish author Black (the pseudonym of Booker Prize winner John Banville), pathologist Garret Quirke uncovers a web of corruption in 1950s Dublin surrounding the death in childbirth of a young maid, Christine Falls. Quirke is pulled into the case when he confronts his stepbrother, physician Malachy Griffin, who's altering Christine's file at the city morgue. Soon it appears the entire establishment is in denial over Christine's mysterious demise and in a conspiracy that recalls the classic film *Chinatown*. And the deeper Quirke delves into the mystery, the more it seems to implicate his own family and the Catholic church. At the start, the novel has the spare melancholy of early James Joyce, describing a Dublin of private clubs, Merrion Square townhouses and the occasional horse-drawn cart; as the plot heats up and the action shifts to Boston, Mass., it becomes more of a standard detective story. Though Black makes an occasional American cultural blooper, he keeps divulging surprises to the last page so that the reader is simultaneously shocked and satisfied. Author tour. (Mar.) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From Booklist Benjamin Black is really Booker Prize winner John Banville, and *Christine Falls* is his inaugural volume in a crime series starring Quirke, a lonely, hard-drinking Dublin pathologist. An orphan, Quirke was raised by a socially prominent Catholic judge, and his brother-in-law is Malachy Griffin, Dublin's most prominent obstetrician. Quirke is surprised and suspicious when he finds Mal in the morgue, late at night, writing a death certificate for one of Quirke's new arrivals, a young woman named Christine Falls. He performs an autopsy and learns that Mal's statements about the cause of death are patently false, prompting him to begin an investigation into what unfolds as a monstrous, transcontinental scandal orchestrated by pillars of Dublin's Catholic society. *Christine Falls* is deeply atmospheric. Clydesdales drag drays through the streets of 1950s Dublin, and the pubs are "fuggy with turf smoke." Nearly all the characters are painstakingly detailed and developed--even though they're likely to be morally mysterious. But readers' advisors should take note: crime-fiction fans who favor garden-variety mysteries may find this complex and deeply ruminative novel more than they bargained for. Thomas Gaughan Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved