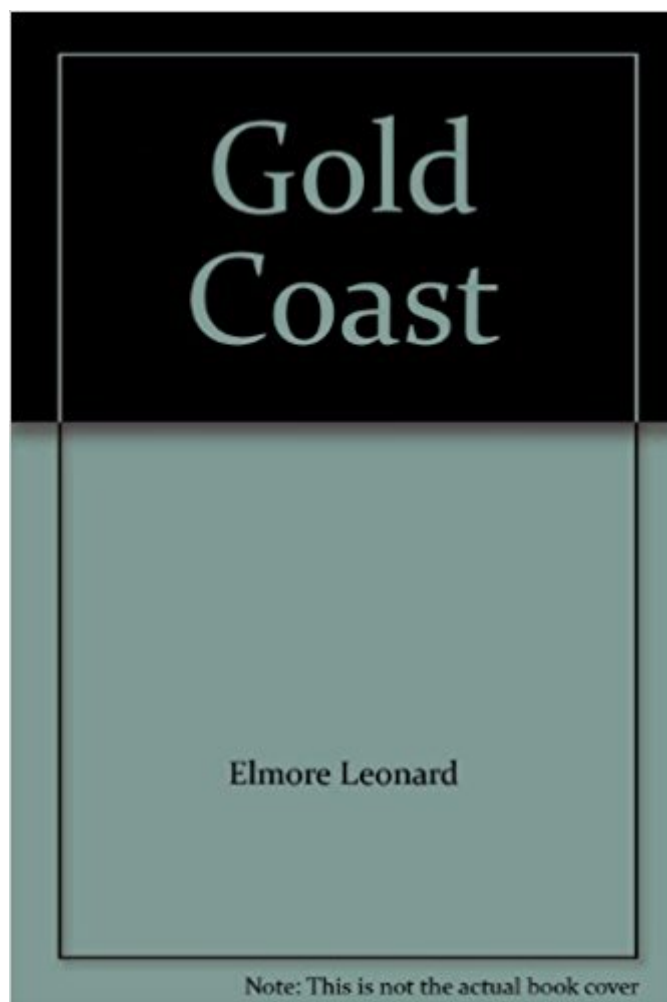


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Gold Coast



Book Information

Audio CD

Publisher: Recorded Books (1995)

ISBN-10: 1419341227

ISBN-13: 978-1419341229

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars Â Â See all reviews Â (32 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #11,718,243 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #56 in Â Books > Books on CD >

Authors, A-Z > (L) > Leonard, Elmore #36440 in Â Books > Mystery, Thriller & Suspense >

Mystery > Police Procedurals #67959 in Â Books > Romance > Romantic Suspense

Customer Reviews

gold coast may not be one of leonards best but it satisfies the crime novel fan.the plot is pretty good considering its been seen before.the ending i must say is surprising.it also has a few funny moments to keep you in good humor.good book but not leonards best.

I can't believe it took me this long to discover Elmore Leonard. This is just the second novel of his I've read. What fun. I literally could not put it down. It really is a page turner. And the ending was a real surprise. I'm trying hard not to jump into another one before I read something else.

not one of his best imo but a fine ride for about half way through until he lost his way ,or interest in the project.The seaworld patter is funny and charming and way up to leonards high standards of dialogue;but some of his characterizations are way off and the ending is not in any way one dutch could have been happy with or probably get himself out of.it is not a bad book by any means and to say it is not one his best is to beg the question;as compares to what? It is from the master after all.

I gave this three stars because there's no way to give a split rating. As usual, Leonard comes up with an imaginative situation, believable characters, and I don't know of anyone who's ever surpassed him for dialogue. He does things with dialogue that Hemingway could only dream of. But in this novel, all the characters are so sleazy that about halfway through, I realized that I didn't like any of them enough to care what happened to them. Leonard once said that Gold Coast is one of the novels he wished he had written differently, and I agree. However, Leonard's dialogue is always worth reading no matter what. I stayed on till the end, and will probably re-read it more than once, but the unsympathetic characters lower the rating to three stars.

Elmore Leonard (EL) has situated many of his crime novels in Detroit in summer and in Florida in winter. This book is about Karen, born in Detroit, but widowed for a second time while living in Florida, as the wife of Frank DiCilia, a taciturn, semi-retired member of the mafia. She is only 44, still looks great and would like to get on with her life. However, the few men with whom she had innocent dates or dinners since her husband's demise, never called her back. She learns what she is worth financially from her husband's lawyer, and the conditions attached: she is rich but Frank is ruling from the grave, saying that if Karen chooses a new partner the inheritance arrangements are null and void. She will be on her own. No four million dollar trust fund released in monthly instalments, no house and other property, no nothing...Enters Cal Maguire, a former con man from Detroit. Will he be able to arrange the ways and means (the scam) that will give Karen more freedom and full access to her inheritance? Of course, if he fails, both of them will get killed for sure. Woman readers especially should read this book and decide who they identify most with, and what they would do in Karen's shoes. Obey and live in comfort, alone, or take a gamble? Many of EL's books have been turned into Hollywood movies. He is a brilliant plotter and a superior writer of dialogue. "Gold Coast" has been filmed with David Caruso (CSI) as the con man from Detroit. Finally, only some of EL's books are situated in Detroit or Florida. "Mr. Majestyk" takes place in Arizona, and many of his later books do so in other states or outside the US, in full or in part, in Rwanda, Puerto Rico, Djibouti... The Djibouti novel is due for release in August 2010. This book is vintage EL enjoyment.

This is a good book, a lot of people will like this one a sort of quirky, crime-filled romance... but when compared to Leonard's other books it seems bad. Something just didn't click (for me) with the characters in this novel.

Gold Coast is typical Elmore Leonard fare, full of sleazy characters and dialogue to match. Here the story involves Karen DiCilia whose husband Frank, a local Florida mafia-type, dies leaving her a large sum of money. But Frank is possessive even from the grave and puts a stipulation in his will that Karen cannot be involved with other men. Karen learns of this arrangement through Ed Grossi who manages the trust. Grossi hires Roland Crowe, an ex-con, as the enforcer to monitor Karen's behavior. Accordingly, whenever Karen gets involved with a man Crowe scares him off. That is until Calvin Maguire comes into the picture. Cal works at a local seaworld where dolphins perform tricks. He becomes involved with Karen and the story proceeds from there with the usual

amount of gore and tough talk found in a Leonard book. In the end justice, Elmore Leonard style, prevails. This is pure escapism and generally up to (or down to, depending on your point of view) of an Elmore Leonard book. If you are a fan of Leonard or of this type of crime fiction you will enjoy Gold Coast. You may well enjoy it also as a break from more serious reading.

There is no such thing as a bad Elmore Leonard story. This was a great story of a mob widow who lives like Rapunzel in an ivory tower. She's untouchable and lonely until an ex-con comes onto the scene. The story is funny and entertaining. The only problem was the end - it just hung there.

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