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Earl Emerson

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Fat Tuesday: A Thomas Black Mystery, by Emerson, Earl W.

Fat Tuesday Details

Date : Published June 12th 1988 by Fawcett Books (first published 1987)

ISBN : 9780345352231

Author : Earl Emerson

Format : Paperback 10 pages

Genre : Mystery, Thriller, Mystery Thriller

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From Reader Review Fat Tuesday for online ebook

Sarah says

This book was very clever and enjoyable. The killer was sick twisted and sadistic, and the main character was well written. Flawed, but extremely intelligent and likeable.

Jeff Dickison says

Fair Thomas Black mystery as he has to investigate the murder of a husband and his wife. The problem: This book has too many characters to keep track of. I felt I needed a cheat sheet to remember who was who.

Charisse says

Julie - have you read any of this guy's stuff? He has new novel out and the older ones looked good.

Shelly says

A good puzzler, with interesting, well-drawn characters and a vivid setting. Didn't realize this was 4th in a series but it didn't make a difference in my ability to enjoy it. I will look for the others in this series.

Victoria says

Although this is an older novel, the characters are timeless and full of wit and personality. I can't wait to read more of this author.

Ed says

Not the best that Emerson is capable of. The Seattle-based story jumps around and there are more sub-plots than necessary for an interesting book. Maybe he decided to unload a bunch of ideas he's been carrying in his head and do it all in one book.

That said, I still enjoyed the novel and plan to continue to read his other offerings.

Thomas Black, the main protagonist and his long-time good friend Kathy Birchfield, a lawyer, are asked to investigate a situation in which Fred Pugsley, a bike enthusiast, is sent a dead rattlesnake. When they get to Pugsley's house, they find him dead in a pool of his own blood and his wife in shock. He was murdered with a sprocket tightener, which has his wife's fingerprints on it. She prtests that she's innocent and as the

investigation unfolds, Black and Birchfield uncover many possible suspects.

Turns out Pugsley was pretty much a hound dog and loved to chase and seduce women, especially those who were married or otherwise attached. He also had gotten rid of his business partner, Eric Castle, who was accused of child molesting. Black, in particular, gets into multiple dangerous situations with a heavy duty motorcycle Mama, a wild 3000 lb. bull and an unknown assailant on the Space Needle.

All of this is happening as Seattle celebrates it's version of Mardi Gras, Fat Tuesday, which makes for an interesting ambiance for the story. I forgot to mention that this book has more humor than his others and I did get some out loud laughs from the book.

Sherri says

LOVE THOMAS BLACK, HE'S LOCAL AND FLAWED AND CRAZY AND COOL!

Ed says

#4 in the Thomas Black series. Black is the wise-cracking, bicycle riding, Seattle Private Investigator who works for lawyer Kathy Birchfield.

Thomas Black series - Fred Pugsley receives a dead rattlesnake in the mail and ex-Seattle cop Thomas Black and lawyer Kathy Birchfield, are called in to investigate. When they get there, Fred is dead, and his stunned wife sits clutching a tool used on racing bicycles -- the murder weapon. But the wife says she's innocent, and suddenly there are plenty of other suspects.

Andrew says

I like a novel where the location feels like one of the characters - something that couldn't be set in another locale, at least not easily. This book was one of those - the pages were woven through Seattle and the Puget Sound area throughout.

Plenty of suspects, I guessed wrong (as usual).

I am definitely a fan of Earl Emerson's.

Monty says

I really enjoy reading the Thomas Black mysteries because they are set in Seattle where I live and the characters and plots are fun. This book and Rainy City (the first of the series) are the best ones I've read so far.

Karlie Nyte says

I found that the sarcastic and poetic descriptions used by the private detective in this book are wonderful. He sounds like someone I would enjoy hanging out with on the scene in Seattle, where the book is set. I enjoyed reading about the way that he interrogated each person involved in the murder, and his interactions with his best friend, a female lawyer, were hysterical. If you enjoy murder mysteries with humor, take time to read this book.

Dale Rosso says

Love the Thomas Black series, great story.

aPriL does feral sometimes says

This Thomas Black mystery has some of the funniest quips and jokes in the series so far.
