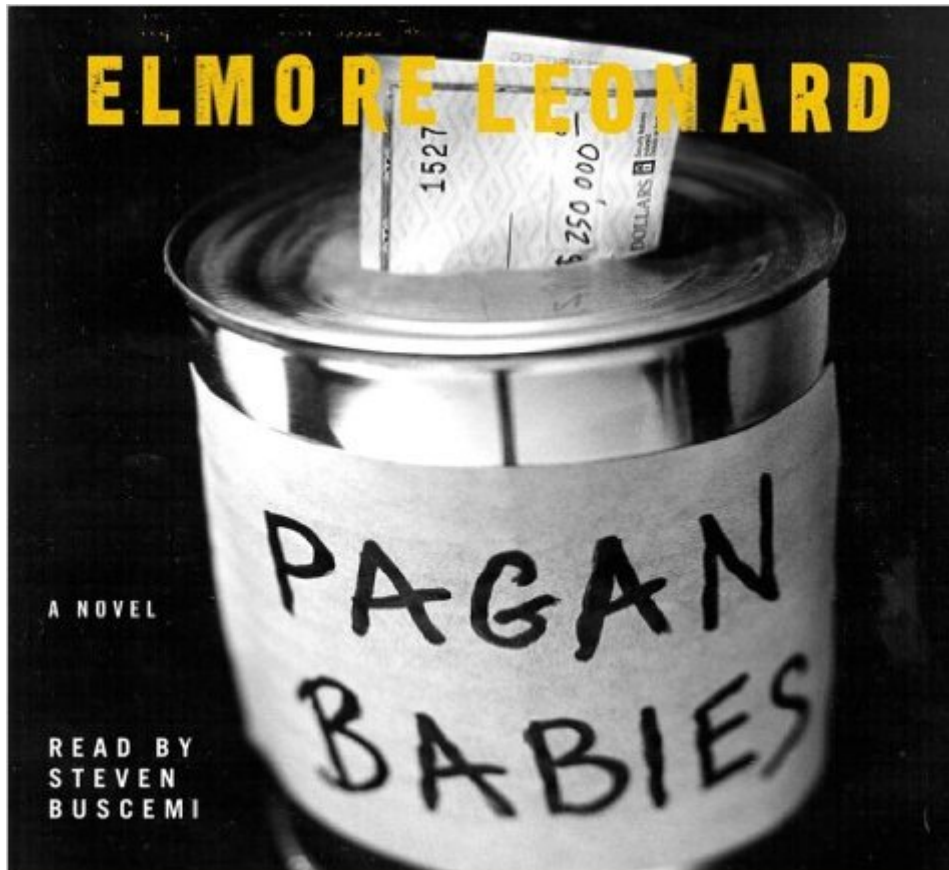


The book was found

Pagan Babies



Synopsis

Five CD's, 6 hours
Read by Steve Buschemi
In Rwanda during the genocide, Hutu thugs storm into a church and kill everyone except Father Terry Dunn, on the altar saying his first mass. He's powerless to do anything about it--until one day he faces several of the killers and exacts a chilling penance. But is Terry Dunn really a priest? He doesn't always appear to act like one. He comes home to Detroit and runs into Debbie Dewey who's doing standup at a comedy club. In her set, Debbie tells what it was like in prison, down for aggravated assault with a deadly weapon. Terry and Debbie hit it off; they have the same sense of humor and similar goals in that both are out to raise money. Terry says for the Little Orphans of Rwanda; Debbie to score off a guy who conned her out of sixty-seven thousand dollars. This is Randy, now wealthy, who runs a fashionable restaurant and is connected to the Detroit Mafia. It's Debbie who keeps prying until she learns the bizarre truth about Terry; Debbie who sells him on going in together for a much bigger payoff than either could manage alone. What happened in Rwanda remains alive through the unexpected twists and turns of the plot. But even with this tragic background, *PAGAN BABIES* comes off as Leonard's funniest straight-faced novel to date.

Book Information

Audio CD

Publisher: Random House Audio; Abridged edition (September 5, 2000)

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ISBN-10: 0553712284

ISBN-13: 978-0553712285

Product Dimensions: 1 x 6 x 5 inches

Shipping Weight: 8 ounces

Average Customer Review: 3.7 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (89 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #4,281,785 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #28 in [Books > Books on CD >](#)

[Authors, A-Z > \(L \) > Leonard, Elmore](#) #8314 in [Books > Books on CD > Mystery & Thrillers](#)

#8836 in [Books > Books on CD > General](#)

Customer Reviews

Certain writers are so distinctive, you can read a couple of their books, and then picking up an uncredited manuscript, be relatively certain of its author. Read *Pride and Prejudice* and *Sense and Sensibility*, and then, without peeking, gaze at *Mansfield Park*, and you know Jane Austen penned its paragraphs. Turn the pages of *Decline and Fall* and *Vile Bodies* by Evelyn Waugh, and you will

at once see his unmistakable pessimistic humor in *A Handful of Dust*. On a much less literary level, there is the prolific crime novelist Elmore Leonard. Like all who engage in that genre, his plots, what Maugham called the skeleton of the story, have multiple layers. What sets Leonard apart though, is his mastery of dialogue. Wry and funny, sexy without being gross, with an ear for the way people talk rather than the way writers think they should, his books are centered on the interaction between people, most of them off-center, but never off-putting. In *Pagan Babies*, there is Father Terry Dunn, or at least the alleged Father Dunn, who gets ordained, sort of, in Rwanda. He is also, sort of, on the lam from the law, having been involved in illegally running cigarettes. He witnesses genocide of the Tutsis by the Hutus in his church, and five years later shoots four of the murderers before heading back to Detroit. He gets involved with a cute ex-con named Debbie, just out of the slammer for trying to run over her former boyfriend with a Ford Escort because the sweet guy stole \$67,000.00 from her. Terry and Debbie develop a plan to swindle a quarter of a million smackers from her ex-lover, a wise guy wannabe, who is paying the mobsters a significant street tax. In theory at least, the dough is supposed to be used for Rwandan orphans. In reality, the money is intended for their pockets.

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