



The Coaster

Erich Wurster

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Bob Patterson considers himself an Everyman - albeit an Everyman with a rich, beautiful wife, two good kids, and a mail-in job that ignores his law degree. Despite his good fortune, Bob is idling through life, bored at work and at home. In short, he is the proverbial Coaster.

Bob's wife, Sarah, is the anointed heir to the empire built by her father, Sam, a kind of Kansas City, Missouri, Warren Buffet. Fine by Bob, the family soccer mom. But early one morning he and Sarah awake to terrible news.

Sam's death reveals he appointed Bob to be the trustee of his personal fortune and, as the IRS currently has it, he'll be in charge of his mother-in-law's money. Even more terrifying, Bob realizes he faces the prospect of actually working all day, for stakes that matter.

Is the reappearance of Bob's wildest fraternity brother from college and a proposal from a bland businessman with a plan that seems too good to be true mere coincidence? A businessman who refuses to take No for an answer. After a lifetime of choosing the path of least resistance, will Bob finally take a stand when his family needs him most? If so, where?

Bob peppers his story with sports and pop culture references and wry commentary on everything from the sex lives of married couples (such as they are) to the enormous cost of being "honored" at a charitable event. Bob knows what the hero should do in the situations he encounters (he's read the books and seen the movies, too). He doesn't have "a very particular set of skills" or a secret past in the Special Forces. He's just a regular guy who handles extreme pressure and threats to his family about like you'd expect (not well). It's going to take all he's got (really, more than he's got) to raise his game. Fortunately he's got an ace-in-the-hole...at home.

Darkly comic, *The Coaster* turns the conventions of the mystery/suspense genre upside down.

The Coaster Details

Date : Published August 2nd 2016 by Poisoned Pen Press (first published July 5th 2016)

ISBN : 9781464205668

Author : Erich Wurster

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Genre : Fiction, Mystery, Humor, Comedy, Murder Mystery

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From Reader Review The Coaster for online ebook

Courtney Jehle says

The Coaster is a laugh-out-loud page-turner! I read the book in two days because I couldn't stop laughing and couldn't stop wondering what ridiculous thing would happen next. Wurster's self-deprecating sarcasm and over-the-top (politically incorrect) similes had me smiling the whole time. Can't wait for his next book!

(Also - unrelated note - does his writing remind anyone else of Jonathan Tropper's? {one of my favorite authors

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Aug 22, 2017 Jen rated it it was ok

I didn't know how to rate this book. I could only read 1/2 of it and when the main review on the cover says "The Coaster is a guilty pleasure" I should've maybe paid attention.

I actually liked the book so how would I rate it if I didn't have to stop reading probably 4 stars. But when you have to read it because there are so many crude parts then you rate it 2 stars.

When you are reading and you're like hmm...every page you realize you just have to stop.

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Jun 21, 2018 Robert Knotts rated it really liked it

Interesting read. Main character seemed to fall into every possible mistake and eventually come out on top. Maybe... Definitely not an earth-shattering story but entertaining. The internal dialogue the main character has with himself definitely entertained me. Although sometimes he went into a little too much detail. (over-detailed??) Is that a term???

Definitely kept my interest.

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Sep 29, 2017 Audrey rated it liked it

Shelves: audiobooks, reader-s-choice, mystery-action-thriller, 2017-books

3.5? stars

This book defies categorization and is hard to rate. I think the author began with the premise, What's the craziest mid-life crisis someone could have? The first half read like contemporary fiction, and then it turned into a sort of thriller. I guess this is because there's a lot of setup that pays off later as far as clues go. I laughed out loud a lot through the whole thing; I think the author and I have very similar ways of thinking.

I liked how the main character was middle-aged. Tha

...more

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Sep 04, 2017 Amy Chamberlain rated it really liked it

Every now and then, my library's Reader's Choice books pull me away from my other planned reading. These are always recently-published books that the librarians have flagged as worth a read, and they are almost always right. Trust your librarians!

This is a pure, fun popcorn book--which is exactly how it's advertised. Are there a few plot points that strain credulity? Sure. Is the dialogue less than inspired in places? Yep. If you go in expecting Shakespeare or Austen, you'll be disappointed. But

...more

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Jun 28, 2017 Chris McGowan rated it it was amazing

(Audiobook June 2017) - Just when I was about to stop going off my "to read list", I pulled this one while browsing the shelves. I am SOOOOO glad I did. This one hit me at the right time. It is a mystery that borders heavily on a comedy, at least the main character was hilarious to me. A perfect summer read/listen. Will have to check out more by this author.

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Jul 18, 2017 Susan rated it really liked it · review of another edition

This was very entertaining. I liked the self deprecating, good natured protagonist. The bad guys were bad enough to take seriously but not too disturbing. I liked that his marriage was really better than he made it out to be at the beginning. His wife was a good character as well. Four solid stars!

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May 01, 2016 Andrew rated it it was amazing

Really enjoyed this book. The author's laconic tone, humor keen observations and fast paced writing kept me reading. Will look for other books by this author.

flag 1 like · Like · see review

Nov 05, 2017 Miriam Wilcox rated it it was amazing

This book is not high literature, but it's funny and whitty and a delicious guilty pleasure.

flag 1 like · Like · see review

Sep 22, 2017 Nicole rated it liked it

I felt like there was too much sarcasm in this book. It was good, but everything was a joke to this guy. This book was a lot more serious than I thought it would be too. Too much was going on and all I could think was, why is no one going to the police? FBI? It was quite ridiculous. This guy had a good head on his shoulders. He may be the laziest man alive, but he was smart. I like that the typical things didn't happen such as caving and coverup. The typical stuff happened at least what I expect

...more

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Apr 29, 2018 Jenna rated it it was ok

2.5 stars

It was different.

Not sure if there was really a story. It was more like observations on upper-middle class lifestyles.

But it was witty nevertheless with smartly written narrative.

And I found it a nice twist to hear from a male point of view on issues such as marriage, kids (ie soccer mom duties), romance, etc.

Also, this was classified as a mystery but I don't think that was applicable.
It's more of a "dark/black" comedy with some criminal elements.
Unfortunately, once the "crime" becomes

...more

flag Like · see review

Jul 14, 2017 Suzanne rated it it was ok

Shelves: readers-choice

If you think of the dialogue as screen play like from a 40s potboiler, that helps and I was entertained, but I couldn't buy that a regular joe who has lived an uneventful life thus far would do the things Patterson ends up doing. *Spoiler Alert* Patterson's disposition of the last body doesn't even make sense at all because he had the dirt on this guy to manage his problem legally. And while he is managing the "problem" his wife goes to bed -- to sleep -- knowing that someone threatening the fam ...more

flag Like · see review

Dec 13, 2016 Debra Daniels-zeller rated it really liked it

Shelves: fiction, humor

This novel defies categories--maybe you could call it a humorous thriller. The main character, Bob Patterson, an under achiever was laugh out loud funny, and even though his wife wasn't all that likable, the story kept me turning the pages. Bob's wealthy father in law and boss suddenly dies and Bob finds himself in charge of the family trust and running the company. When an old college buddy comes to town and talks Bob into drinking with him, the story takes a sinister unexpected turn. The twist ...more

flag Like · see review

Aug 06, 2017 Jeanne rated it liked it

Not sure where the recommendation came from, but I found the author's dry wit and droll delivery quite entertaining. Despite some of the raunchiness and far-fetched plot angles, I enjoyed it more than I thought I would, especially Bob's self-deprecating humor. Definitely not for everyone, but as a debut novel, I think there may be some talent here.

flag Like · see review

May 26, 2017 AD rated it really liked it

4.5 stars

The Coaster is an entertaining novel of a guy who is forced to become trustee of his recently deceased father-in-laws estate. But things get complicated. I loved the main character and his family. I look forward to more books from this author.

flag Like · see review

Nov 08, 2017 Julie rated it liked it

This character Bob is very interesting and we see how he is required to take on new responsibilities.

flag Like · see review

May 31, 2017 Kristin rated it really liked it

I really loved this. It's funny, smart, and goes by in a jiff. Bonus points for a local author writing for an independent press!

flag Like · see review

Feb 05, 2018 Dave rated it liked it

There was a dark humor to this and it turned out to be more action packed than I expected. It was an enjoyable and quick read.

flag Like · see review

May 13, 2018 Amber Schroer rated it liked it

Very different than my normal

flag Like · see review

Jul 31, 2017 Andy Plonka rated it really liked it · review of another edition

Shelves: src

Quirky, humorous, and clever. An admirable debut.

flag Like · see review

Nov 05, 2017 Chris rated it liked it

It was actually a fun character who developed nicely and was fun, BUT the language was just a little out of my comfort zone which made the book a star lower than it would have scored otherwise

flag Like · see review

Nov 07, 2016 Steve Schimpler rated it it was amazing

Excellent story - a great guilty pleasure like the cover stated! When can we expect book nr two? Funny and witty. Dry humor is my kind! Keep up the great work, Mr. Wurster!

flag Like · see review

Aug 07, 2017 Laurie rated it liked it

the beginning dragged for me, but it quickly picked up and I loved the self deprecating humor

flag Like · see review

Sep 29, 2017 Mahati rated it liked it

entering and funny in its observations of the mundane elements of life but not the greatest plot and a little ridiculous.

flag Like · see review

Feb 23, 2017 Jeff rated it really liked it

Funny and lots of fun

flag Like · see review

Aug 06, 2018 Katina rated it it was ok

Shelves: listened-to

Actually closer to 2.5. Started out great, but then got so ridiculous and unbelievable.

flag Like · see review

May 28, 2018 Jan rated it really liked it

This story was fun. I enjoyed the read very much. I like a book that both entertains and has a somewhat believable plot. This book had it all.

flag Like · see review

May 06, 2018 Rhonda Coale rated it it was amazing

Shelves: read-in-2018

This is by far one of the funniest books I have ever read. I laughed out loud throughout this book, thanks to the author's hilarious wit. I read it in a day.

flag Like · see review

Jami says

This book is definitely different! I was totally entertained by the character of Bob throughout the book; his observations and humor kept me laughing. There is a mystery/suspense aspect to the book, but the real treat is Bob's take on life, his wife, and others that he encounters along the way. There was one part where Bob catches up on the internet headlines (this is what he does to create the appearance of being busy at work) and says that Donald Trump is thinking of running for president; in parentheses, he asks if this is a joke. Ah, to be back in that time of innocence....

Van Reese says

This book started off crude, then it got lewd, and then it was just ludicrous. It did end up being an okay story, but overall, for me it balanced at three stars. I started this book because it had good ratings in a readers choice contest at the local library. I am not seeing it, unless all the votes were by frat boys.
