

[PDF] Green River Rising

Tim Willocks - pdf download free book

Books Details:

Title: Green River Rising

Author: Tim Willocks

Released: 1998-01-03

Language:

Pages: 416

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Description:

From Publishers Weekly Few thrillers aspire to high art; fewer still make the grade. This one, a first novel by an English psychiatrist, exploits the dramatic potential of prison life and gets an A for ambition only. Here, it's a Texas big house whose dome of green glass obviates all privacy and permits its crazed warden, John Hobbes, to enact the arcane correctional theories of philosopher Jeremy Bentham. The ideas of Bentham (and of Kant) seep through the narrative--which focuses on how Ray Klein, an M.D. convicted of rape, behaves during a brutal riot. Willocks coats his narrative with a glaze of intellectuality that's cracked with pretensions: in one scene, Klein and Hobbes discuss fate and free will in terms that should make a coffeehouse poseur blush ("Even the man before the firing squad has a choice," said Hobbes. "He can fall whimpering to his knees or he can refuse the blindfold and sing"). Beneath the glaze lies an utterly conventional--if smartly paced--plot in which villains (Hobbes; savage cons) wear black and get their comeuppance, the heroes (Klein; a gang leader; an aging trustee) wear white and emerge triumphant and the sole woman character serves mostly to provide a graphic sex scene or two. The prose is sinewy but narcissistic, while the

atmospherics, though powerful, don't match those of Mitchell Smith's comparable Stone City. First serial to Granta; film rights to Alan J. Pakula/Warner Bros.

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From Library Journal Willocks delivers an extraordinary second novel about an uprising at a state penitentiary in Texas. The story's well-developed characters include Dr. Ray Klein, a wrongly convicted orthopedic surgeon awaiting parole; Juliette Devlin, a forensic psychiatrist studying prisoners with AIDS; Frog Coley, a convict who has the gift of healing; Henry Abbott, a schizophrenic inmate; and John Campbell Hobbes, an insane warden. Hobbes plants the seeds for the uprising by manipulating existing racial and sexual tensions and then ordering a total lockdown of the cellblocks. Suspense mounts as riots flare and order becomes anarchy. Devlin is trapped with others in the besieged infirmary, while Klein battles to rescue them. Central to this gripping and often graphic plot is Klein: his struggles to survive prison, his fears of a life outside, and his developing love for Devlin. Highly recommended for adult fiction collections.

Stacie Browne Chandler, Plymouth P.L., Mass.

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