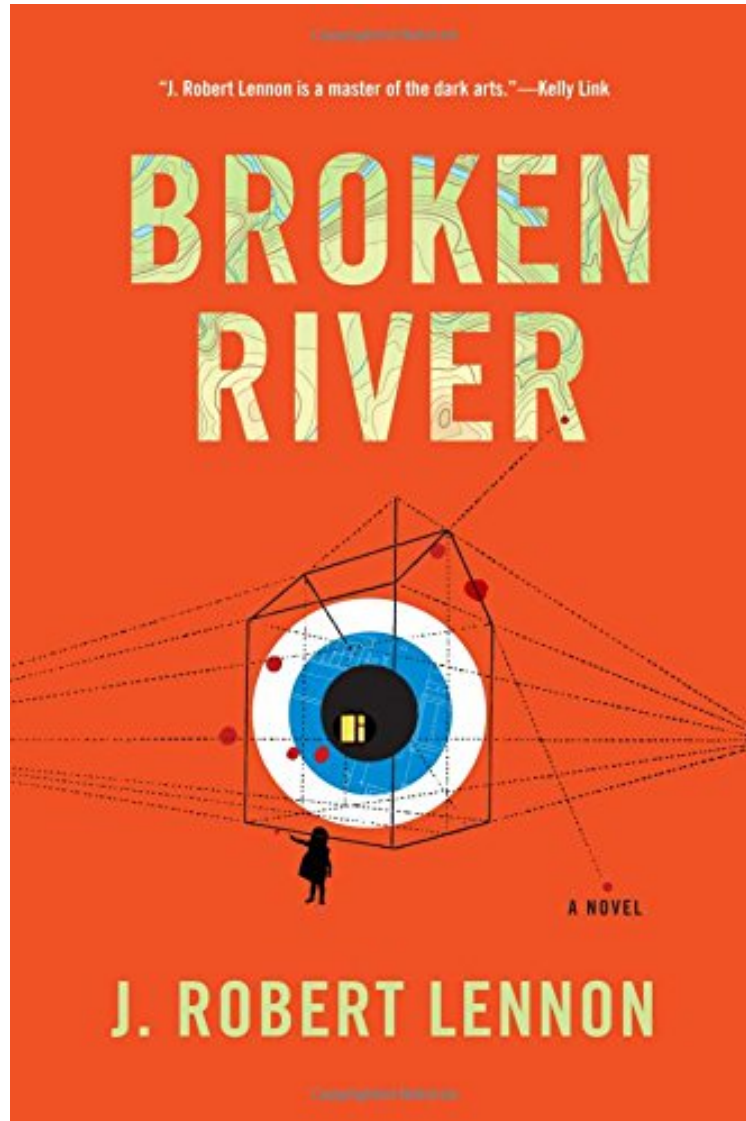


(Ebook free) Broken River: A Novel

Broken River: A Novel

J. Robert Lennon

*ebooks | Download PDF | *ePub | DOC | audiobook*



DOWNLOAD



READ ONLINE

#23926 in Books GRAYWOLF 2017-05-16 2017-05-16 Original language: English PDF # 1 8.25 x .82 x 5.55l, .0 #File Name: 1555977723240 pages GRAYWOLF | File size: 44.Mb

J. Robert Lennon : Broken River: A Novel before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Broken River: A Novel:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Another fine book by LennonBy RichA terrific and creepy read, often hilarious and occasionally visceral and violent, like all of Lennon's books. The characters are beautifully and realistically drawn. The Observer is a neat construct - early on, I assumed that this was a stand-in for the reader, but as the novel progressed it seemed as if the Observer acted more like the author, in his ability to direct attention to action, to read the characters' thoughts, and to pursue alternate scenarios.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful.

Well written, fluid, interesting
By Mike N
Seldom is one presented with such originality of perspective, characters that emerge gently and completely, and a plot that is woven artfully and smoothly. The writing is fluid and graceful. Very enjoyable read.
0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Potentially great book
By L. Bond
Reading club selection that I had on my own list. I wanted to love it but had some of problems with the observer. It was very distracting and an unwelcome presence as it kept popping up just as a character became interesting.

The most inventive and entertaining novel to date from “a master of the dark arts” (Kelly Link)
A modest house in upstate New York. One in the morning. Three people—a couple and their child—hurry out the door, but it’s too late for them. As the virtuosic and terrifying opening scene of *Broken River* unfolds, a spectral presence seems to be watching with cold and mysterious interest. Soon the house lies abandoned, and years later a new family moves in. Karl, Eleanor, and their daughter, Irina, arrive from New York City in the wake of Karl’s infidelity to start anew. Karl tries to stabilize his flailing art career. Eleanor, a successful commercial novelist, eagerly pivots in a new creative direction. Meanwhile, twelve-year-old Irina becomes obsessed with the brutal murders that occurred in the house years earlier. And, secretly, so does her mother. As the ensemble cast grows to include Louis, a hapless salesman in a carpet warehouse who is haunted by his past, and Sam, a young woman newly reunited with her jailbird brother, the seemingly unrelated crime that opened the story becomes ominously relevant. Hovering over all this activity looms a gradually awakening narrative consciousness that watches these characters lie to themselves and each other, unleashing forces that none of them could have anticipated and that put them in mortal danger. *Broken River* is a cinematic, darkly comic, and sui generis psychological thriller that could only have been written by J. Robert Lennon.

.com An Best Book of May 2017: Despite kicking off with a double murder outside of a remote New York home, *Broken River* quickly morphs into a much quieter novel, filled with a pervasive, slow-burning tension. A new family moves into the house years later seeking a fresh start, but distance isn’t enough to overcome the baggage and deception they bring along with them. Before long, both the mother and daughter, under pseudonyms on the same internet forum, begin to investigate what happened to the previous occupants, setting into motion a collision between the past and the present. Lennon’s intimate look at these authentic, flawed characters highlights the impact their dishonesty has on themselves and those around them. But it’s the Observer, a disembodied point of view that becomes a character in its own right, which allows the narrative to fully explore the ramifications of each choice, and how beholden we are to our fate. *Broken River* is an elegant, haunting read with implications that reach far beyond its last page. --Matt Fyffe, *The Book One* of the Minneapolis Star Tribune’s “Books to Watch for in 2017”
One of Lit Hub’s Most Anticipated Indie Press Books for 2017
“J. Robert Lennon is a connoisseur of calamity, qualms, and paradox, all of which are on profuse display in his crafty, seductive eighth novel. . . . *Broken River* is a remarkable performance, a magic trick that makes you laugh at its audacity. Lennon has written a realistic novel, with vivid characters and flashes of humor and an evocative mood, that is also a playful, sophisticated meditation on storytelling itself. . . . When you close a novel as good as *Broken River*, something, not quite a ghost, may follow you.”
The New York Times Book “It’s a tense, surprising thriller, with perverse overtones of the Coen brothers variety, but containing an enigmatic narrative device, a kind of ‘haunting of the point-of-view’ – one which proves, as ever, that the novel can do things nothing but the novel can do.”
Jonathan Lethem, *The New York Times* “Virtuosic. . . . [A] dark and brooding thriller.”
San Francisco Chronicle “*Broken River* by J. Robert Lennon is a tense little psychological thriller where the threat of bad stuff happening looms over every moment.”
Chicago Tribune “Darkly cinematic. . . . A stunning novel.”
Paste “Fizzing with line-by-line propulsion and wickedly plotted with slow-burn complexity, this is a knockout, unmissable performance from a writer at the very top of his game.”
The Guardian “J. Robert Lennon’s fiction frequently veers into the unpredictable, and his new novel *Broken River* is no exception. On one level, it’s the story of a family coming to grips with the legacy of a crime in the house that they recently purchased; on another, it’s a meditation on narrative expectations and voyeurism. The result is hard to shake.”
Vol. 1 Brooklyn “The last 50 pages of *Broken River* are an absolute marvel. It’s a genuine thriller that’s genuinely literary. And, most importantly, genuinely good.”
Bradley Babendir, *Chicago of Books* “Lennon evokes the passage of time with precision. . . . There are moments here of chilling violence, and of nuanced comedies of manners; the result is a heady novel that distills a host of anxieties into something offbeat and hard to shake.”
Star Tribune (Minneapolis) “[An] inventive, darkly comic novel. . . . *Broken River* is a riveting psychological thriller which is as absurd as it is wonderful.”
Rabeea Saleem, *Chicago of Books* “What a delicious, heartbreaking, hilarious and true work we have in J. Robert Lennon’s eighth novel, *Broken River*. . . . It’s a special novel that features both a plot worthy of binge reading and fiercely crafted sentences.”
Missoula Independent “*Broken River* makes its mark. The Observer shows how refreshing experimentation can be, particularly in a genre where plots often follow a distinct template. The fact that J. Robert Lennon incorporated this into a novel that is also entertaining on its own merits . . . is evidence that intelligent fiction doesn’t need to give readers the cold shoulder.”
Spectrum Culture “A darkly hilarious examination of human behavior. . . . This literary psychological thriller gets at the root of motivation, whether it’s to kill or love or even forgive. The characters are so richly developed they resonate as someone familiar--and that’s what makes this

wonderfully absorbing novel equally funny, terrifying and heartbreaking.”?Shelf Awareness““A suspenseful and occasionally darkly funny book.”?Read It Forward““J. Robert Lennon has crafted a wonderful mystery, an at times pulse-pounding thriller populated by a nimbly realized family unit; so much so, that in the midst of frantic page-flipping, it becomes difficult to slow down long enough to truly appreciate the deeper themes at play. . . . Lennon’s characters scramble and claw off the page, and the story charges along at break-neck speed.”?East Bay ““A truly outstanding novel.”?Lawrence.com““This latest from the quirky and widely admired Lennon. . . [is] full of intertwined plots, speculation, complicated and descriptive writing, and even some humor amid the bloodshed.”?Library Journal, starred review““A finely tuned tragedy whose well-developed characters are all the more sympathetic for the inexorability of their fates.”?Publishers Weekly““Lennon’s true skill stems from his ability to combine a sharply focused character study, told from multiple perspectives, with a wider social realism that’s as unsettling as it is depressingly accurate. . . . It’s a rare book that manages to bend genres so successfully ? that thrills and frightens while evoking such insight into human failings and the lure of the past.”?Financial Times (UK)““Compelling from the first page, and then smart, sophisticated, suspenseful and satisfying throughout?Broken River is a first-class ride.”?Lee Child““Hypnotic and unsettling, Broken River weaves a dark, compelling spell.”?Mick Heron, author of Real Tigers““An intimate portrait of the violence we do to each other, about family and art and the scars of unspeakable acts. Broken River blisters and rips and ultimately soars. I loved it.”?Lauren Beukes, author of The Shining Girls

About the AuthorJ. Robert Lennon is the author of eight novels and two story collections. His fiction has appeared in The Paris , Granta, Harper’s Magazine, Playboy, and The New Yorker. He lives in Ithaca, New York, where he teaches writing at Cornell University.