



The Devil's Laughter

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Something funny's going on in Louisiana's backwoods . . .

Someone in LaGrange has stirred up something truly evil. From beyond, demonic messengers emerge out of the fires of Hell itself, to ignite an orgy of chaos, murder, and bloody destruction.

But the Devil was the only one laughing . . .

Town veterinarian Link Donovan (former CIA) and Sheriff Ray Ingalls have grave premonitions that the ungodly laughter they heard echoing through the woods meant this was only the beginning. Once they root out the rich folk whose meddling released the minions of Satan, they recruit a band of God-fearing locals like themselves ready to battle—and obliterate—whatever face of evil dares to cross their paths.

The Devil's Laughter Details

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Author : William W. Johnstone

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From Reader Review The Devil's Laughter for online ebook

Dre Mosley says

If you've read the previous entries in the "Devil" series, then you will likely find this one to be disappointing. Just like the previous books, you have a small town that is at the center of a battle between Good and Evil. You have a town full of devil worshipers and you have a small, select group of good guys that are to be the foils to the Devil's plans(whatever they may be). In the previous books, you got to know certain characters, Sam Balon Sr., his wife, and their son Sam Balon Jr and his wife the half human, half Devil Nydia(who happens to be a good guy regardless). You also got to know the devil's vile, yet beautiful daughter who's mission in life was to end the Balons.

In "The Devil's Laughter" you don't have any of these characters; there is a passing comment about Sam and Nydia and that's about it. In this story, you have a new character, the gun-totin' no-nonsense, cold-as-ice, Lincoln Donovan(known as "Link.") Link is the central protagonist in this book.

Link is someone who's done a little of everything and he is greatly disliked by many people for whatever reason Oh, and he loves guns; seems like every other page, the author is describing the model and caliber of whatever weapon he happens to be carrying at the time.

The setup was the same as all the others, the town is under the thrall of Satan and the town is blocked off from the outside world , so no help is coming, so all the good guys have to posse up and take on the forces of Satan and defeat him.

See, what the previous books had going for them is that they were vile, trashy, campy, and fun. That's not on display here, it seems like the writer wanted to take a more serious tone. You also get a lopsided view of the bad guys; the writer focuses a lot on Link and Link unfortunately is a dull loner of a character; you didn't get that good of a picture on the bad guys as you did in the previous entries. Johnstone used Link as a mouth piece for the Ultra-Right Winger and it got old.

I could have done without this entry because it added nothing; at least with the previous ones, I was wanting to read the next book. I have no interest in the further adventures of Mr. Link Donovan.

Thomas Ballein says

A swing and a miss

First off the book was written 30 plus years ago but being dated does not make up for terrible writing the characters were hollow undeveloped it is so bad it is hard to get to the end but you just want it to be over.

Katie Weigle says

Great story, good characters, well told and I recommend it!

I liked a lot and only disliked some of the needless chatter in between but great story...All were complex and well put together however. I know it sounds far fetched, but if ur a person who has a personal relationship with God, u may well not think it's as fantastic as the faithless....food for thought!!!

Chrissy54202 says

Read this book years ago, and it's pretty much just as I remember.

Ghyn says

I would say this is the best he has ever written and the best horror novel I have ever read. I have read maybe 6 from Johnstone's horror collection and this has to be the best one and he is my favorite author. His works are very graphic and riveting!

Thee_ron_clark says

This is the final installment in Johnstone's Devil's series of books. Oddly enough, he strays from the characters introduced in the past installments (aside from a brief mention) to bring us a new character; Link. Link, much like the other protagonists in this series is a military vet and overall bad ass. Aside from that, he is a social outcast and an animal lover which made me like his character more than the two Sams from the previous books.

Much like the other books in the series, the main plot is the same; a coven of Satanists is taking control of a remote community through supernatural means and a group of good folks band together to put an end to it.

Some changes are that the supernatural beasts of the previous novels do not appear. Nor do any of the surviving antagonists from previous stories.

I really enjoyed reading this. I found that Johnstone has become less preachy with each of these novels and enjoyed some of the new characters introduced. I definitely would have enjoyed reading more of this series had the author lived to write them.

Oh well. It's a good send-off to an interesting series. And, much like television's The Shield there is only so much you can do with a repetitive storyline anyway.

Felicia Jackson says

Good

This was a fairly good ending to the series. This is part of a horror series. It will keep you up at night.

Neil Davis says

A good read, even though the Balon family isn't in it.
