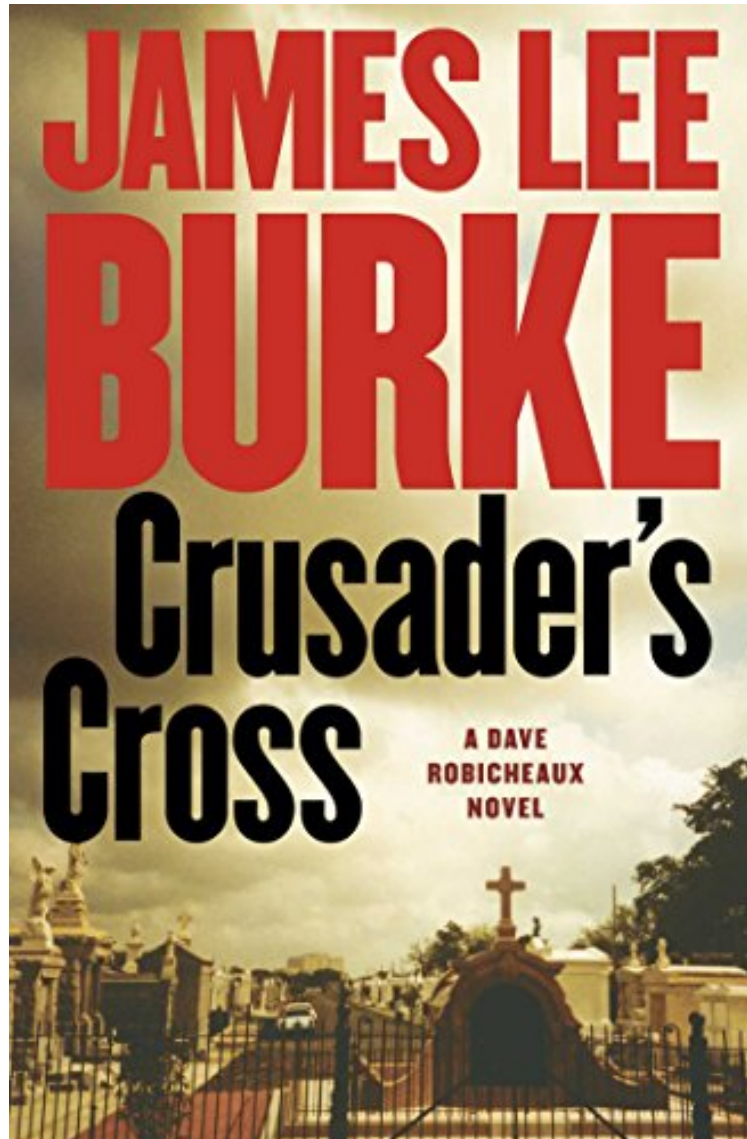


[E-BOOK] Crusader's Cross: A Dave Robicheaux Novel

Crusader's Cross: A Dave Robicheaux Novel

Von James Lee Burke

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Von James Lee Burke : Crusader's Cross: A Dave Robicheaux Novel before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Crusader's Cross: A Dave Robicheaux Novel:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Dave Sticks Out His Elbows to Make Room for HopeVon Donald MitchellOne of the beauties of James Lee Burke's remarkable series about Dave Robicheaux is that we come to live inside Dave's world of turbulent emotions, violent people, dangerous situations and perplexing crimes as though his world is our world. Few authors today can succeed in

taking you out of your own life as well as James Lee Burke does, and *Crusader's Cross* is one of his most successful novels from this perspective. After a series has gone on for quite a few books, many novelists find themselves stuck for where to take their hero or heroine next. In *Crusader's Cross*, James Lee Burke essentially restarts Dave as a character by changing his relationships in an unexpected way. If you've liked any of the books in the series, this one is bound to be one of your favorites. A lot of loving care went into the writing. Sentences are sparse and bare where that evokes the right emotion and other sentences sparkle with bits and pieces of setting and emotion in other cases. Here's a description of a gunshot victim as he realizes he's been shot: "His mouth hung open, his stomach went soft and trembled like a bowl of Jell-O, his eyes fluttered and rolled as he went into shock." Talk about effective writing! You can feel it in your own body. The story may seem to ramble, but that's the way Dave thinks. It's all part of the story telling . . . which is to help you be Dave. When Dave and his half-brother Jimmie were just out of school, they found themselves menaced by sharks off the beach in Galveston. Just when they wondered if they would survive, they found themselves saved by a plucky, pretty girl, Ida Durbin. Between her lovely self and her beautiful voice, Jimmie cannot get enough of her. His passion leads to an unexpected fork in the road for their lives and those of many other people. When Dave asks a few casual questions about Ida Durbin years later, he brings down a whole lot of wrath on his head. If you are like me, you'll find the story's developments to be both surprising and fascinating from there. If those complications aren't enough, Dave finds himself back as a sworn officer of the law investigating a serial murderer . . . who seems to be taunting the local police about something or other. What happens to us when we get too much pressure? The results are often not very pretty. My only complaint about the story is that there is a little too much misleading information placed in various parts, which makes it all but impossible to figure out what's really going on. But it certainly will make you feel sympathetic to Dave as he flounders. I did like the way that the plot has so many unexpected twists and turns. I raced to the end and I'm sure you will too. 0 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Big fan Von Customer It is not possible for me to be objective about James Lee Burke's work and particularly his Dave Robicheaux series, of which I have read all, I love them. I have found his work to be very constant. The moment I begin reading I am transported to Louisiana, and held there in pure reading enjoyment.

Kurzbeschreibung Critically acclaimed and bestselling crime writer James Lee Burke returns to Louisiana where his ever-popular hero, Dave Robicheaux, sleuths his way through a hotbed of sin and uncertainty. For Dave Robicheaux, life in Louisiana is filled with haunting memories of the past -- images from Vietnam, the violent streets of New Orleans, and his own troubled youth. In *Crusader's Cross*, a deathbed confession from an old schoolmate resurrects a story of injustice, the murder of a young woman, and a time in Robicheaux's life he has tried to forget. Her name may or may not have been Ida Durbin. It was back in the innocent days of the 1950s when Robicheaux and his brother, Jimmie, met her on a Galveston beach. She was pretty and Jimmie fell for her hard -- not knowing she was a prostitute on infamous Post Office Street, with ties to the mob. Then Ida was abducted and never seen again. Now, decades later, Robicheaux is asking questions about Ida Durbin, and a couple of redneck deputy sheriffs make it clear that asking questions is a dangerous game. With a series of horrifying murders and the sudden appearance of Valentine Chalons and his sister, Honoria, a disturbed and deeply alluring woman, Robicheaux is soon involved not only with the Chalons family but with the murderous energies of the New Orleans underworld. Also, he meets and finds himself drawn into a scandalous relationship with a remarkable Catholic nun. Brilliant, brooding, and filled with the author's signature lyricism, Jim Burke's latest novel is a darkly suspenseful work of literature. From Publishers Weekly Starred . Superb writing and a throbbing pace lift two-time Edgar-winner Burke's powerful, many-layered 14th Dave Robicheaux novel (after 2003's *Last Car to Elysian Fields*), which involves venal and arrogant members of a wealthy family that can trace its lineage to fifth-century France as well as the machinations of the New Orleans mafia. A conversation between Robicheaux and a dying childhood friend about Ida Durbin, a young prostitute that Robicheaux's half-brother, Jimmie, loved and lost in the late 1950s, sets the ex-homicide detective on a path that eventually leads to several gruesome killings and his near downfall. Unemployed, his wife dead, his daughter in college, Robicheaux rejoins the New Iberia, La., sheriff's department at the urging of Sheriff Helen Soileau, who needs an extra hand as the murders mount. While the tendrils of the sometimes rambling plot unfold, Robicheaux and his impulsive former police partner, PI Clete Purcell, seek retribution for injustices caused by a wide range of corrupt villains. Burke masterfully combines landscape and memory in a violent, complex story peopled by sharply defined characters who inhabit a lush, sensual, almost mythological world. Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From Booklist *Starred* "The person who believes he can rise to a position of wealth and power in Louisiana without doing business with the devil probably knows nothing about the devil and even less about Louisiana." Anyone who doesn't assume those words were spoken by James Lee Burke's Dave Robicheaux doesn't read mysteries. There are bent rich guys sipping bourbon on nearly every Spanish Moss-lined patio in New Iberia Parish, and Robicheaux's Cajun blood boils at the thought of each one of them. As Clete Purcell, Dave's saner-than-he-looks pal, remarks near the beginning of this thirteenth entry in the series, "We're back . . . to rich people you can't stand. There's a pattern

here, big mon." Yes, there is a pattern, but those who object to the similarity in Burke's plots and themes miss the bigger picture. Patterns are inevitable, in life as in nature, and much of the satisfaction of living life and observing nature comes in identifying both the patterns and the variations, which is exactly what Burke does in this series. This time a serial killer on the loose takes Robicheaux back to 1958 and an encounter he and his brother had with a prostitute. Burke's remarkable lyricism hits its most plaintive notes when he re-creates lost moments from the past, but this time those moments must be reinterpreted, much as his assumptions about the new batch of bent rich guys must be reexamined. And in the midst of all that, Robicheaux's personal life is transformed in the most unlikely of circumstances. Surprise lurking in the crevices of a recurring pattern: that's nature at its most beautiful, and Burke at his most eloquent. Bill Ott Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved