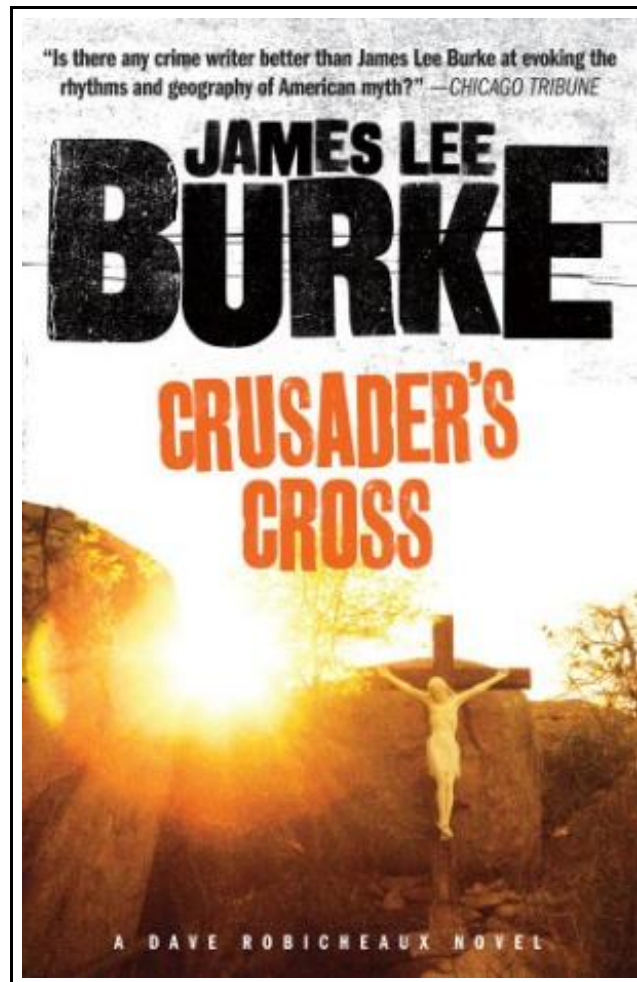


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Reviews

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Pocket. 1 Paperback(s), 2005. soft. Book Condition: New. Back in the innocent days of the 1950s, when Dave Robicheaux and his half-brother Jimmie met Ida Durbin, Jimmie fell for her hardnot knowing she was a prostitute on Galveston's Post Office Street, with ties to the mobin this 14th book in the series by two-time Edgar winner and MVA Grandmaster James Lee Burke (following Last Car to Elysian Fields). But just when Jimmie was ready to take her away to Mexico, Ida disappeared. Now, decades later, Robicheaux hears the death-bed confession of an old friend, and starts looking into what happened to Idaand soon a couple of redneck deputy sheriffs make it clear that asking questions is a dangerous game. "Superb writing and a throbbing pace lift two-time Edgar-winner Burke's powerful, many-layered 14th Dave Robicheaux novel, which involves venal and arrogant members of a wealthy family that can trace its lineage to 5th-century France as well as the machinations of the New Orleans mafia. A conversation between Robicheaux and a dying childhood friend about Ida Durbin, a young prostitute that Robicheaux's half-brother, Jimmie, loved and lost in the late 1950s, sets the ex-homicide detective on a path that eventually leads to several gruesome killings and his near downfall. Unemployed, his wife dead, his daughter in college, Robicheaux rejoins the New Iberia, La., sheriff's department at the urging of Sheriff Helen Soileau, who needs an extra hand as the murders mount. While the tendrils of the sometimes rambling plot unfold, Robicheaux and his impulsive former police partner, PI Clete Purcell, seek retribution for injustices caused by a wide range of corrupt villains. Burke masterfully combines landscape and memory in a violent, complex story peopled by sharply defined characters who inhabit a lush, sensual, almost mythological world."Publishers Weekly (starred review) 325.



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