



Sorrow's Anthem

Michael Koryta

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In the beginning it was all about money. Then things got personal.

This is the story that Ed Gradduk tells his best friend, and private investigator, Lincoln Perry. Ed is on the run, hiding from the police who intend to arrest him for arson and murder.

When Gradduk is killed in a violent confrontation with police, Perry cannot shake his friend's death and vows to understand the forces that brought him down.

With an intense exploration of both character and crime, *Sorrow's Anthem* establishes Michael Koryta as one of the top young mystery writers in America today.

Sorrow's Anthem Details

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Author : Michael Koryta

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From Reader Review Sorrow's Anthem for online ebook

Jan says

A well crafted plot has Lincoln Perry reaching into his past for clues to help a childhood friend who is violently killed. There are those who don't want past secrets uncovered and are willing to kill to avoid that resurrection which puts Perry in the thick of things.

Judy says

Private Investigator, Lincoln Perry determines that his childhood friend has been wrongly accused of killing a woman who was found in a burned house from a fire police think Ed Gradduk set. Perry's partner, Joe, agrees to help Perry investigate the arson. But Gradduk is killed, and Perry believes the police is responsible for his death. It is an interesting mystery with some close calls for Perry. At first I didn't think this second of a series was as good as the first. I do like the partnership between Perry and partner Joe. As I reflect a few days later, I give it 3 1/2 star. I am enjoying Michael Koryta's writing.

David says

too much backstory moves the plot from current excitement. the protagonist, linc perry, is over emotional and not particularly bright. he should have been killed at several points in the book. reminded me steven segal winning a gunfight against several men with machine-guns. when he charges into the bar at the end he should have died. please kill him next time? he has no personality.

David says

Michael Koryta continues to deliver with this Lincoln Perry mystery. Equally at home in supernatural thrillers, this series is pure noir, set in Cleveland and would make Dashell Hammett proud with the two gumshoes and Dennis Lehane proud with the slimeball villains. Koryta uses this second novel of the series to delve more into Perry's past particularly as it relates to his old neighborhood and why he moved away. Excellent mystery.

LJ says

SORROW's ANTHEM (Private Investigator-Cleveland, OH-Cont) – VG

Koryta, Michael – 2nd in series

Thomas Dunne Books, 2006- Hardcover

Private investigator Lincoln Perry's childhood friend, Ed Gradduck has been videotaped leaving an arson fire; a house containing the body of a murdered woman. Lincoln and Ed have been estranged for years, but Lincoln doesn't believe his friend is guilty and offers to help Ed. Ed bolts and is run over by the police. But

was it accidental or did the police want to keep Ed quiet.

*** Koryta's second book is a solid follow on to his first. I really enjoy the contrast of Perry, the not-yet-30 investigator and his partner, Joe Pritchard retired after 30 years on the police force. But this was definitely Perry's story and really a story of friendship. The author uses fire and weather well to add tension and to build the suspense to an exciting climax. The story is very well plotted with excellent dialogue. I loved the explanation for the books title and look forward to more books in this series.

Matt Allen says

There's a lot to like about how Michael Koryta turns a phrase.

Koryta once again takes the familiar ground of the PI mystery and populates it with his own unique characters and narrative. He has that knack to strike a deep chord with the perfect phrase. His prose--deep, but not overcooked--made me smile in appreciation multiple times. It's hitting that inner tuning fork that gives the reader a genuine and relatable experience, and Koryta proves he can do it in Sorrow.

But we're not only here for fancy wording. How's the story? Just fine. Lincoln Perry and his surrounding cast are aptly engaging, the plot complex enough to entertain throughout, and enough of a web of connection to keep you both interested and surprised in a few places. The world of this series grows in a significant way in Sorrow, one that readers can appreciate and sense real change in its characters. The plot slowed a tad near the end, but the authenticity in the way the story played out was commendable.

It's enough for me to know that an author can make the familiar so unique that I'll be back for more. It's starting to look to me like Michael Koryta is a name you can bank on for suspense and mystery.

Recommended for mystery/PI fans and those who like their stories with resounding echoes of the past and what might have been.

Sheila says

An old friend of Lincoln's is accused of murder by arson. Lincoln sets out to clear him.

gert says

god, I am so behind on reviewing my summer reads. so behind. but wanted to get this one in before I forgot (when I let them pile up, at most they'll get a star rating!)

loved it. but unfortunately, like so many series, not as much as the first. but what really got me - made me want to remember to write a review - is the subtle and pretty writing. don't get me wrong - this here be a smash'em/shoot'em detective book, complete with the expected snappy dialogue. but there are bits that highlight a wee bit more of a literary vibe. the title is one of them. both in its description, but also as it represents a specific memory. this book is all about memories, and it did give me many moments pause - how loyal are my memories of my childhood? how accurate? do I still count on the people I did then? can

they count on me?

anyway - recommend this one, as well as the first book without reservation. am currently on the third, and finding it a bit of a slog. so not sure how long it'll be before that puppy gets reviewed.

Susanhayeshotmail.com says

Ooops. Forgot to review this one when I finished. Second in a series, good solid mystery/thriller. The thing that elevated the star factor was the idea of memories and childhood. How much of what we remember from our childhood is true, how much of what happens during our childhood do we misunderstand or just plain miss. So, you get a little more bang for your thriller buck with this one if you care too look.

Naima says

Good book. The ending was not what I expected.

Jorge Fernandez says

Un buen libro de suspenso, una trama bastante convincente, que engancha, con detalles que se podían mejorar, como el incendio del bar (bastante floja esta parte). Pero en líneas generales, es entretenido y cumple con el objetivo de mantener el suspense hasta el final

Angélica says

Un poco decepcionante. Esperaba algo con más emoción, la verdad.

Josh says

The second novel to feature former cop and current PI Lincoln Perry, throws the exuberant justice dealer into a world of conman, police corruption and killers of past and present. This time round, the case is personal and a little hard to believe - Lincoln's childhood friend Ed Gradduk is accused of murder and arson. Without provocation, Lincoln jumps at the chance to clear his friends name (with whom he hadn't been in contact with for 10yrs). Despite this, Koryta does establish a method to the madness via a backstory which would be well served as an independent book in its own right (perhaps as a prequel to 'Tonight I Said Goodbye'). Slowly the reasons for Lincoln's cause become apart if not a little unbelievable, however, the action and intertwining past and present plot more than account for this. It should be noted that Koryta is somewhat tongue in cheek when it comes to Lincolns sudden need for involvement which suited the author's style well but perhaps not the over enthusiastic and sometimes hot-headed PI's persona. Of the bit players, I felt Lincoln's partner, Joe a retired veteran cop, could've been used more - he often came across as two-dimensional and didn't really add much to the story apart from providing a link to information associated

with some corrupt cops via his former contacts on the force. While Amy, a reporter and close friend of Lincoln, was a nice cameo with the tension between them evident throughout the novel. If I were to classify this within the parameters of genre fiction, I'd lean more towards thriller than hardboiled PI, Koryta is a great writer of urban close combat action and 'Sorrow's Anthem' is a perfect example. 3 stars.

Side note - I love the title which is derived from police and ambulance sirens in the night - they play a sorrow's anthem. Nice.

Cyvil B. says

a good read with action and twist along the way.

Victoria Mcvicker says

After reading some of his later works, I've gone back and am reading them all. This is his second book and the second in the Lincoln Perry series - and it did not disappoint. Love his storytelling.
