

the neon rain by james lee burke

The Neon Rain by James Lee Burke: A Deep Dive into a Classic Crime Novel

the neon rain by james lee burke stands as a compelling entry in the realm of crime fiction, captivating readers with its vivid storytelling, atmospheric setting, and complex characters. This novel is much more than a typical mystery; it weaves together elements of suspense, emotional depth, and social commentary, showcasing James Lee Burke's mastery of the genre. If you're someone who appreciates richly drawn narratives and nuanced protagonists, then exploring The Neon Rain by James Lee Burke is a rewarding experience.

Exploring the Storyline of The Neon Rain by James Lee Burke

At its core, The Neon Rain is a gripping detective novel that introduces us to Dave Robicheaux, a troubled but determined detective based in New Orleans. The story begins with Robicheaux haunted by his past, including memories from his time in Vietnam and personal demons that threaten to consume him. When he is tasked with investigating the murder of a woman, Robicheaux's path leads him deep into the dark underbelly of New Orleans – a city teeming with corruption, vice, and neon-lit streets that set the perfect stage for the novel's title.

The plot unfolds with a mix of suspenseful investigation, emotional introspection, and vivid descriptions of the city's unique culture. Burke's skillful storytelling keeps readers hooked as they follow Robicheaux through twists and turns, uncovering layers of crime and human frailty. The Neon Rain becomes not just a tale of crime-solving, but a meditation on justice, redemption, and the struggles of a man trying to make peace with his past.

What Makes The Neon Rain Stand Out in Crime Fiction?

One of the aspects that elevate *The Neon Rain* by James Lee Burke above many other crime novels is its rich, atmospheric setting. New Orleans is not just a backdrop but almost a character in itself. Burke's descriptive prose paints the city's streets, bayous, and neighborhoods with such authenticity that readers can almost hear the jazz music and smell the humid air.

Additionally, the emotional complexity of Dave Robicheaux sets the novel apart. Unlike stereotypical hard-boiled detectives, Robicheaux is deeply human – grappling with alcoholism, PTSD, and moral dilemmas. This vulnerability adds layers to the mystery, making it more than just a “whodunit.” Readers get invested not only in the case but in Robicheaux's personal journey.

The Neon Rain by James Lee Burke: Themes and Literary Significance

James Lee Burke uses *The Neon Rain* as a canvas to explore several profound themes that resonate beyond the crime genre.

Violence and Redemption

The novel doesn't shy away from depicting violence – both physical and psychological. Yet, it balances this with a strong undercurrent of redemption. Robicheaux's quest is as much about solving a crime as it is about seeking personal salvation. Burke's writing invites readers to consider how individuals cope with trauma and whether they can find forgiveness amidst chaos.

The Influence of Place on Character and Story

New Orleans, with its cultural richness and contradictions, plays a pivotal role in shaping the narrative. The city's history, from its French Creole roots to its struggles with crime and poverty, informs the characters' motivations and the plot's progression. Burke's ability to incorporate local color and folklore adds depth and authenticity, making *The Neon Rain* a true homage to the American South.

Morality in a Complex World

Throughout the novel, Robicheaux wrestles with questions of right and wrong in a world where the lines are often blurred. This moral ambiguity challenges readers to think critically about justice and the human condition, elevating the novel from a simple detective story to a nuanced exploration of ethics.

James Lee Burke's Writing Style and Its Impact on *The Neon Rain*

Burke's prose in *The Neon Rain* is known for its lyrical quality and vivid imagery. His sentences often flow like poetry, capturing the mood and atmosphere with precision. This style not only enhances the reading experience but also brings a distinctive voice to the detective genre, which can sometimes lean toward terse or formulaic writing.

Character Development through Dialogue and Description

One of Burke's strengths is how he uses dialogue and detailed descriptions to reveal character. Conversations between Robicheaux and other characters feel natural and reveal underlying tensions and histories. Meanwhile, Burke's descriptive passages immerse readers in scenes that are both

beautiful and haunting.

Balancing Action and Reflection

The Neon Rain skillfully balances moments of intense action with quieter, reflective passages. This pacing allows readers to catch their breath and engage with Robicheaux's inner world, making the suspense more impactful.

Why Readers and Critics Love The Neon Rain by James Lee Burke

Since its publication, The Neon Rain has garnered praise from both readers and critics alike. Here's why it continues to resonate:

- **Engaging Protagonist:** Dave Robicheaux is a memorable detective whose flaws and resilience make him relatable.
- **Authentic Setting:** The vivid portrayal of New Orleans offers a rich cultural experience.
- **Complex Plot:** The mystery is intricate and unpredictable, keeping readers guessing.
- **Literary Merit:** Burke's poetic style and thematic depth elevate the novel beyond genre conventions.

For anyone interested in Southern noir or crime fiction with substance, The Neon Rain by James Lee

Burke is an essential read.

Tips for Getting the Most Out of The Neon Rain

If you're about to dive into *The Neon Rain*, here are some suggestions to enhance your reading experience:

1. **Familiarize Yourself with New Orleans:** Knowing a bit about the city's history and culture can deepen your appreciation of the setting.
2. **Pay Attention to Character Backstories:** Robicheaux's past influences his present actions significantly, so keep an eye on flashbacks and references.
3. **Take Your Time:** The narrative's rich descriptions and introspective moments benefit from a slower reading pace.
4. **Explore the Series:** *The Neon Rain* is the first in the Dave Robicheaux series, so if you enjoy it, there are many more adventures to follow.

Legacy and Influence of The Neon Rain by James Lee Burke

The Neon Rain helped establish James Lee Burke as a leading voice in modern crime fiction. Its success paved the way for a long-running series featuring Dave Robicheaux, who has become an iconic character in the genre. The novel's blend of poetic prose, moral complexity, and vivid setting continues to influence writers and delight readers around the world.

Moreover, *The Neon Rain*'s portrayal of New Orleans before the 21st century captures a city in flux, preserving its atmosphere in literary form. This aspect makes the novel not only entertaining but also culturally significant.

Whether you're a fan of detective stories, Southern literature, or character-driven novels, *The Neon Rain* by James Lee Burke offers a rich, immersive experience that lingers long after the last page is turned.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the central theme of 'The Neon Rain' by James Lee Burke?

The central theme of *'The Neon Rain'* revolves around crime, justice, and the moral complexities faced by the protagonist, Dave Robicheaux, as he investigates a murder in New Orleans.

Who is the main protagonist in 'The Neon Rain' and what is his profession?

The main protagonist is Dave Robicheaux, a detective and former sheriff's deputy in New Orleans.

How does James Lee Burke portray New Orleans in 'The Neon Rain'?

Burke portrays New Orleans as a vibrant, atmospheric city filled with both beauty and darkness, capturing its unique culture, music, and the underlying tensions within its society.

What genre does 'The Neon Rain' belong to?

'The Neon Rain' is primarily a crime thriller and detective novel with elements of mystery and suspense.

Is 'The Neon Rain' part of a series?

Yes, 'The Neon Rain' is the first book in the Dave Robicheaux series by James Lee Burke.

What motivates Dave Robicheaux in his investigation in 'The Neon Rain'?

Dave Robicheaux is motivated by a strong sense of justice and personal morality, as well as his desire to uncover the truth behind the murder he is investigating.

How does 'The Neon Rain' explore the theme of corruption?

The novel explores corruption through the depiction of organized crime, political influence, and the challenges Robicheaux faces within law enforcement and the criminal underworld.

What role does the setting play in the narrative of 'The Neon Rain'?

The setting of New Orleans is integral to the narrative, influencing the mood, character interactions, and providing a rich cultural backdrop that shapes the story's events.

How has 'The Neon Rain' been received by critics and readers?

'The Neon Rain' has been well-received for its compelling storytelling, vivid descriptions, and complex characters, establishing James Lee Burke as a notable author in crime fiction.

Are there any notable supporting characters in 'The Neon Rain'?

Yes, the novel features several notable supporting characters including Cletus Purcel, Dave's friend and a former soldier, who plays a significant role throughout the investigation.

Additional Resources

The Neon Rain by James Lee Burke: A Deep Dive into a Crime Classic

the neon rain by james lee burke stands as a compelling entry in the canon of American crime fiction. First published in 1987, this novel marks the debut of the legendary detective Dave Robicheaux, a character whose complexity and moral depth have since captivated readers and critics alike. Renowned for its atmospheric storytelling and richly textured narrative, The Neon Rain by James Lee Burke offers more than a conventional mystery; it presents an evocative exploration of human frailty, justice, and the haunting shadows of the past.

Exploring The Neon Rain by James Lee Burke: A Narrative

Overview

Set against the sultry backdrop of New Orleans, The Neon Rain weaves a tale of murder, corruption, and redemption. The story follows Dave Robicheaux, a detective grappling with his own demons while investigating the gruesome murder of a woman linked to the city's seedy underbelly. Burke's use of New Orleans as more than just a setting is a hallmark of this novel. The city emerges as a living, breathing character, its neon-lit streets reflecting the blurred lines between good and evil, light and darkness.

The novel's narrative structure interlaces Robicheaux's present investigation with his troubled past, exposing the psychological scars that influence his pursuit of justice. This blend of internal conflict and external violence enriches the storytelling, elevating it beyond a mere procedural crime novel. Readers witness a detective who is as flawed and vulnerable as the world he seeks to protect.

Thematic Depth and Literary Qualities

One of the distinguishing features of *The Neon Rain* by James Lee Burke is its thematic resonance. The novel delves into themes such as the corrosive effects of violence, the complexities of morality, and the search for personal redemption. Burke's prose is lyrical yet unpretentious, capturing the rhythm of the South with vivid descriptions and sharp dialogue. The atmospheric quality of his writing immerses readers in the humid, oppressive heat of the Louisiana bayou and the neon glow of the city's nightlife.

Additionally, the book explores the socio-political landscape of the 1980s American South, touching on issues such as racial tension, organized crime, and political corruption. This contextual layering adds realism and urgency to the narrative, making it resonate with readers who appreciate crime fiction that grapples with social realities.

Characterization and Development

At the heart of *The Neon Rain* is Dave Robicheaux himself—a character whose depth sets him apart from typical noir detectives. Robicheaux is a Gulf War veteran and former New Orleans police officer, who struggles with alcoholism and the trauma of his past. His character arc throughout the novel is one of introspection and tentative hope, as he confronts not only the criminals he pursues but also his personal vulnerabilities.

Supporting characters are equally well-drawn, providing a complex web of relationships that enrich the narrative. From Robicheaux's loyal friend and partner to the enigmatic figures involved in the crime, each character contributes to the novel's intricate exploration of trust, betrayal, and survival.

James Lee Burke's Style and Influence

Burke's writing style in *The Neon Rain* is often described as poetic and richly descriptive, a trait that distinguishes his work within the crime fiction genre. His ability to paint vivid scenes and convey emotional depth elevates the novel above formulaic mysteries. The pacing balances suspense with

reflective moments, allowing readers to engage with the story on multiple levels.

The novel's influence can be seen in its impact on subsequent crime fiction, inspiring writers who seek to combine literary quality with gripping storytelling. The Neon Rain also laid the foundation for a long-running series featuring Dave Robicheaux, further cementing Burke's reputation as a master storyteller.

Comparisons and Place within Crime Fiction

When compared to other crime novels of its era, *The Neon Rain* by James Lee Burke stands out for its atmospheric setting and psychological complexity. Unlike the hardboiled detective stories popularized by authors like Raymond Chandler, Burke's work integrates Southern Gothic elements, creating a unique fusion that appeals to fans of both literary fiction and crime thrillers.

In terms of thematic exploration, Burke's novel shares common ground with works that delve into the moral ambiguities of law enforcement, such as those by Michael Connelly or Dennis Lehane. However, Burke's distinctive prose and cultural setting provide a fresh perspective that enriches the genre.

Strengths and Limitations

- **Strengths:** *The Neon Rain* excels in character development, atmospheric detail, and thematic depth. Its nuanced portrayal of a flawed detective adds emotional weight to the crime narrative, while the vivid depiction of New Orleans creates an immersive reading experience.
- **Limitations:** Some readers may find the novel's pacing slow at times due to its reflective passages. Additionally, the heavy emphasis on mood and character introspection might not appeal to those seeking a fast-paced, action-driven thriller.

Final Thoughts on The Neon Rain by James Lee Burke

The Neon Rain by James Lee Burke remains a seminal work in American crime literature, notable for its rich storytelling and complex protagonist. It invites readers to look beyond the surface of a murder mystery and engage with broader questions of morality, identity, and redemption. For those interested in crime novels that combine literary artistry with gripping plots, The Neon Rain offers a rewarding experience that continues to resonate decades after its publication.

[The Neon Rain By James Lee Burke](#)

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the neon rain by james lee burke: The Neon Rain James Lee Burke, 1991 Dave Robicheaux, a New Orleans detective, discovers that someone wants him dead and becomes involved with drug dealers, Mafia chieftains, an ex-general with shady dealings in Central America, and a beautiful woman

the neon rain by james lee burke: *Three Great Novels* James Lee Burke, 2004 THE NEON RAIN: When Johnny Massina, a convicted murderer bound for the electric chair, warns Dave Robicheaux he's on somebody's hit list, the Cajun detective is rocketed into a situation with chilling consequences. THE NEON RAIN is the first highly acclaimed novel in the Dave Robicheaux series. HEAVEN'S PRISONERS: Dave Robicheaux is trying to put a life of violence and crime behind him, leaving homicide to run a boat-rental business in Louisiana's bayou country. But one day a small two-engine plane suddenly crashes into the sea and Robicheaux dives down to the wreckage to find four bodies and one survivor: a little girl miraculously trapped in a pocket of air. When the authorities insist only three bodies were recovered from the plane, Robicheaux decides to investigate the mystery of the missing man. BLACK CHERRY BLUES: Personal tragedy has left Dave Robicheaux close to the edge. Battling against his old addiction to alcohol, Dave finds his only tranquillity at home with his young ward Alafair. But even this fragile peace is shattered by the arrival of Dixie Lee Pugh who brings with him a brutal trail of murder and violence.

the neon rain by james lee burke: A Dave Robicheaux Ebook Boxed Set James Lee Burke, 2011-04-05 Meet Dave Robicheaux again for the first time! This boxed set includes the first two novels featuring fan favorite Detective Dave Robicheaux, *The Neon Rain* and *Heaven's Prisoners*, plus an excerpt from the most recent Robicheaux novel, *The Glass Rainbow*. Robicheaux's creator,

New York Times bestselling author James Lee Burke, is a rare winner of two Edgar Awards and in 2009 was named a Grand Master by the Mystery Writers of America. The Neon Rain Detective Dave Robicheaux has fought too many battles: in Vietnam, with killers and hustlers, with police brass, and with the bottle. Robicheaux's haunted soul mirrors the intensity and dusky mystery of New Orleans' French Quarter—the place he calls home, and the place that nearly destroys him when he becomes involved in the case of a young prostitute whose body is found in a bayou. In order to survive, Robicheaux must face down a subterranean criminal world of drug lords and arms smugglers—and come to terms with his own bruised heart. Heaven's Prisoners Vietnam vet Dave Robicheaux has turned in his detective's badge, is winning his battle against booze, and has left New Orleans with his new wife, Annie, for the tranquil beauty of Louisiana's bayous. But a plane crash on the Gulf brings a young girl into his life—and with her comes a netherworld of murder, deception, and homegrown crime. Suddenly Robicheaux is confronting Bubba Rocque, a brutal thug he's known since childhood; Rocque's hungry Cajun wife; and a federal agent with more guts than sense. In a backwater world where a swagger and a gun go further than the law, Robicheaux and those he loves are caught on a tide of violence far bigger than them all . . . The Glass Rainbow (excerpt) Detective Dave Robicheaux and his partner, Clete Purcel, are on the trail of a killer responsible for the deaths of seven young women—a trail that always seems to lead back to the notorious pimp Herman Stanga, whom they both despise. But the case takes a nasty turn when Stanga turns up dead after a fierce beating by Purcel in front of numerous witnesses. Adding to Robicheaux's troubles is his daughter Alafair's romantic involvement with the scion of a once-prominent Louisiana family whom Robicheaux suspects is involved in some very shady business. To protect his daughter and clear his best friend's name, Robicheaux will need every ounce of guts, wit, and investigative chops he can muster.

the neon rain by james lee burke: The Glass Rainbow James Lee Burke, 2010 Returning to his Louisiana hometown to investigate a murder, detective Dave Robicheaux finds his skills pushed to their limits when his best friend is accused and his daughter becomes involved in shady business dealings.

the neon rain by james lee burke: James Lee Burke Laurence W. Mazzeno, 2017-11-28 James Lee Burke is an acclaimed writer of crime novels in which protagonists battle low-life thugs who commit violent crimes and corporate executives who exploit the powerless. He is best known for his Dave Robicheaux series, set in New Orleans and the surrounding bayou country. With characters inspired by his own family, Burke uses the mystery genre to explore the nature of evil and an individual's responsibility to friends, family and society at large. This companion to his works provides a commentary on all of the characters, settings, events and themes in his novels and short stories, along with a critical discussion of his writing style, technique and literary devices. Glossaries describe the people and places and define unfamiliar terms. Selected interviews provide background information on both the writer and his stories.

the neon rain by james lee burke: James Lee Burke and the Soul of Dave Robicheaux Barbara Bogue, 2015-01-27 When he created the character Dave Robicheaux, author James Lee Burke lent the New Orleans homicide detective a few of his own characteristics: a daughter named Alafair, a lifetime struggle with alcohol, his Roman Catholic faith, and his love for fishing and the outdoors. On the other hand, Robicheaux is portrayed as a veteran of the Vietnam war, something Burke never experienced firsthand. Yet the demons Burke has known allow him to write convincingly about demons he never knew. Thus Burke has created a realistic, complex and compelling protagonist for his crime fiction series. That depth is one element that elevates Burke's writing above the status of genre fiction. This book explores how James Lee Burke, through the first person narrative of detective Dave Robicheaux, probes the world of law and order, crime and disorder, and one man's internal conflicts with modern moral issues. The first chapter reveals the similarities and differences between real life creator and fictional protagonist. Next, chapters arranged by theme explore the roles of women, Robicheaux's paternal side as revealed through his adopted daughter, the paternal influences in the detective's own life, and the contrasting personality of his half-brother, Jimmie. The

next chapters probe the roots of the detective's moral dilemmas: his battle with alcohol, the Vietnam war's lingering trauma, and religion. Next the author explores Burke's use of the supernatural, sense of place, and music to deepen his stories. Final chapters delve into Robicheaux's moral quandaries as a law enforcement officer, the character's contrast to his reckless and funny partner, Clete, and how Burke reveals truths about life through Robicheaux. An interview with Burke is included.

the neon rain by james lee burke: *Black Cherry Blues* James Lee Burke, 2011-12-15 In this Edgar Award-winning thriller, former Louisiana homicide cop Dave Robicheaux is trying to start a new life after the murder of his wife — but he can't escape his past forever. Dave Robicheaux was once a Louisiana homicide cop. Now he's trying to start a new life, opening up a fishing business and caring for his adopted girl, Alafair. Compared to Louisiana, Robicheaux thought Montana would be safe — until two Native American activists suddenly go missing. When Robicheaux begins investigating, he is led into the dark world of the Mafia and oil companies. At the same time, someone from his past comes back to haunt him. Someone who was responsible for Robicheaux's flight from New Orleans — someone who brutally murdered his wife — and now is after young Alafair... Winner of the Edgar Award for Best Novel, *Black Cherry Blues* spans from the mystical streets of New Orleans to the endless mountains of Montana, and ranks among James Lee Burke's finest work — an enduring classic, darkly beautiful and thrilling.

the neon rain by james lee burke: Heaven's Prisoners James Lee Burke, 2010-06-10 The second Dave Robicheaux novel from the award-winning crime writer. Dave Robicheaux is trying to put a life of violence and crime behind him, leaving homicide to run a boat-rental business in Louisiana's bayou country. But one day while fishing in the Gulf with his wife Annie, he witnesses an event that will change his life forever. A small two-engine plane suddenly crashes into the sea and Robicheaux dives down to the wreckage to find four bodies and one survivor; a little girl miraculously trapped in a pocket of air. When the authorities insist only three bodies were recovered from the plane, Robicheaux decides to investigate the mystery of the missing man. Praise for one of the great American crime writers, James Lee Burke: 'James Lee Burke is the heavyweight champ, a great American novelist whose work, taken individually or as a whole, is unsurpassed.' Michael Connelly 'A gorgeous prose stylist.' Stephen King 'Richly deserves to be described now as one of the finest crime writers America has ever produced.' Daily Mail Fans of Dennis Lehane, Michael Connelly and Don Winslow will love James Lee Burke: Dave Robicheaux Series 1. *The Neon Rain* 2. *Heaven's Prisoners* 3. *Black Cherry Blues* 4. *A Morning for Flamingos* 5. *A Stained White Radiance* 6. *In the Electric Mist with Confederate Dead* 7. *Dixie City Jam* 8. *Burning Angel* 9. *Cadillac Jukebox* 10. *Sunset Limited* 11. *Purple Cane Road* 12. *Jolie Blon's Bounce* 13. *Last Car to Elysian Fields* 14. *Crusader's Cross* 15. *Pegasus Descending* 16. *The Tin Roof Blowdown* 17. *Swan Peak* 18. *The Glass Rainbow* 19. *Creole Belle* 20. *Light of the World* 21. Robicheaux Hackberry Holland Series 1. *Lay Down My Sword and Shield* 2. *Rain Gods* 3. *Feast Day of Fools* 4. *House of the Rising Sun* Billy Bob Holland Series 1. *Cimarron Rose* 2. *Heartwood* 3. *Bitterroot* 4. *In The Moon of Red Ponies* * Each James Lee Burke novel can be read as a standalone or in series order *

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the neon rain by james lee burke: Light of the World James Lee Burke, 2014-11-06 James Lee Burke's legendary detective Dave Robicheaux returns to try to save his daughter from a sadistic killer. When Detective Dave Robicheaux's daughter, Alafair, declares her intention to interview a convicted serial killer called Asa Surette, he does all he can to dissuade her. Dave has always encouraged her ambitions as a writer, but as a father he doesn't want her to be exposed to a man so nakedly evil. And his fears seem well founded when Alafair is visibly shocked by the encounter. Two years later, the horror Surette evoked is all but forgotten, as Dave and his family are vacationing amidst the natural beauty of Montana. But evil, it seems, has followed them into this wild paradise. Someone is stalking Alafair, and Dave begins to suspect that it's Surette - even though he officially died when the prison truck he was being transported in collided with an oil tanker. Is Alafair now the target of one of the most depraved serial killers ever to have been caught, or has she unwittingly crossed paths with a murderous psychopath closer to home?

the neon rain by james lee burke: Michael Connelly Schatt, Stan, 2015-03-12 Michael Connelly: A Reader's Guide: covers everything about Connelly including his novels, his short stories, the articles he published as a crime reporter, and even movie treatments of his novels. Over 40 million fans have purchased books by Michael Connelly. His fans storm his website to discuss his characters and plots. Their passion for his characters is obvious. It's the same kind of enthusiasm now found among fans of the Harry Potter and Hunger Games series. Yet, while both those series have companion books that serve as readers' guides, no such book exists on Connelly. What is unique about this book is that it shows how Connelly shaped his actual experiences as a crime reporter into his fiction. You will also find explanations of how Connelly fits into the mystery landscape.

the neon rain by james lee burke: The Southern Quarterly , 1995

the neon rain by james lee burke: Dixie City Jam James Lee Burke, 2012 The 7th Dave Robicheaux novel from Sunday Times bestselling author James Lee Burke When a Nazi submarine is discovered lying in sixty feet of water off the Louisiana coast some troubled ghosts are ready to be released. A local businessman is offering Detective Dave Robicheaux big money to bring the wreck to the surface, but he is not the only one after the submarine and its mysterious cargo. Neo-Nazis are on the march in New Orleans, a new spirit of hatred is abroad, and its terrifying embodiment, an icy psychopath called Will Buchalter, is stalking Robicheaux's wife. Robicheaux is about to find out how deep the new current of evil runs - and just how far the crazed Buchalter will go to get his hands on the Nazis' legacy. Praise for one of the great American crime writers, James Lee Burke: 'James Lee Burke is the heavyweight champ, a great American novelist whose work, taken individually or as a whole, is unsurpassed.' Michael Connelly 'A gorgeous prose stylist.' Stephen King 'Richly deserves to be described now as one of the finest crime writers America has ever produced.' Daily Mail Fans of Dennis Lehane, Michael Connelly and Don Winslow will love James Lee Burke: Dave Robicheaux Series 1. The Neon Rain 2. Heaven's Prisoners 3. Black Cherry Blues 4. A Morning for Flamingos 5. A Stained White Radiance 6. In the Electric Mist with Confederate Dead 7. Dixie City Jam 8. Burning Angel 9. Cadillac Jukebox 10. Sunset Limited 11. Purple Cane Road 12. Jolie Blon's Bounce 13. Last Car to Elysian Fields 14. Crusader's Cross 15. Pegasus Descending 16. The Tin Roof Blowdown 17. Swan Peak 18. The Glass Rainbow 19. Creole Belle 20. Light of the World 21. Robicheaux Hackberry Holland Series 1. Lay Down My Sword and Shield 2. Rain Gods 3. Feast Day of Fools 4. House of the Rising Sun Billy Bob Holland Series 1. Cimarron Rose 2. Heartwood 3. Bitterroot 4. In The Moon of Red Ponies * Each James Lee Burke novel can be read as a standalone or in series order *

the neon rain by james lee burke: *Cadillac Jukebox* James Lee Burke, 2013 The call from ex-Klansman Aaron Crown couldn't have been more unexpected. Sentenced to 40 years for the decades-old shooting of a civil rights activist, Crown should have been out of Iberia Parish, Louisiana, for good. Election candidate Buford LaRose wants Detective Dave Robicheaux to ignore Aaron's calls, promising Robicheaux a lucrative job when he makes governor. Worse still, Buford's wife, Karyn, seems unhealthily interested in getting very close to Robicheaux - just like old times.

the neon rain by james lee burke: *The Rough Guide to Crime Fiction* Barry Forshaw, 2007-07-16 The Rough Guide to Crime Fiction takes the reader on a guided tour of the mean streets and blind corners that make up the world's most popular literary genre. The insider's book recommends over 200 classic crime novels from masterminds Raymond Chandler and Patricia Highsmith to modern hotshots James Elroy and Patricia Cornwall. You'll investigate gumshoes, spies, spooks, serial killers, forensic females, prying priests and patsies from the past, present, and future. Complete with extra information on what to read next, all movie adaptations, and illustrated throughout with photos and diagrams ...all the evidence that counts

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the neon rain by james lee burke: *Justice and Revenge in Contemporary American Crime Fiction* Stuart Sim, 2015-04-08 The detective figure in contemporary American crime fiction increasingly relies on revenge to bring about justice in a society where there has been a sharp decline in moral values. This study demonstrates how the notion of the detective as a moral exemplar or heroic ideal breaks down in the works of writers such as James Ellroy and Sara Paretsky.

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