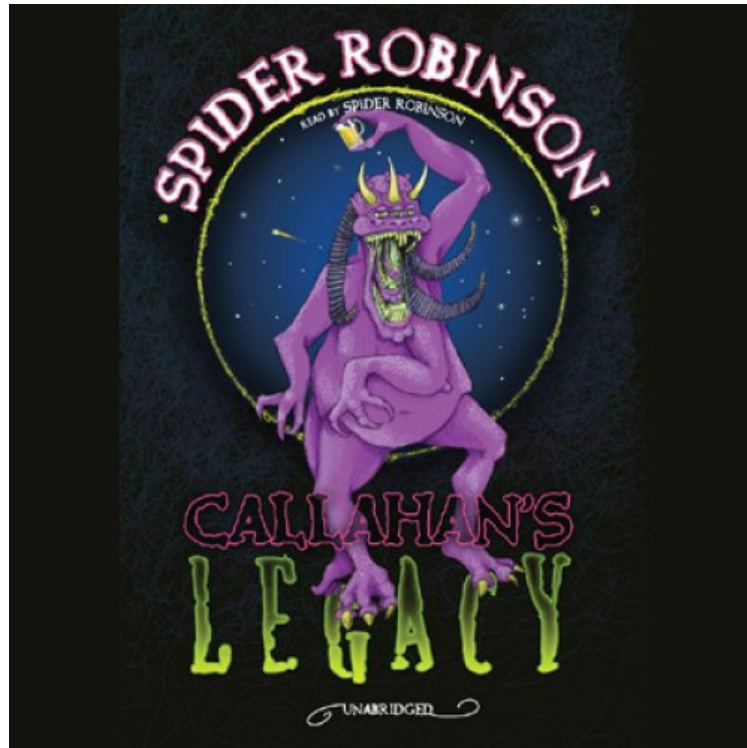


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Callahan's Legacy

Spider Robinson

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Spider Robinson : Callahan's Legacy before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Callahan's Legacy:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Fun at Mary's Place. By James Yanni Of course, "Mary's Place" is really just a euphemism for "Callahan's Crosstime Saloon", even if the proprietor IS Jake Stonebender instead of the great one. But if Doc Webster, Eddie Costigan, Mickey Finn and company hang out there, it's really Callahan's, and as such, fans of the "Callahan's" series will not want to miss this one. This is particularly true because in this book, we finally get the "origin stories" for Long Drink McGonnigle, Doc Webster, and Fast Eddie, and they are superb, some of the most powerful writing that Robinson has ever done, which is why I rate this book five stars IN SPITE of the fact that the main plot is kind of weak (Alien cyborg coming to destroy the earth? Gotta defeat it with one hand tied behind our collective, poor weak human backs? Been there. Done that) AND in spite of the fact that the beginning and ending subplot strikes me as involving rather more mockery of individuals based on physical appearance and speaking an unfamiliar language that "sounds funny" than I'd expect from Robinson and the Callahan's folks. The flashback origin stories are just THAT GOOD. You do NOT want to miss them. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Try it, you'll like -- no, love! -- it. By Walter Luffman Not everyone enjoys puns, just as not everyone enjoys science fiction set in the present day; but for those who like both, the entire Callahan's Place series and its spinoffs are must-read books. I still have trouble believing that I only discovered Spider Robinson recently; his non-Callahan's (and more serious) works are also excellent, but when he puts his figurative tongue in cheek the results are truly something special! 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Firstworks Trilogy By Blackpaw I've read all the Spyder

Robinson that I could get my hands on I started with Callahan's Crosstime Saloon to me the whole Callahan series speaks to me as how life could be better somewhat twisted but in the best way possible. Fantasy with a touch of Sci Fi I would suggest this to a more mature reader with an open mind. That said I recommend anything Spyder writes to my friends

For years, Callahan's was the place where friends met to have a few drinks, tell a few jokes, and occasionally save the world. Until that unfortunate incident with the nuke a few years ago....But Jake Stonebender and his wife have opened a new Callahan's, Mary's Place, and all the regulars are there: Doc Webster, Fast Eddie the piano player, Long Drink McGonnigle, and of course the usual talking dogs, alcoholic vampires, aliens, and time travelers. Songs will be sung, drinks will be drunk (and drunks will have drinks), puns will be swapped...and as a three-eyed, three-legged, three-armed, three-everythinged alien flashes through space toward the bar, it just might be time to save the world again....

.com This is the fifth book in the Callahan's Crosstime Saloon series, a short read that once again brings together the Callahan regulars in a plot that combines the usual group therapy, the best/worst puns ever to see print and epic, world-saving deeds. This time around the gang must save Earth from a decidedly nasty alien, and only group telepathy will do the trick. Spider Robinson, whose cutting wit and keen insights are in full force, takes the opportunity to dive deep into the psyche of his various mainstay characters, making for some darkly intimate reading. From Publishers Weekly Puns, palindromes and assorted witticisms abound in this latest addition to science fiction's longest running in-joke, first presented in book form in Callahan's Crosstime Saloon (1977), most recently in The Callahan Touch (1993). Robinson, who has won a Hugo, a Nebula and a John W. Campbell Award, follows his usual formula here. Lovable narrator and bartender Jake Stonebender, who took over from lovable narrator and bartender Mike Callahan after Mike decided to go time-traveling, gradually introduces the large cast of oddball drunks and barflies who inhabit the Long Island tavern known as Mary's Place (which itself replaced Callahan's Place after that tavern blew up in a nuclear explosion two episodes ago). The regulars include at least one alien, an Artificial Intelligence, a supernatural being or two and a talking dog named Ralph Von Wau Wau. As usual, a couple of new oddballs wander into the bar and tell their stories. Then a crisis arises here, occasioned by an alien lizard-cyborg bent on the destruction of Earth. The boys soon take care of the situation, however, by drinking a lot of beer and Irish coffee, telling jokes and not losing their cool. Plot is secondary in the Callahan stories. What Robinson's many fans look for above all is humor, wordplay and a complicated web of allusions to favorite rock lyrics, classic SF stories and previous Callahan tales. They get plenty of each here and should feel right at home, again. Copyright 1996 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Kirkus sFirst novel-sized entry in Robinson's series of tall stories (the first collection appeared in 1976) about Callahan's Bar (Callahan's Lady, 1989, etc.). Though the original Callahan's is gone, the tradition continues--alcohol-lubricated jokes, puns, histrionics and all--at Mary's Place, where Callahan's daughter, Mary, and her husband, the retired alien assassin Mickey Finn, preside, and proprietor/bartender Jake Stonebender's partner, Zoey Berkowitz, is an uncomfortable nine and a half months pregnant. The patrons include: Naggeneen, an Irish psi-powered leprechaun; the probability-bending Lucky Duck; Ralph von Wau Wau the talking dog; Solace the Artificial Intelligence; and various aliens, machines, and reconstituted personalities, such as the scientist Nikola Tesla. Even the time-traveling Mike Callahan himself shows up, to warn the company of an impending alien invasion by a three-eyed, three-legged purple cyborg Lizard. So as Jake pours drinks and coffee with a liberal hand, and Zoey at last gives birth, the assembly must figure out how to defeat the invader. After, that is, the bar's roof has been ripped off by a tornado, only to be replaced moments later by another, better roof--it's that sort of place. A riot for Callahan addicts; newcomers may find it to be an acquired taste. -- Copyright ©1996, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.