

Black Ice *by* Michael Connelly



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Reviews of the **Black Ice** *by* Michael Connelly

Lightwind

I have chosen to delve fully into the Bosch series...all 23 and counting. It will take awhile but as I dig into this persona, I can't help but feel Connelly has given his character a solid, real (well, as real as fiction can get), texture....warts and all. I am reading them sequentially to follow the timeline of Harry's persnal/professional life. Next up: The Concrete Blonde...sounds intriguing...recommend highly this series.

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The crime, if it is one, is puzzling. Did narcotics officer Calexico Moore commit suicide by shooting himself with a shotgun? The physical difficulty of even doing in one's self like that is daunting. Harry Bosch gets this case along with another one, seemingly unrelated at first. It involves a dead body found by a dumpster identified only as Juan Doe #67. Moore left a wife and Bosch often reflects how beautiful she is.

Lucky for Bosch he has a contact in the coroner's office, one Teresa Corazon. She an attractive

woman, available, and soon they are sharing some pillow talk at Harry's cottage. Wonder if she's whispering sweet details of the autopsies? Even worse, did Bosch fantasize about Moore's wife during all this?

Bosch's cases involve the drug traffic and require him to make a trip to Mexico where one of the most powerful drugs is something called black ice. It's being made down there somewhere and somehow gets across the border in large quantities. Once he is south of the border, Bosch gets involved in various activities with Mexican police authorities, even taking time to see a bull fight. This kind of plot movement is a bit unusual for author Michael Connelly and seems to dilute the momentum of the story.

The most redeeming feature of this book is the surprise ending. I was tempted to give up the book earlier but I'm glad I persevered.

Bludworm

Connelly expertly grabs the reader's attention in a few pages then begins an intriguing and compelling story that belongs in the first rank of the noir genre in the modern era. With all due respect to Raymond Chandler and Dashiell Hammett, Connelly weaves a tale that rivals their best work. The novel begins with a corpse and balances the storytelling with a corpse at the end. What happens inbetween is storytelling of the highest order.

Helldor

"The Black Ice" is the second novel of the Harry Bosch series and I really enjoyed this book more than "Black Echo", the first novel of the series. This book was amazing! I couldn't put it down.

In this novel, Harry Bosch,(the detective)is looking into the apparent suicide of a fellow officer who had been investigating the appearance of a new drug on the street scene called "black ice."

Superiors want the investigation wrapped up as soon as possible, but the more Bosch digs, the more mysteries he finds that lead him south of the border for the final confrontation. This was an excellent and multi-layered story, unpeeling like layers of an onion. Connelly is an excellent storyteller, and he is patient enough to let the story develop at its own pace, with believable characters and a well designed plot.The ending has a real twist, that I didn't even see coming.

For anyone that loves reading Mystery-Suspense-Thrillers...don't miss out on this one. This book was amazing.

Ielonere

Two half-brothers start their youth in Mexico with their father, are locked out, and separate; one to become a LA police officer and the other a rancher breeding el toros for the bull ring. This second brother was also a drug Lord who manufactured a new illicit drug in Mexico and smuggled it into LA for sale. The first brother helps his brother by crossing over into crime but has second thoughts about this. Bleach becomes involved in several of the resulting murders which lead him to Mexico and solving the murders and the murder of the two brothers whose firmly gets switched and who get buried in each other's grave. Great story!

Akinohn

Harry Bosch, the maverick detective, stumbles into an amazing tale of deceit and drug cartels when one of his fellow officers supposedly commits suicide in a lonely hotel room in Los Angeles. This guy's face was blown off, and there was some oddities surrounding the entire case that kept bugging Bosch. There was an unidentified murder victim that was left in a dumpster, there was a mysterious suicide note, and there was a complicated potential of drug smuggling via some biocontainment vessels that housed sterile fruit flies from Mexico. The fruit flies were legitimate, irradiated in Mexico and transported into the United States to be released into agricultural areas as an eradication technique for the ruinous fruit flies damaging millions of dollars worth of crops. The murder victim in the dumpster had signs of this laboratory in his nostrils which led Bosch to go investigate the plant in Calexico, the border town that has the Mexican counterpart of Mexicali, where the sterile fruit flies were created. All of these circumstances boil into one massive story of

drug cartels, bullfighting, a drug lord who is very dangerous, and a mysterious suicide. This is an interesting tale, told through Harry Bosch, who is once again the lone wolf who follows his instincts, not the rules.

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