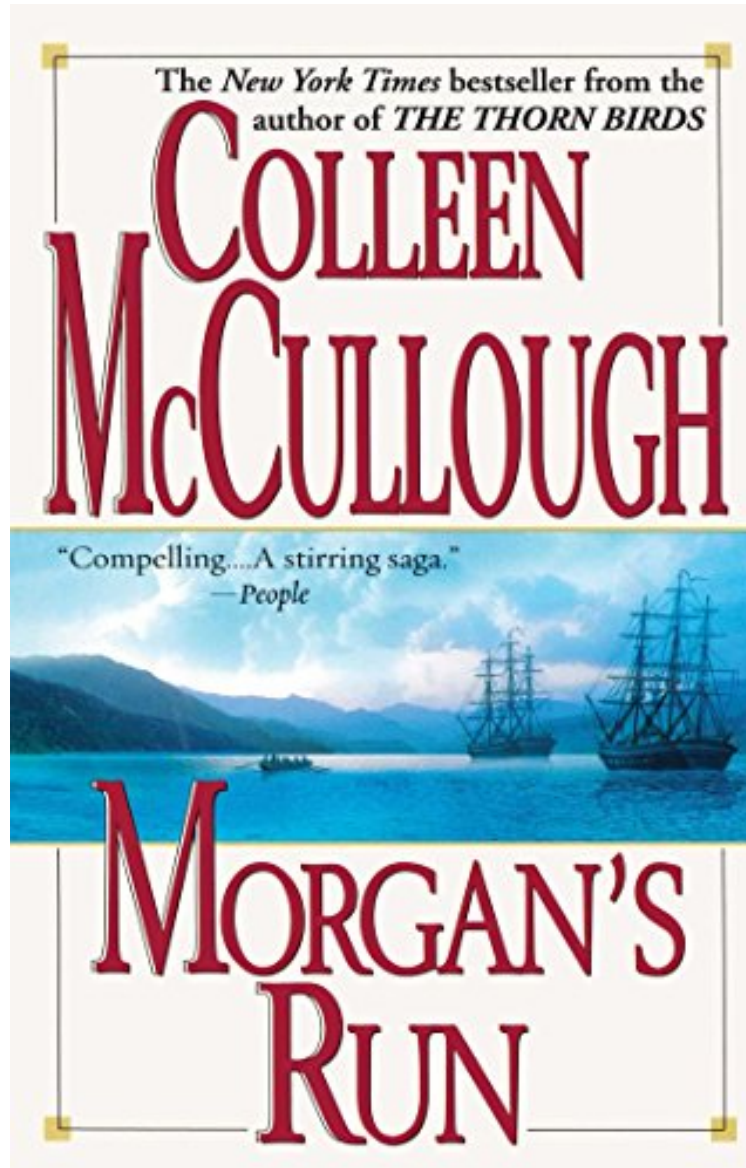


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## Morgan's Run: A Novel (English Edition)

Von Colleen McCullough

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**Von Colleen McCullough : Morgan's Run: A Novel (English Edition)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Morgan's Run: A Novel (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen4 von 5 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A wonderful journey to a far-away part of the earthVon Ein KundeThis book really gives you the feeling like you are there. It produces such a wonderful, realistic atmosphere like I've hardly ever experienced with any other historic novel

before. You really seem to become one with the main character Richard Morgan, cry, suffer, laugh, hate and love with him. If you love great sagas, read this book!  
10 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Morgan's Run  
Von Ein KundeEin grandioses Buch gut geschrieben und sehr Interessant zum lesen. Ich habe das Buch im Englisch gelesen und kann also nicht beurteilen was aus eine Uebersetzung wird.Man bekommt viel von das Leben der Menschen die hier unfreiwillig gelandet sind und versuchen alles daraus zu machen.Ihr Umfeld ist schn beschrieben und man verbringt eine Angenehme Zeit an der andere Seite der Welt.  
1 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Morgan's Run kurzweilig und packend  
Von bkoelmelDie Geschichte eines Mannes, der aus dem England des Mittelalters als Strafgefangener nach Australien deportiert wird. Colleen McCullough ist es wie in Ihren frheren Bchern gelungen lebendige Bilder der Handlungsumgebung zu zeichnen.

Kurzbeschreibung  
In a novel of sweeping narrative power unequalled since her own beloved worldwide bestseller *The Thorn Birds*, Colleen McCullough returns to Australia -- this time with the story of its birth. At the center of her new novel is Richard Morgan, son of a Bristol tavern-keeper, devoted husband and loving father, sober and hardworking craftsman. By the machinations of fate and the vagaries of the 18th-century English judicial system, he is consigned as a convict to the famous "First Fleet," which set sail, bearing, as an experiment in penology, 582 male and 193 female felons sentenced to transportation, in May of 1787 for the continent that Captain Cook had discovered only a few years earlier. The word "epic" is overused, but no other word can do justice to one of the most grueling and significant voyages in human history or to the courage of the convicts whose sufferings were not ended but had only just begun when they set foot on Australian soil at Botany Bay on January 19th, 1788. Of those convicts, Richard Morgan stood out, not only for his strength and his calm determination to let no man bully him, but also for his intelligence, his fair-mindedness, his common sense, and his willingness to help others. To these qualities must be added a certain innate dignity that hinted, even in the most terrible conditions, at a life marked by tragedies that would have broken most men. In *Richard Morgan*, Colleen McCullough has created one of her most compelling characters. We see through Morgan's eyes the two worlds in which the story takes place: that of 18th-century Bristol, where Morgan was born and expected to live out his life, and that of a convicted felon sent to settle a hostile new world. When the book begins, Richard Morgan is a contented man -- happily married, with a child he adores. Then, piece by piece, his idyll crumbles until he finds himself led into an ambiguous relationship with a beautiful young woman, whose dissolute protector seeks vengeance on Morgan to protect his own skin. He endures the agonies of bereavement and financial loss, incarceration in prison and aboard the notorious "hulks," then the horrors of the journeys to Botany Bay and Norfolk Island, where he finds against all odds a new love and a new life. Richard Morgan's story is true, but in making Morgan the central figure of her novel, Colleen McCullough has created a hero whom no reader will ever forget; she has written not only a great adventure and a powerful love story, but also a book that combines the elements of *Tom Jones* and *Mutiny on the Bounty*. *Morgan's Run* is great fiction, full of drama, passion, history, love, and hatred, full-blooded and totally engrossing, a stunning work that is at once rich entertainment -- and a revelation..deTake a long voyage deep into the 18th century with Colleen McCullough, a novelist for readers with a big appetite for historical slices of life. In *Morgan's Run*, her mild-mannered hero is a Bristol tavern owner's son with a God-given gift for crafting the Brown Bess flintlock musket. This is handy, because England plans to employ it to put down the mutinous American colonies. McCullough knows this firearm right down to the last flange and frizzen spring--how its .753-inch ball shatters bones and butchers bellies and how you have to work up a mouthful of spit, then bite the paper containing the powder to moisten and rupture it before firing. And like a master gunsmith, McCullough assembles all the elements necessary to give the novel flash and impact: rogues and heroes, salty dialect, period detail, vicious intrigue, comic relief, betrayal, and unexpected romance. She also knows just how her master of the crafts of tavern-keeping and musket-making would fit into the vast mechanism of history as the American victory wrecks Britain's economy and forces the crown to send convicts elsewhere. Richard gets a job with a rum distillery, but his sharp-eyed efficiency undoes him: one day he finds "a number of pipes hidden among festoons of spider-web," one of which is diverting 800 gallons a week to dodge taxes, a hanging offense. He unwisely reports this, which lands him in a net of corruption. Soon he is sentenced to various convict ships anchored in England, and then to a slave ship bound for Botany Bay in the new penal colony, Australia. But save your pity! Richard rises to the terrible occasion. "Prison had given him a star to steer by, and his own will had swelled sails he did not even know he possessed." Though McCullough doesn't quite reach the literary heights of Patrick O'Brian's *Master and Commander* or Robert Hughes's *The Fatal Shore*, she shares some of their virtues. *Morgan's Run* is a good old-fashioned adventure novel with the unflagging energy and raffish cast of an action movie. She considered calling it *Morgan's Dirty Dozen*, and it would have lived up to that title, too. --  
Tim Appelo  
From Booklist  
McCullough's detail-rich accounting of her mild-mannered and meticulous protagonist, Richard Morgan, takes him from the top of eighteenth-century England's middle-class to one of society's lowest echelons, the first Australian penal colony. As a gunsmith living in his family's inn, he has been able to accrue some savings and send his son, the light of his life, to school. After losing his fortune in a bad investment, however, he is

framed to keep him from testifying against some prominent citizens. Things go from bad to worse with the death of his wife and the disappearance of his beloved son, and Morgan willingly accepts his incarceration in one of his era's vilest prisons. His obsession with surviving both prison and the 12-month journey on the convict ship to Australia wins him a coterie of companions, who follow his fastidious example to stay healthy and strong. Morgan then marries a woman he met in prison so she can guard his belongings, and in return, he offers her his protection. But McCullough sends her hero away once again, this time to Norfolk Island (Australian McCullough's home), where he thrives, ultimately receives a pardon for his hard work, and falls in love with a girl young enough to be his daughter. McCullough's characters are compelling, but they are nearly smothered by the overabundance of detail she provides about everyday life in England around the time of the American Revolution and about the horrific British judicial and penal systems of the era, but this wealth of historical description does allow the reader to vividly imagine the lives of early convict transportees and to marvel at the fact that, given the brutality and squalor they endured, any of them survived. Diana Tixier Herald

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