



The Whites: A Novel

By Richard Price, Harry Brandt

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The electrifying tale of a New York City police detective under siege-by an unsolved murder, by his own dark past, and by a violent stalker seeking revenge.

Back in the run-and-gun days of the mid-1990s, when a young Billy Graves worked in the South Bronx as part of an aggressive anti-crime unit known as the Wild Geese, he made headlines by accidentally shooting a ten-year-old boy while struggling with an angel-dusted berserker on a crowded street. Branded as a loose cannon by his higher-ups, Billy spent years enduring one dead-end posting after another. Now in his early forties, he has somehow survived and become a sergeant in Manhattan Night Watch, a small team of detectives charged with responding to all post-midnight felonies from Wall Street to Harlem. Mostly, his unit acts as little more than a set-up crew for the incoming shift, but after years in police purgatory, Billy is content simply to do his job.

Then comes a call that changes everything: Night Watch is summoned to the four a.m. fatal slashing of a man in Penn Station, and this time Billy's investigation moves beyond the usual handoff to the day tour. And when he discovers that the victim was once a suspect in the unsolved murder of a twelve-year-old boy-a savage case with connections to the former members of the Wild Geese-the bad old days are back in Billy's life with a vengeance, tearing apart enduring friendships forged in the urban trenches and even threatening the safety of his family.

Razor-sharp and propulsively written, *The Whites* introduces Harry Brandt-a new master of American crime fiction.

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Editorial Review

Review

“As unstoppable as a train coming through a tunnel... [Price] manages to give the story a fierce momentum, one that makes putting this book aside to sleep or eat or do anything else very difficult... This book literally interrupted my professional and personal life. Once in, I had to stay in and stick with it to the end.” ?*Michael Connelly, The New York Times Book Review, cover review*

“Riveting... [Price] has a knack for using...detective work the way John le Carré has used spy stories and tradecraft, as a framework on which to build complex investigations into the human soul... No one these days writes with more kinetic energy or more hard-boiled verve... A gripping police procedural and an affecting study in character and fate.” ?*Michiko Kakutani, The New York Times*

“A maze of a novel that alternates between scenes of intense introspection and scenes driven by dialogue... It is not, finally, a novel of clearly delineated solutions but a novel of conscience, fraught with ambivalence and ambiguity.” ?*Joyce Carol Oates, New Yorker*

“A masterpiece, to stand with such earlier Price classics as *Clockers* and *Lush Life*... [The Whites has] a compelling plot, yet the real joy of the book lies page by page, line by line, in its brilliant characterizations, rich detail, endless surprises, crackling dialogue, absurdist humor and panoramic portrait of endless crime breaking over the city like a tsunami.” ?*The Washington Post*

“Swift and exciting... The Whites is written by the much-praised novelist Richard Price, under the name Harry Brandt. Mr. Brandt, it is good to discover, is just as fine a writer as Mr. Price.” ?*The Wall Street Journal*

“A bravura move.... The poet of the proletariat...paint[s] an unparalleled portrait of modern urban life, with detail as rich as Dickens, and a heart as deep as Dostoyevsky. In a less refracted, distracted age, [Price] would be recognized as perhaps *the* major novelist of our times.” ?*San Francisco Chronicle*

“Price, writing as Harry Brandt, has delivered his best novel. You can no more call this extraordinary work a crime novel than you can *Crime and Punishment*... *The Whites* builds to a moving climax made overwhelming by the sheer artistic weight the author creates out of the sum of its parts.” ?*The Chicago Tribune*

“Terrific... Here's the real magic trick: The Whites is a serious book, with serious points to make, and at times it's almost unbearably sad. But it's also, often, very funny and deeply satisfying.” ?*The Seattle Times*

“An excellent novel.... Price has the novelistic equivalent of perfect pitch: he can create any variety of human character, put him in any situation and record his actions and speech with complete authenticity.... He manages to do it with compassion, with a sense that we're all bewildered, wounded creatures whose actions are a mystery to ourselves.” ?*The Denver Post*

“Richard Price is indeed a master... *The Whites* is full of the rich characters, spot-on dialogue, grim humor and distinctive insights that animate his other novels, including *Clockers* and *Lush Life*.... Price is a New York writer to the core; the raw power of this great city seeps into the lives of his characters as they struggle with grief, betrayal and shame.” ?*The Houston Chronicle*

“*The Whites* grips a reader as firmly as any cable or pay-cable cop show you can think of - plus it offers the rich texture of Price's deeply informed writing.” ?*Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*

“*The Whites* is a crackling good crime novel, one that you will stay up all night to finish. Its themes of family, honesty and the price of loyalty are beautifully done.... The writing is superb, definitely a cut above most crime thrillers. Fans of *The Wire* should pick up *The Whites*; it's a great follow-up.” ?*Auburn Citizen (Cayuga County)*

“Price enriches this story of a half-feral band of cops bonded by vengeance with depth, melancholy, and those famously keen eyes and ears.” ?*New York Magazine*

“Extraordinary... A riveting crime tale thoroughly steeped in gritty cop irony, cop slang, cop attitudes and cop justice.... *The Whites* is especially good at capturing New York City's peculiar brand of violent crime.” ?*Newsday*

“Seven years is too long for New Yorkers to wait for the next book from Richard Price but he's finally here again with a stunning NYPD novel...*The Whites* is grippingly immersive, its characters and the world they move through, indelible.” ?*New York Daily News*

“A gripping, gritty, Greek tragedy of cops, killers, and the sometimes-blurry line between them... Price is one whale of a storyteller by any name... The author skillfully manipulates [his] multiple story lines for peak suspense, as his arresting characters careen toward a devastating final reckoning.” ?*Publishers Weekly (starred review)*

“This is going to be a strong contender for best crime novel of 2015.... With one-of-a-kind characters and settings so real you can smell them, Brandt plunges us into the chaos of domestic life, the true agony of a parent's grief, the cost of secrets kept and revealed. He does it all with indelible phrasing that captures both the black humor of the on-the-job cop and the give-and-take of longtime married couples. While the finely tuned story engine accelerates, it's supercharged with complications...In the end, *The Whites* isn't about cops and killers so much as it is about the damage we all carry [and] the sins we've all committed.” ?*Booklist (starred review)*

“Fasten your seat belt... Old tragedies combine with fresh ones in Brandt's steely-jawed, carefully constructed procedural. Few crime novelists are as good at taut storytelling as Richard Price ... In the wake of rage and sorrow, ordinary people respond by going crazy and screwing up. In this far-from-ordinary novel, Price/Brandt explores the hows and whys.” ?*Kirkus Reviews*

“*The Whites* is the crime novel of the year--grim, gutsy, and impossible to put down. I had to read the final 100 pages in a single sitting. I began being fascinated, and ended being deeply moved. Call him Price or Brandt, he knows everything about police life, and plenty about friendship: what your friends do for you...and what they sometimes do to you.” ?*Stephen King*

“Whether you call it a crime novel or a mystery novel or a giraffe with polka dots is largely irrelevant--*The Whites* is, simply put, a great American novel.” ?*Dennis Lehane*

“This is high-octane literature, with the best of Richard Price and his souped-up pseudonym Harry Brandt. Price/Brandt gets to the heart of those stories that everyone else refuses to tell. *The Whites* manages to patrol New York and deepen our sense of the city and all its dark corners.” ?*Colum McCann*

“Richard Price isn't fooling anybody with this Harry Brandt business; only he could have written *The Whites*. It has everything that makes his novels so wonderful--the dark humor, the intricate interleaving of character

and plot, the deep research into the science of the streets, the moral gravity and the flawless, magical dialogue. Indeed the only credible thing to be said about Harry Brandt is that he has written one of Richard Price's best books yet." ?*Michael Chabon*

About the Author

Harry Brandt is the pen name of acclaimed novelist Richard Price, whose novels-including *Clockers* and *Lush Life*-have won universal praise for their vividly etched portrayals of urban America. He lives in Manhattan with his wife, the novelist Lorraine Adams.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Armando Ceballos:

Why? Because this *The Whites: A Novel* is an unordinary book that the inside of the book waiting for you to snap it but latter it will shock you with the secret this inside. Reading this book adjacent to it was fantastic author who all write the book in such awesome way makes the content inside easier to understand, entertaining way but still convey the meaning completely. So , it is good for you for not hesitating having this anymore or you going to regret it. This excellent book will give you a lot of gains than the other book have got such as help improving your proficiency and your critical thinking approach. So , still want to delay having that book? If I ended up you I will go to the publication store hurriedly.

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