



Blood Harbor

Rick Chesler

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Matt Knox managed to reach middle age without ever breaking a law. So far as he is aware, he has never transcended the law, ever, no matter how trivial. He will not step outside the lines of a crosswalk. He refuses to take the "creative" tax write-offs suggested to him by professional advisers. He will not opt to get away with anything simply because he can. Until now. When a local crime gang forces Matt into helping them rob a museum in order to take advantage of his holier than thou reputation, the floodgates Matt has carefully erected on the river of his true self come crashing down. His first targets: the criminals who unleashed his monster within. Their gruesome demises put a charming, California seaside town on extreme edge. But once the common criminals are dealt with, Matt struggles to put a stop to his new-found addiction, and a local cop, recently fired for being on the take, fights to convince the townspeople that Matt "The Saint" Knox is not at all what he seems.

Blood Harbor Details

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Author : Rick Chesler

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From Reader Review Blood Harbor for online ebook

Pat says

Great little thriller. Matt Knox, shy, never in trouble, yacht salesman find himself caught up in a robbery on his local museum. Once over though, the mild mannered salesman finds he has a taste for crime and wants to get the robbers back and claim their loot. In his way is recently disgraced and dismissed cop Jeremy Washington. Now unemployed and with a family to support he sees an opportunity to find the loot and claim the reward that goes with it. Rick Chesler has crafted an exciting and gripping thriller that twists and weaves to its conclusion.

Barry Simiana says

Good book!!!

Leaving Tara Shores to fight her own battles for a while, Rick Chesler paints a picture of what happens when good things go bad - people, situations, life in general. Too easy to drop spoilers, so will try not to here.

Still tied to the ocean but a slight departure from what you may expect from Mr Chesler, here we have action, adventure, some downright cunning and a few nasty surprises. I especially liked the one near the end (it doesn't really change the outcome much, but it was a surprise to me!).

Come take a look. Watch a life dissolve i the pages. The yin/yang symbol shows that to be balanced both good and evil must contain a touch of each. Here we get to see what happens when the balance is off and how it can swing disasterously the other way.

It's a good book. Trust me.

PS: Thanks for the note in the front as well, Rick. Consider me a Constant Reader.

Lynn says

I have become such a fan of Rick Chesler! This book, not in his Tara Shores series, introduces a type of vengeance one can only imagine. The development of a criminal mind in someone who had previously been so completely 'squeaky clean' is quick and thorough.

Matt Knox, the main character, once involved in a crime after being kidnapped, suddenly unleashes every demon that had ever hidden in his mind. You can almost hear the wheels turning as he plans to retaliate for what he was forced to do and you can see how, with each new crime, he becomes more narcissistic, thinking he will never be caught. It is a psychological development that, at once, is incomprehensible and yet, also seems to be 'normal.'

Rick Chesler has done it again, allowing me to escape my reality to become involved in a life I would never expect to experience.

Gina says

Matt "the Saint" Knox is an upstanding citizen with a great family and a yacht-selling business in a small California town. But a simple test cruise takes a wrong turn and Matt is forced at gunpoint to rob a local museum. The criminal act reveals a new side to Matt - the fantastical criminal side he's kept at bay all his life. Beginning with getting revenge on the men who forced him into thievery, Matt lets his inner demons loose with disturbing results.

The story starts out slow and there's a lot of repetition in establishing Matt's character as the goody-goody. About a quarter of the way through, though, it picks up speed and doesn't let up. The book is not for the squeamish and it probably could have benefited from a more thorough edit or a really good beta read, but it's a great ride that will definitely leave you breathless.

Sara M. says

****I received this book for free through goodreads first reads****

Matt "The Saint" Knox lives at Sandy Cove. He has kids and a beautiful wife, and an almost compulsion to follow the law.

He starts off with thinking violent acts, "mind crimes" - things that t he could potentially do if he were brave enough.

His first illegal act happens when he docks a boat next to private property. He is forced to do so by Sal, one of the local thugs that was supposedly trying to take the boat for a test run.

With the help of a few other men, Matt is forced to rob a local maritime museum. While he's there, he steals something for himself- an old gun, which still works. He doesn't want to admit it, but he finds that he gets a thrill from the illegal act.

He later lowers his standards a little, and shoplifts a key-chain light from a shop. After this, he speeds and runs a red light.

Not long after, he snaps and goes to Sal's apartment to kill him because of what he forced him to do. This death leads to a downwards spiral, in which he is filled with murderous rage against all the men that were with him on the day of the robbery. The problem is that no-one believes that Matt, "The Saint" Knox, could ever commit these crimes.

This novel was a quite enjoyable read, and has the potential to become popular. The only major criticism that I have is that occasionally the wording was hard to understand. Things to do with boats were described in quite a lot of detail, to the point that someone who doesn't deal with boats wouldn't have a clue what was happening.

For example, on page 212, there is this: "Samson engaged the trolling motor to finagle the craft into a finger dock on the perimeter of their little section of marina."

Although it's sometimes confusing, it's still a book worth reading, so that's why I'm rating it 4/5 stars.

