

The background features a complex network of white nodes and lines, resembling a constellation or a data network. The nodes are of varying sizes and are connected by thin white lines. The overall color scheme is a gradient from dark purple at the top to a bright pink at the bottom. The text is centered and in a clean, white, sans-serif font.

Redemption Road

Written by John Hart

Published by griefconvention

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Redemption Road

By John Hart

Redemption Road Movie

Now at NYT Bestseller Over 2 million copies of his books in print. The first and only author to win back-to-back Edgars for Best Novel. Every book a New York Times bestseller. After five years, John Hart is back. Since his debut bestseller, *The King of Lies*, reviewers across the country have heaped praise on John Hart, comparing his writing to that of Pat Conroy, Cormac McCarthy and Scott Turow. Each novel has taken Hart higher on the New York Times Bestseller list as his masterful writing and assured evocation of place have won readers around the world and earned history's only consecutive Edgar Awards for Best Novel with *Down River* and *The Last Child*. Now, Hart delivers his most powerful story yet.

Imagine: A boy with a gun waits for the man who killed his mother. A troubled detective confronts her past in the aftermath of a brutal shooting. After thirteen years in prison, a good cop walks free as deep in the forest, on the altar of an abandoned church, a body cools in pale linen. This is a town on the brink. This is Redemption Road. Brimming with tension, secrets, and betrayal, *Redemption Road* proves again that John Hart is a master of the literary thriller.

Redemption Road Church

Before John Grisham started churning out formulaic thrillers every year, he wrote southern style thrillers that I anticipated reading. I hadn't read well written books of this genre for a number of years until now that I have discovered John Hart. A former attorney and recipient of the Edgar Award, North Carolina born Hart has penned thrillers that keep one guessing until the final pages. This could not be more true of his fifth book, Redemption Road which had me on edge until the end.

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At the book's opening we meet ex-con and former cop Adrian Wall who is to be released from prison after thirteen years for a crime he may or may not have committed. On the same day, fourteen year old Gideon Strange, the victim's son, is determined to kill Wall in retribution for murdering his mother. Strange fails and is shot in the stomach, yet avoiding any major arteries, and he heads to the hospital where we find out that he has been living the last thirteen years with a deadbeat, alcoholic father. Meanwhile, Wall escapes authorities.

Intertwined with Wall's supposed crimes and backstory, is thirteen year veteran cop Elizabeth Black. The daughter of a reverend and brought up strictly, we find Black amid allegations of her own. Thirteen years earlier, Wall had stopped Black from committing suicide and she joined the force partially because she idolized him, partially because she really believed in stopping bad forces in the world. At this story's beginning, Black has been suspended from the police force because she is under investigation for murdering two brothers for holding and raping eighteen year old Channing Shore over a forty hour period. This has occurred on the same week that Wall was released from prison. As the story unravels, Wall, Black, Strange, and Shore all become interconnected.

Hart paints a vivid picture of a small North Carolina community where retribution for crimes occurs and all people know everyone else. He creates real characters from Wall and Black to elderly attorney Faircloth "Crybaby" Jones, Black's partner Charlie Beckett, and the warden and his peons at the prison. There is no escaping anyone's business or wrath because the entire town knows of old secrets. Or do they?

The last third of the book had me reading quickly to find out the denouement and whodunit. Just when we think Wall is guilty, Hart peels back more layers to the mystery. In addition to the mystery and thriller, Hart hints at a romantic interest between Wall and Black that also held my interest. The thriller tugged at raw emotions and left me racing at the end. I rate Redemption Road 4 stars and look forward to reading more of Hart's books in the future. ...more

Redemption Road

4.5 stars

If you haven't read this yet, just know, once you start, there's no escaping this dark and twisty read. A riveting and suspense-filled police procedural, reminiscent of literary fiction, REDEMPTION ROAD owned me for days. There were more times than not, over the five-day span of my read, that I found my mind wandering back to this whodunnit—chock-full of lies, manipulation, degradation and ultimately redemption—I couldn't get enough. The flawed characters, the corrupt small-town setting

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When I wasn't reading it, I was thinking about it. Obsessing over it. Scrutinizing every. single. moment. Picking apart each and every minute detail in an effort to uncover some minor tell that might lead me to the path of truth. I had way too many questions and not enough answers, which in hindsight, isn't a bad place to be in this genre, right? Who wants to suffer through a predictable plot?

There's something about John Hart's writing, his choice of words, that feels lush and magnetic. Going in, knowing this was a suspense novel/police procedural, his writing wasn't at all what I expected. I was kind of blown away, if I'm being completely honest. The depth and feel of the story lends itself more to literary fiction than a fast-paced in-your-face police procedural, but the ominous undertone, horrific situations and unexpected paths this story veers down, is sure to keep any suspense junkie on their toes.

The driving force behind this novel was certainly the cast of dynamic characters. Each memorable and compelling in their own right, there were those I loved and others I loved to hate. Isn't that the best of both worlds?

Most surprising of all was that ending. I'm a little shocked I can even say this, considering how many disturbing reads I've subjected myself to over the years, but turns out, the underlying truth was even more warped than any of the theories swimming around in my own brain. When the mask was pulled off, I was a little taken aback. I don't know why, but I didn't see that as a possibility. Maybe my twisted mind, isn't so twisted after all? ...more

Redemption Road Book

5 HUGE STARS!!! This book! This book!!! This is the book everyone should be reading!!! My favorite thriller since last year's "Bull Mountain"! "Redemption Road" grabbed me right from the creepy beginning and never let go!

I'm not going to say much. It's best to go into this one without reading a lot of reviews.

This is what I will say. The writing is phenomenal!!! This is my first John Hart novel but it certainly won't be my last. It is a gritty, dark thriller that takes place in North Carolina. T 5 HUGE STARS!!! This book! This book!!! This is the book everyone should be reading!!! My favorite thriller since last year's "Bull Mountain"! "Redemption Road" grabbed me right from the creepy beginning and never let go!

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This is what I will say. The writing is phenomenal!!! This is my first John Hart novel but it certainly won't be my last. It is a gritty, dark thriller that takes place in North Carolina. The story revolves around fallen Police Officer, Elizabeth Black and her first partner, who has just gotten out of prison after serving a 13 year sentence, Adrian Wall. Elizabeth has just shot and killed two criminals with 18 rounds, yes 18 rounds of ammunition for raping and torturing 18 year old Channing Shore. Gideon is a teen out for the revenge of his mother's death. There is a serial killer that needs to be stopped and many many other memorable storylines and characters. I won't list them all. I will say my favorite character was "Cry-baby Jones"!

This book is so good!!! I can't wait to discuss it with others!!!

I listened to the audio version. The narration is 5 Star! Props to Scott Sheperd! There is a lot going on in this novel and Mr. Sheperd did an awesome job of bringing this story and these characters to life!!!

Highly recommended!!! Read or listen to it and thank me later! It's that good! ...more

I received a copy of Redemption Road by John Hart through NetGalley for an honest review. My thanks to NetGalley, Thomas Dunne Books, and to John Hart for the opportunity.

John Hart.....A wizard with words.

"She sat. She paced. The soft, warm day ate her alive."

Elizabeth Black, a police officer for thirteen years, is under investigation for a crime scene that went terribly wrong. A young girl kept captive in the dark, hollowed-out basement of an abandoned building knows only too well what she and I received a copy of Redemption Road by John Hart through

Redemption Road

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Elizabeth Black, a police officer for thirteen years, is under investigation for a crime scene that went terribly wrong. A young girl kept captive in the dark, hollowed-out basement of an abandoned building knows only too well what she and Liz saw with terror-filled eyes. Will these eyes give way to even more while delving into the deeper levels of what truly lurks within?

We are introduced to a gamut of characters that come alive with the brushstrokes of John Hart. Gideon Strange, a young fourteen year old boy, initiates this story with his compelling drive to seek justice for the death of his mother. Hart describes Gideon's alcoholic father as "wearing his days like a faded suit". And Hart lights up these pages with great detail to his blessed act of character development. We come to know "Crybaby" Jones, an ancient 89 year old retired lawyer, who received his nickname from a judge after Jones was so emotionally taken by his first encounter with the justice system.

There is layer upon layer of story and backstory on this rough terrain of a North Carolina town. And the searing fire is re-lit upon the release of Adrian, an ex-police officer, from prison. John Hart weaves these characters brilliantly throughout the story, connecting and re-connecting the ties that bind. This is a story of how one's past can never be set aside fully. The shadows of it cast largely into the present and the response is, often times, not pleasant or palatable.

This is my first encounter with John Hart. Oh, please know, I will be reaching back into his other published works. This author writes admirably with the likes of John Grisham and Harlan Coben. I am officially taken with this very talented man.

...more

Redemption Road Rescue

This man can pen a story unlike any others. Create characters that are never just one thing, memorable, so very memorable. This story is gritty, no this is beyond gritty, it is violent, at times graphically so. Dark, but really darker than dark, whatever that would be. I have gotten wimpy in my reading, graphic violence is no longer my thing. Yet, I could no more put this book down than I could refuse to eat or sleep. Compelling, intense with an intensity that never lets up. Actually had to put This man can pen a story unlike any others. Create characters that are never just one thing, memorable, so very memorable. This story is gritty, no this is beyond gritty, it is violent, at times graphically so. Dark, but really darker than dark, whatever that would be. I have gotten wimpy in my reading, graphic violence is no longer my thing. Yet, I could no more put this book down than I could refuse to eat or sleep. Compelling, intense with an intensity that never lets up. Actually had to put it down and read something else forma while, but it called to me, boy did it ever.

The characters, the many different shades to their personalities, the conflicted feelings we all share, how one person is never just one thing and how sometimes experiences affect us all differently. What would make one a killer would make another a saviors. Hart, gets this so right.

Believe it or not there is also a great deal of love. Love for the wounded in body and spirit. The scarred children of the world, trying not to let the darkness define them. What people will do out of love, for love and how this will change them, lead them to do things they normally would not.

There is evil, born out of greed and those that are caught in its path will never be the same. Maybe not the same but Hart makes sure we realize there is still a chance to live a good if different life. That is his genius, his writing ability, that he makes the reader see all this. See the many shades and experiences that go into making a person who they are. Characters and a story that despite the violence is so much more. My only wish is that this author could write faster.

ARC from Netgalley. ...more

I absolutely loved this book!!! It was intricate and full of despair AND BEAUTIFUL!! You can feel the despondency of all the characters, like a ton of bricks. The writing was sublime!! A must read.

Redemption Road German Movie

Obstacles and emotions submerge like a Hurricane in this wonderful literary-mystery-thrillers!!

Honestly...I can't think of a better book in this genre! I've read many of the popular best sellers in years past (the psychological- mystery -thrillers)...and this novel tops them all!

Even the epilogue will keep throw you for a loop. I saw a 'few' things coming down the pipes early into this story ---(I'm guessing many readers will)---but the writing is so page-turning terrific you won't care. Plus, Obstacles and emotions submerge like a Hurricane in this wonderful literary-mystery-thrillers!!

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I'll give you a hint - I promise there are enough twists and turns you can't possibly guess everything--(situations will be 'at least' a little different than the puzzle you might be trying to put together in your head).

Remember... 'obstacles AND emotions'!!!

THIS IS A DAMN GOOD BOOK!!!!!!

.....with characters you want to see again!!!!

Taking the Fifth on sharing anything else about this story....on the grounds it could lead to a crime!

Thank You St. Martin's Press, Netgalley, and the man who captures us: John Hart! ...more

Sister Reads Review by BRENDA and NORMA

Norma's little twisted mind figured out whodunit way before Brenda did and this had Brenda thinking that I had to be wrong or was slightly confused. Hahaha sister dear!!

REDEMPTION ROAD by JOHN HART is a gritty, dark, gripping, and a suspenseful thriller/police procedural novel that has a literary fiction feel to it. The road to redemption is a road filled with compassion and emotionally troubled relationships that will have you totally engaged to the surpr
Sister Reads Review by BRENDA and NORMA

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Redemption Road

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JOHN HART delivers an extremely well-written read here that takes you on an emotional and bumpy road of trust and betrayals that tests the beliefs and the personal strengths of our two main characters, Elizabeth and Adrian throughout their complicated relationship.

We loved the unique relationships and understanding Elizabeth had with troubled, flawed and damaged Gideon and Channing which added some backbone to the storyline. The relationships added contrast to Elizabeth's strained relationship with someone close to her.

REDEMPTION ROAD has just the right amount of grit and shocking events with twist and turns that every thriller reader craves!!

We suggest catching a ride along with Elizabeth on her road to redemption. It's a thrilling and electrifying ride! Definitely recommend!!

All of Brenda & my reviews can be found on our Sister Blog:
<http://www.twogirlslostinacouleereadi...> ...more

Redemption Road Mhz

Hart's novel is about redemption, but also about trust and betrayal, and those emotional roads that most of us never want to travel. I am in awe of John Hart's ability to tell a story and there's no way my words can do this book justice. It took me on a thrill ride, but with fully developed characters and a story that touched my heart. The experiences that Adrian, Liz, Channing and Gideon go through, while absolutely horrible, are told in bits and pieces and Mr. Hart's handling of those aspects Hart's novel is about redemption, but also about trust and betrayal, and those emotional roads that most of us never want to travel. I am in awe of John Hart's ability to tell a story and there's no way my words can do this book justice. It took me on a thrill ride, but with fully developed characters and a story that touched my heart. The experiences that Adrian, Liz, Channing and Gideon go through, while absolutely horrible, are told in bits and pieces and Mr. Hart's handling of those aspects of the story was masterful.

Deeply troubled North Carolina police detective Elizabeth Black prowls the streets of her hometown, wondering if she will be charged with murder. While rescuing kidnapped teenager Channing Shore, Elizabeth killed the two men who were sexually assaulting the teen in a desolate house. The case became a political hand grenade. I am going to stop here because I do not want to spoil it, but I loved every minute of it. ...more

This is a heart thumping right out of your chest kind of read.

In this complex narrative, the characters are shamelessly flawed. There is Elizabeth- a broken cop trying to do the right thing in the wrong ways. We have an ex-con, Adrian, also an ex-cop, recently released from jail with a claim of innocence. He is broken from the 13 years of time served where victimization peaks within the institution itself and power taken to an extreme. We have good cops, bad cops, a twisted warden and his posse This is a heart thumping right out of your chest kind of read.

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The plot itself surrounds a disturbing murder(s) but we are witness to other deviant acts and crimes that will make you shudder.

Redemption road is about making peace with oneself. It's acknowledging the past betrayals and moving forward. It's not always about choices made or the circumstances in which they happened, as these are often beyond our control, but rather the reality of living one's life on their own terms and deciding if the past is going to define who you are or if it's an opportunity to reinvent oneself.

After my last thriller/mystery read, I was disappointed. Hart, your writing has redeemed the thriller

Redemption Road

genre for me. For as few of them as I read, they need to give me a jolt and this one delivered. Well played, John Hart. 4.5*

...more

Redemption Road Moc Toe Boot

Redemption Road is the first book I have read by author John Hart and well worth it. An intense crime and suspense thriller set in a small southern town where everyone knows each other. What's wonderful about the book is the way 4 people are interconnected. With twists and turns we learn more about these 4 characters as the pages turn. Adrian Wall, an ex-cop punished for a crime he may not have committed, Elizabeth Black, a suspended cop, loyal to Adrian with her own issues, Channing Shore a crime victim, and Gideon Strange a child set on retribution.

With multiple plots and in depth description of events, I found this book hard to put down. Nice twist at the end.

Highly recommend. 4 out of 5 stars.

...more

Redemption Road by John Hart is a 2016 Thomas Dunne publication.

I don't live under a rock, I promise, but I always have my face in a book, desperately trying to work through my ridiculous TBR pile. So, sometimes authors slip past my radar, even when they are back to back Edgar winners, like John Hart. I am just now getting around to reading one of his books, but with so much positive press behind him, I was confident I was in for a real treat.

Elizabeth Black, is a well-respected cop with an impeccable record, until she makes a spontaneous decision that has her under fire by the press, the state police, her partner, her superiors, and her father, who is a minister. But, that's not her only problem by a long shot. Her former idol, Adrian, also a cop, who has spent the last thirteen years in prison, has been released early for good behavior, but his

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Redemption Road

freedom is very short lived, and he soon finds himself the prime suspect in another murder, and on the run. Elizabeth always believed in his innocence and still carries a torch for him, but helping him could cost her everything.

Without having read his previous books, I can't make any comparisons, but I believe this book certainly lives up to the high standard set for it.

Deemed a literary thriller, this story delves into the murky waters associated with the prison system, rogue cops, and religious zealots.

The innocence of children and their victimization is a key theme in the story as several threads come together exposing horrendous crimes that have far reaching consequences.

Elizabeth Black, is a character I will not forget anytime soon, but the supporting cast is also stellar, each bringing a crucial element to the story. I felt compassion, righteous indignation, and even fury on more than one occasion, on behalf of these characters, but I also came away with a lot of respect for them too.

This crime thriller has everything fans of the genre crave, but it is layered with a rich texture of emotions that touched every nerve fiber in my body. It's creepy, suspenseful, with plenty of shock and awe, but has a human element to it that is often absent from the standard thriller.

While, it is difficult to provide too much in depth analysis due to the possibility of giving away a key plot twist, I can say I felt some uneasiness due to a few free passes, and was left scratching my head about the attitude of some secondary characters, but overall, I felt the key players came away with something they never really had before, which gave me a feeling of fresh hope even if their circumstances are flawed. So, all in all, I was quite impressed with this story and the author is certainly deserving of all the accolades.

Now that I have experienced John Hart's writing, which is amazing, by the way, I intend to go back and enjoy his backlisted titles post haste!

4.5 stars

...more

Redemption Road Coffee

Thank you to Netgalley and St Martin's Press for my ARC in exchange for an honest and unbiased review

How on earth has John Hart escaped my attention until now? What a talent! A master storyteller, creating psychological fear of such depth that by the end of the opening chapter I felt traumatised yet hooked on his every word.

Detective Elizabeth Black is smart and tough, but has an ice cold persona that hides a wealth of love for those she sees as victims. As the story begins, we see her having
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Detective Elizabeth Black is smart and tough, but has an ice cold persona that hides a wealth of love for those she sees as victims. As the story begins, we see her having to confront her past in the aftermath of a double shooting that causes both anger and suspicion, even among her fellow officers.

Adrian Wall, an ex cop and convicted murderer is released from prison after 13 years. He suffered extreme violence during his prison term, and he has no reason to believe life will be any different on the outside. There are certain people out to get him wherever he is.

He and Elizabeth are inexorably linked in their quest for justice and truth, and in Elizabeth's case almost to the point of self destruction, but it will lead them to some very dark and dangerous places. I hated to put this book down, and when I did, it called to me with a persistence that was hard to ignore.

Wonderfully written with a host of powerful characters, and a storyline that took my breath at times, then gave it back again - but not for long! Stunning read! ...more

With all the early five star love that this book has been receiving, I was pretty quick to queue this one up. I still have fond memories of *The Last Child*—the only other John Hart book that I’ve read—and have actually recommended it to several friends. I’ve been meaning to get back to his catalog, and now along comes this book, so often praised as “dark and gritty,” a couple of my favorite adjectives. Yes, please! But then the darndest thing happened. At the proverbial last minute, I came down with a nasty strain of that Mitchell virus, which must have infected my mind because . . . nope. Not buying it. Not any of it. Not even for a second!

Now, rather than waste your time with a lengthy spite filled review, or point any fingers at all of you

Redemption Road

whoâ€™ve once again lead me astray, Iâ€™ll merely list a few of the numerous problems I encountered while perusing this turkey, which ultimately prevented me from suspending my disbelief.

1. Hero rogue cop willing to stand trialâ€”even face the death penaltyâ€”for a crime she didnâ€™t commit, in order to protect a victim.
2. Fellow officers so quick to turn on one of their own and believe the worst.*
3. Wrongfully accused man convicted, with Matlock as his attorney.â€
4. Years of torture arenâ€™t enough to break a man.â€;
5. An old inmate with a secret stash of buried treasure.Â°
6. Letâ€™s all hold hands and pray the rape away. O.o
7. A killer too obvious to be believed.
8. Said killerâ€™s ultimate motivations.
9. No one bothers to stake out the church or put a tail on Liz.
10. No one checks a downed officer for a concealed firearm.

All ring blatantly false.

Even with all those issues, I was still willing to hand out a very low 3 stars, for the sheer readability aloneâ€”thatâ€™s really all this has going for itâ€”but then that ending was just too . . . ridiculousâ„¸. Ugh. Essentially, Hart painted himself into a corner with a narrative that was too unwieldy with so many competing storylines that, in order to bring it all together, the climax came off as ham-fisted and contrived. Iâ€™m sorry, but this reads like a glorified James Patterson script.

In summation: Apparently that Mitchell bug in conjunction with my general negativity, broken belief system, and fundamentally reading all things wrong flaw is a deadly combination.

2 stars: Baa, baa, black sheep.

*This happened repeatedly under differing circumstances.

â€ The only conceivable way Matlock could ever lose a case would be if he were pitted against Perry Mason. Then it would either end in a hung jury, or the script writerâ€™s head would explode.

â€; Everyone sings in the end.

Â° Raise your hand if you heard that one before. ...more

Redemption Road Crossfit

Adrian Wall, formerly a very good cop, is on the cusp of being released from prison after thirteen years served, for a crime he may or may not have committed. A heinous crime that left a young mother naked and strangled on the altar of a church. Her DNA was found under Adrian's fingernails and a beer can with his prints was found at the scene. Once revered by the small North Carolina town that he served, Adrian has become an outcast, an ex con, an undying blemish to the community that once loved Adrian Wall, formerly a very good cop, is on the cusp of being released from prison after thirteen years served, for a crime he may or may not have committed. A heinous crime that left a young mother naked and strangled on the altar of a church. Her DNA was found under Adrian's fingernails and a beer can with his prints was found at the scene. Once revered by the small North Carolina town that he served, Adrian has become an outcast, an ex con, an undying blemish to the community that once loved him.

Meanwhile a teenage boy, Gideon Strange, sits in the dark wondering if he is man enough to do what his father could not. His father is a broken shell of a man who can not pull himself out of a bottle long enough to offer any comfort, guidance, love or support to his young son. He lives for the memory of his dead wife, the woman whose life Adrian Wall allegedly snuffed out. But Gideon now has his father's gun and the time has come to measure just how much of a man he truly is.

Elizabeth Black, daughter of a local reverend, who has had a very strict upbringing, is a good cop. Years ago Adrian Wall saved her life and she idolizes him or at least she used to but the truth is she has had no contact with him the whole time he has been in prison. She is unsure just how she will respond on his release, but these days she has bigger problems to worry about. She has been suspended from the force pending the results of an investigation into the deaths of two brothers who had held and brutally raped an eighteen year old girl. Elizabeth rescued Channing Shore from these scum buckets and the problem is not so much the deaths of these two brothers as it is her methods. The real problem here lay in the evidence of excessive force and potential torture that these two men suffered. If only Elizabeth would cooperate and tell the investigating officers what really happened in that basement, but Elizabeth is not talking and neither is Channing.

And upon the altar of a long since, abandoned church, as yet undiscovered, another young woman lay stripped and strangled beneath the pure white linen so carefully laid by her killer.

Wow, I have previously read two other John Hart novels and while I can say I enjoyed them because I really did, Redemption Road is in a league of its own. It is a tautly told thriller with unforgettable, sympathetic characters that you will find yourself caring about and rooting for long before you even know who they truly are. With lies, deceit, long held loyalties questioned and dark family secrets at play, it becomes difficult to know who you can trust or believe.

Meanwhile, in the dark of night there is still a depraved, psychotic, serial killer out there and he has a plan.

John Hart has hit a homerun here folks. Be sure and pick this one up.

Five fully engaged stars.

...more

Find all of my reviews at: <http://52bookminimum.blogspot.com/>

First things first: Dear co-worker who sits across from me - I apologize for what you had to experience upon me finishing this yesterday . . .

The office is really not the place for that type of outburst. And to all of my friends who have already read and loved this book " I wish I could join your ranks.

Here's the deal. Redemption Road got put on my TBR simply for the author name. Although I have not yet read Hart's first novel, I ha Find all of my reviews at: <http://52bookminimum.blogspot.com/>

First things first: Dear co-worker who sits across from me - I apologize for what you had to experience upon me finishing this yesterday . . .

The office is really not the place for that type of outburst. And to all of my friends who have already read and loved this book " I wish I could join your ranks.

Here's the deal. Redemption Road got put on my TBR simply for the author name. Although I have not yet read Hart's first novel, I have owned it for some time and it has prime seating on the "cel will save this in case I ever become housebound" shelving system. When I noticed friends enjoying this (4.80 collective rating " holy crap!) I immediately grabbed it from the library without even bothering to read a synopsis. All I knew was errrrrrryone loved it and that words like "dark" kept getting tossed around. I love dark. It gives me a reaction that is a complete 180 of this chick . . .

(Ha! Told you I'd work that in somewhere this week, Shelby!)

My reaction after wrapping up the aforementioned bitchfit????

Redemption Road

Basically, this is the synopsis of Redemption Road . . .

“A story about dead brothers, bored housewives, and a town full of dirty little secrets.”

The problems I had were several. First, John Hart pales in comparison to Dennis Lehane and Redemption Road was trying really hard to be a Lehane story. Second, having not read a synopsis, I didn’t realize at the end of the day this was simply a whodunit with everything but the kitchen sink added in to supposedly keep readers on their toes. I’m not going to spoil anything, but there was a gaping hole the size of the Grand Canyon that basically worked as a flashing neon sign pointing out the bad guy. I assumed since it was so obvious that meant the story would get twistier and turnier, but that was not the case. And finally, as for the “dark” storyline. Here’s a selfie of my heart . . .

The plot points here barely even reached a shade of grey on my scale of dark.

Per usual, I probably read this wrong. I definitely recognize I went in with my expectations set way too high. The good news is that this is “Murica and . . .

ARC requested and promptly denied by NetGalley because they like to keep me guessing about what they will/will not give me.

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