

[E-BOOK] Over My Dead Body

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Lee Server

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Lee Server : Over My Dead Body before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Over My Dead Body:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy walterThe best.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Serve Picks at the Corpse of the mass-audience PaperbackBy William E. WallaceExcellent survey of the rise and fall of paperbacks, the medium that more or less replaced the pulp magazine as a medium for lurid and tawdry crime stories, science fiction, horror and westerns. A fine companion piece to Server's history of the pulps and his excellent encyclopedia of pulp fiction authors.

The American paperback went through a brief but gloriously subversive era during the 1940s and '50s when publishers wooed post-World War II veterans with cheap, pocket-sized paperbacks sporting lurid covers and shocking titles. But this era also spawned such great writers as Mickey Spillane, Philip K. Dick and Jack Kerouac. 100 photographs.

From Publishers WeeklyGorgeously illustrated with eye-opening color cover reproductions on almost every page, Server's enthusiastic follow-up to *Danger Is My Business* is a nostalgic look into the brief but "rambunctious adolescence" of the mass market paperback. The particular flavor of this sleazy period he attributes to the taste of its targeted audience of ex-GIs, the early success of Mickey Spillane and the sudden availability of writers and cover artists from the dying pulp publications. Life in this new market was a mixed bag for even successful "paperback

writers" such as Jim Thompson, David Goodis, Chester Himes and Philip K. Dick as their pay was modest and their shelf-life short. Server is best when describing the early subgenres which, then as now, blossomed from the seed of a single bestseller. Thus God's Little Acre begat a slew of "hillbilly fiction," pseudo-Beat stories joined Kerouac's *On the Road*, *The Amboy Dukes* spawned the juvenile delinquent genre and imitators of Vin Packer's *Spring Fire* lured readers into the "twilight world" of "lesbiana." Not as thorough as his previous book, Server skimps on names and dates and neglects the role of distribution in the industry's success. But readers will want this slick volume of low-brow entertainment turned campy collectible for its "magnificently lurid" cover illustrations of busty babes with smoking guns, which coaxed quarters from suckers in exchange for the often "monumental trash" within. Copyright 1994 Reed Business Information, Inc.