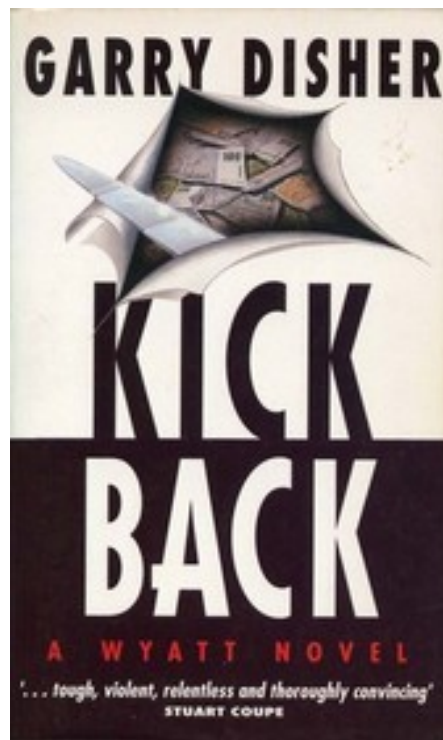




Kickback

Garry Disher

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Kickback Garry Disher

Reprint of a thriller first published in 1991, featuring Wyatt, a stylish bank robber whose inscrutable methods ensure he never gets caught - until he meets Anna Reid. The author is the editor of the "Personal Best" anthologies.

Kickback Details

Date : Published March 1st 1994 by Allen & Unwin (first published 1991)

ISBN : 9781863735919

Author : Garry Disher

Format : Paperback 200 pages

Genre : Mystery, Crime, Cultural, Australia, Fiction, Thriller

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From Reader Review Kickback for online ebook

MickPro says

Fast paced, mean as nails, thief bad guy Wyatt is the hero, who's easy to support, in spite of his lack of charisma. He does his job and moves on.

Mary says

Wyatt is a professional. He is organised, thoughtful, a good planner and a loner. He is also a criminal. He is not a talker although he can listen if he has to. He doesn't approve of using violence in his jobs but don't cross him. He has a nice property in the hills and he has regular overseas holidays. Until recently he has done a big job every six months or so to fund his lifestyle. Unfortunately things are changing and coming a little unravelled. Now he is trying to put together a job in Melbourne with the right people and the right supports. But things are not turning out as planned.

Garry Disher is such a good writer. Wyatt is an antihero without being obnoxious or nasty. And I thoroughly enjoyed this book. The characterisation of not only Wyatt but all the characters is great. The dialogue is excellent. And the plot is also very good.

This book was published in 1994 and is great to read a theft plot that does not rely on digital technology. There is also an element of nostalgia, which I enjoyed.

Recommended.

Karen says

There's a new Wyatt on the way, and that means it's as good a time as any to do a little tidying up of the back catalogue.

Wyatt is a very careful man, because he has to be. Wyatt robs banks, lifts payrolls, gets girls, leaves girls, lives the life of a loner, trusts few, works out the details and thinks a job through. He regards his criminal activities as his job, he's very professional. He doesn't like surprises, he doesn't like hot heads and half wits, mind you, he can handle them when he needs to.

Kickback is the first Wyatt novel from renowned Australian writer Garry Disher. Unusual in Australian crime fiction, these books are about the crimes and the criminals. In KICKBACK in particular, even the victim's aren't squeaky clean. Anna Reid is a solicitor who is happy to see the robbery of her work partner's safe - she wants the money to get herself out of a financial hole. But she gets more than she bargained for when Wyatt agrees to do the job, and brings a little extra baggage along with him. Sugarfoot Younger is a young man, a bit of a cowboy in look, inclination and attitude, and he is just stupid enough to think he can play Wyatt at his own game.

Tough, violent, precise and absolutely authentic, Disher write a fantastic professional criminal in Wyatt. An

old-fashioned sort of a crim, Wyatt isn't interested in collateral damage - to himself or his victim's, but don't for a moment think that he's beyond ruthlessness if he needs to protect his own skin.

The current Wyatt novels are:

- * Kickback (1991)
 - * Paydirt (1992)
 - * Deathdeal (1993)
 - * Crosskill (1994)
 - * Port Vila Blues (1996)
 - * The Fallout (1997)
-

Jon Florey says

This is an entertaining book, a bit like Donald Westlake writing as Richard Stark. The main character is an amoral thief and murderer, but then that describes pretty much everyone in this alternative universe. You will enjoy the book more than I did if your will suspension of disbelief extends that far. Mine doesn't, but the characters are well-drawn and the plot moves along well and plausibly.

Randy says

Wyatt is doing an insurance job for Ivan Younger and has kid brother Sugarfoot foisted off on him "to get him experience." It is a simple job and Wyatt has a list of the pieces to be taken. All they had to deal with is an elderly housekeeper.

Wyatt ties her comfortably in a chair, reassuring her all will be well. He leaves Sugarfoot to look after things while he goes after the "shopping" list.

When he gets back, the housekeeper is dead, a mark on her face, and Sugarfoot looking smug. Wyatt leaves everything and they leave, against Sugarfoot's protests. To be caught with stolen goods where someone died is crazy, but the kid doesn't get it.

Wyatt is tempted to kill him. Ivan understands leaving the goods, but refuses to pay what he'd promised.

Ever the professional, Wyatt leaves and moves on to another, more promising job. Sugarfoot is outraged and plans revenge for his humiliation, keeping stepping in and straining Wyatt's nerves.

There's a double cross, more going on than Wyatt knows, a hitman on the new team's trail, the Australian mob, a couple of cops.

It's enough to make a man want retirement.

Lee Goldberg says

I don't know why Gary Disher isn't well-known over here... his WYATT books are simply wonderful. This is required reading for Willeford, Westlake, and Thomas Perry fans. FALL OUT is the last book in the series... so start at the beginning with KICKBACK and you won't be sorry. I read all six books in the series in one stretch and was sad when it was over.

Maddy says

PROTAGONIST: Wyatt

SETTING: Australia

SERIES: #1 of 7

RATING: 4.0

WHY: Wyatt is a professional thief whose hit on some hard times. The jobs just aren't coming in, and he's been forced to take on a few that he normally would not have. But finally, there's what appears to be a decent job ahead, stealing a lawyer's safe that is full of hush money. Wyatt isn't entirely happy with the crew that he is working with. He's a no-nonsense thief who focuses on the task at hand without emotion. If you cross him, he'll kill you. Uncharacteristically, he's found himself interested in the female lawyer who set up the job. This is the book that introduced Wyatt, and it's a good one.

Ged Gillmore says

Short but hard-nosed and punchy, just the way I like them. Disher uses minimum brush strokes to create fully-formed characters and little scenic details that sing with timeless truth. Fast pacing keeps the plot always one step ahead of the reader, the story tight and taut to the very last page. Read it in two days and immediately bought the next in the series.

Jim says

A quick, fun read - definitely a homage to Stark's Parker, just set in Australia. Not quite as well done, but I have high hopes that they'll get better, so I'm going to read another. Wyatt is an interesting character, same as Parker, but a little more human. He has the same employment & issues with it. This one was good & twisty, a lot of the same sort of issues that would haunt Parker.

DunklesSchaf says

Wyatt hält sich mit zwei, drei guten Jobs im Jahr über Wasser, so dass er meist einige Monate in sonnigen Gefilden verbringen kann. Gut geplante Arbeit für einige Wochen, Erholung und Ruhe für einige Monate. Als nun Anna Reid, eine Anwältin, ihren Partner ausnehmen will, kommt der Auftrag Wyatt ganz recht. Das Team besteht noch aus Hobba und Pederson, so dass die Beute von 300.000 Dollar durch vier zu teilen ist.

Dummerweise kleben danach nicht nur die eigentlichen Eigentümer des Geldes an seinen Fersen, die den Profi Bauer auf ihn hetzen, sondern auch die Brüder Ivan und Sugarfoot Younger, die noch eine Rechnung mit ihm offen haben. Vor allem Sugarfoot, der Wyatts letzten Raubzug vermasselt hat und von ihm eine Abreibung erhalten hat, giert auf Rache.

Wyatt ist kein Mann der großen Worte, auch Lächeln liegt ihm nicht. Er hat so gut wie kein Vertrauen in seine Mitmenschen, in seine Teamkollegen sowieso schon gar nicht. Und mit den Frauen, ach, da will er schon gar keine tiefere Bindung. Ein paar unverfängliche Nächte und schon ist es vorbei. Also zumindest kann er sich mehr gerade nicht vorstellen, wobei... na ja. Mit den neuen Techniken hat er es auch nicht so. Dafür ist er klug, vorausschauend und eiskalt. Er ist jederzeit bereit, seine Partner um die Ecke zu bringen, wenn der Plan schief läuft. Aber er ist so fair, den Plan so gut zu durchdenken, dass nichts schief läuft und er niemand umbringen muss. Das ist nämlich nicht sein Ziel. Er bringt niemand einfach so um. Nur, wenn es sein muss. Wenn eben jemand seinen gut durchdachten Plan durcheinander bringt, weil er ein größeres Stück vom Kuchen will. Oder Wyatts Anteil.

Das gefährlichste in diesem Fall sind aber nicht unbedingt Wyatts Partner, sondern alle, die danach von dem Geld etwas abhaben wollen. Allen voran Sugarfoot Younger, der dümmste unter ihnen. Dummheit gepaart mit vielen Muskeln, Waffen und einer Angeberkarre, aber leider nur Stroh im Kopf, ist eben gefährlich. Sugarfoot denkt ständig, er müsste mehr vom Leben abbekommen und Wyatt stände ihm dabei im Weg.

Aber eigentlich kann man niemand trauen. Vielleicht lese ich zu viele Krimis dieser Sorte, aber das war mir von Anfang an klar. Es ist nur so, dass man doch noch knobeln muss, wer wen übers Ohr haut. Das Buch war ein bitterböser Trip durch eine australische Stadt, deren Name nun wirklich nichts zur Sache tut, und ein erfolgreicher Raub, erfolgreich sogar im doppelten Sinne, der viel Gewalt und viele Tote nach sich zieht. Ich denke, ich verrate nicht zu viel, wenn ich sage, natürlich überlebt Wyatt das Gemetzel, denn „Gier“ ist der erste Teil einer kleinen Serie um den Berufsverbrecher. Und so zeigt sich, dass Gier einen nur das Leben kostet. Wenn man einfach nur seinen Anteil nimmt – hat man leider trotzdem viel zu tun, weil die anderen ja gierig sind. Ach, aber ganz unkompliziert soll es ja auch nicht sein – sonst macht das Lesen doch keinen Spaß.

Fazit:

Schnell, böse und hart – ganz so, wie wir unsere Krimis um die harten Kerle, die Berufsganoven, mögen.

Richard Heggie says

Pretty standard crime novel. Interesting to have a villain as the book's main protagonist.

Bookpassion says

Garry Disher ist mittlerweile bekannt für seine Kriminalromane, die hauptsächlich aus der Sicht der "Guten" spielen. Doch er kann nicht nur Cops, sondern auch Bösewichte, wie er mit "Gier" beweist.

Der Schreibstil ist noch etwas unausgereifter, als in seinen neueren Romanen, was aber nicht schlecht ist. Er kommt sofort zum Punkt und obwohl er seiner Linie treu bleibt und auch den Alltag ein wenig miteinbezieht, geht die Handlung extrem flott voran. Da ist kein Wort zuviel in die Zeilen gepackt.

Die Geschichte wird aus mehreren Perspektiven geschildert, wobei unser eiskalter Gangster Wyatt einen Großteil übernimmt, doch auch der übermütige, nicht gerade als übermäßig intelligent zu bezeichnende Sugarfoot Younger übernimmt einen wichtigen Part, indem er Wyatt und seinen Komplizen aus Rachsucht und Gier in die Parade fährt und somit für Chaos sorgt.

Daneben begleiten wir den südafrikanischen Troubleshooter Bauer bei seiner Arbeit in Melbourne - der Mann ist ein Arschloch vor dem Herrn, doch liefert wichtige Anhaltspunkte.

Die Story hält ein paar überraschende Wendungen bereit, die es spannend machten, aber teilweise plump eingesetzt wurden, indem man den Leser einfach über gewisse Dinge im Dunkeln tappen ließ oder gleich in die Irre führte. Dennoch war die Geschichte spannend und durchaus ein paar gemütliche Lesestunden wert. Gegen Ende hin waren mir dann doch etwas zu viele Schilderungen und im gesamten Roman blieben mir die Gefühle ein wenig auf der Strecke - so ganz kalt mag ich's dann auch nicht. Dennoch ein solider Kriminalroman mit Gangsterfeeling.

Bewertung und mein Fazit

Von mir gibt es 3,5 Sterne für Wyatt und seinen ersten Coup, der nicht ganz so lief, wie er sollte. Kein Buch, das man nicht aus der Hand legen kann, das aber für eine gemütliche Lesestunden sorgt.

Ein unaufgeregter Spannungsroman aus Sicht der Gangster.

HBalikov says

From Dashiell Hammett to Dan Simmons the thriller that transferred to the silver screen as the French term "film noir" had a decidedly American style. Enter Wyatt and a purely Australian version. Garry Disher has the touch. This is a taut thriller told from the criminal point of view. Wyatt is a loner who plans everything carefully but has to work with others on the "big jobs".....and "there's the rub." Disher knows crime and his novels show that he honors this genre. His writing is crisp but his characterization is well-executed. Fast and merry read for those who enjoy this stuff.

Mark says

The first of Disher's "Wyatt" series, which can be read as an Australian homage to Richard Stark's (Donald Westlake's) "Parker"--except that it's also fantastic in its own right. Wyatt is a tough, mean, methodical criminal, and you don't want to cross him. Disher writes clean, tight, but also somehow literary hard-boiled prose, and this story of a heist and assorted double-crossings is tough to put down. Highly recommended if you can find it--long OP and almost impossible to track down. As a bonus, the Aussie slang is fantastic--I was glad I'd spent some time Down Under so I could follow at least a bit of it.

Catten says

A few years ago, I discovered that my public library has a bookstore. This is very cool – I hauled a good summer's worth of reading out of there for less than \$15.

One of my finds was a book called Kickback (1991) by an Australian named Garry Disher. This is the first of the Wyatt Series (Wyatt is the main character). My first and lasting impression was that if Elmore Leonard was an Aussie, this is what he'd write. The Wyatt thrillers have been called a landmark in Australian crime writing, according to Harper Collins Publishers.

The mid-north of South Australia is the setting. Except for some of the terminology, however, the city could be any US metropolitan area. Wyatt is a professional robber and in the Leonard tradition is the coolest character in the book. He has a young Clint Eastwood thing going: He's quiet, watchful, careful, and sharp. Wyatt has no close friends and he keeps an eye on his associates. You can't help but respect him and the way he operates.

The story is crisp, well-plotted, and has a few unexpected twists. A heist is complicated by a surly cowboy named Sugarfoot Younger who is out for his piece of the action and personal revenge. The book is a quick and fun read that flows smoothly and effortlessly. As a writer, I'm jealous.
