



The White Road: A Charlie Parker Thriller

By John Connolly

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Hailed as "one of the best" (*Toronto Sun*) writers of contemporary suspense fiction, international bestselling author John Connolly returns with an electrifying novel featuring his acclaimed private detective, Charlie Parker.

In South Carolina, a young black man faces the death penalty for the rape and murder of Marianne Larousse, daughter of one of the wealthiest men in the state. It's a case that nobody wants to touch, deeply rooted in old evil -- and old evil is Charlie Parker's specialty. He's about to enter a living nightmare, a dreamscape of sorrow haunted by the murderous specter of a hooded woman, by a black car waiting for a passenger that never comes, and by the sinister complicity of both friends and enemies in Larousse's brutal death. Soon, all will face a final reckoning in an unearthly realm where the paths of the living and the dead converge. A place known only as the White Road.

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

"I have learned to embrace the dead and they, in their turn, have found a way to reach out to me." It's becoming increasingly clear from pronouncements such as this that PI Charlie Parker is hardly your garden-variety mystery protagonist. In Connolly's latest spine-tingling opus (after *The Killing Kind*), readers gain further insights into the soul of this tormented man—a hero of uncommon depth and compulsions. We also learn more about Angel and Louis, Parker's longtime cronies (and gay Odd Couple) who function as Greek chorus, avenging angels and their buddy's conscience. Angel resembles "the runway model for a decorators' convention, assuming that the decorators' tastes veered toward five-six, semiretired gay burglars," while Louis possesses "six feet six inches of attitude, razor-sharp dress sense, and gay Republican pride." (Note to Connolly: how about a spin-off novel for these two idiosyncratic supporting players?) Parker's description of his newest case—"dead people, a mystery, more dead people"—exemplifies his bluntness; true to form, he's never far from a cutting remark or casual wisecrack (hearing that an especially odious character has "found Jesus," Parker observes, "I figure Jesus should be more careful about who finds Him"). When a former colleague who's practicing law in Charleston, S.C., asks for Parker's help on a racially charged murder case, Parker reluctantly leaves his Maine habitat. The South that he encounters is found in no guidebook: it's a pernicious locale where the good old boys are far from good, where country music speaks "of war and vengeance" and where one soulless individual "smelled of slow burning... like the odor left after an oil fire had just been extinguished." Adding eerie overtones to Connolly's intricately plotted tale are more of Parker's musings on the concept of death and the nature of evil—soliloquies often accompanied by spectral visions. The malevolence here is almost palpable (even more so than in Parker's earlier outings).

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From Library Journal

Things turn surreal when P.I. Charlie Parker starts investigating the ugly rape and murder of a Southern millionaire's daughter.

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From [Booklist](#)

The new Charlie Parker novel is, like the author's three previous offerings, a mixture of darkness and light. The story is reasonably dark—a young black man is accused of rape and murder, and only Charlie seems inclined to help him—but our hero himself is a lively storyteller, keeping the narrative from getting too gloomy. Even as Charlie sinks knee-deep into the case and confronts the kind of "old evil" that seems to gravitate to him, he maintains his wit and charm. The private-eye genre is overflowing with first-person narrators, but Connolly, a Shamus Award winner, manages to find new things to do within this very familiar format. Fans of the Parker novels will be well pleased. Newcomers, too, may find themselves seeking out previous series entries just so they can have the pleasure of catching up on ol' Charlie's adventures. *David Pitt*

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Madeline Williams:

Now a day people who Living in the era exactly where everything reachable by talk with the internet and the resources in it can be true or not need people to be aware of each information they get. How individuals to be smart in receiving any information nowadays? Of course the correct answer is reading a book. Examining a book can help persons out of this uncertainty Information particularly this The White Road: A Charlie Parker Thriller book since this book offers you rich data and knowledge. Of course the data in this book hundred % guarantees there is no doubt in it everbody knows.

Gene Kirkland:

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Anna Williams:

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