

(Free download) Slow Death (High Risk Books)

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Stewart Home

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#2365603 in Books Serpent's Tail 1996-05-01 Original language: English PDF # 1 8.00 x .70 x 5.00l, .55 #File Name: 1852425199296 pages | File size: 20.Mb

Stewart Home : Slow Death (High Risk Books) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Slow Death (High Risk Books):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. The Slow Death of "Literary Fiction" By Edmond Caldwell This novel should suck according to the standards of contemporary "literary fiction": there's no concern for the humanist pieties of psychological interiority, character development, epiphany; no concern for the realist shibboleths of

verisimilitude and the matching of style to subject; no concern for the "fine writing" that will confer a spurious halo of distinction on high-end book consumers. And that's the point: the novel is brilliantly, strategically "bad," in a way that calls out literary fiction as a total fraud. It's a parodic account of the Art World written in the crassest of pulp idioms, with hilariously formulaic fight and sex scenes in every chapter, and a free hand when it comes to gleefully plagiarizing other sources. And in passing it gives you the greatest playlist of Jamaican ska/rock steady/early reggae ever! So if you're thinking of reading the new Ian McEwan or Claire Messud do yourself a favor and get this instead.² of 3 people found the following review helpful. Overambitiously interesting
By A. Ross
Home tries to do a little too much here in attempting to satirize the contemporary London art scene within a what appears to be a parody of pulp fiction. The plot intertwines the trendies of the London art world with a gang of sympathetic, yet thuggish skinheads (the non-racist kind) led by Johnny Aggro. There's lots of silly art doubletalk, some asskicking of foolish people by the skins, and lots of sex. Not erotic or even pulp sex, but rather a parody of pulp sex. Everyone seems to want it--from frustrated social workers, to young schoolgirls, to the fat skinhead--and Home uses the same words to describe each act, sometimes duplicating the entire passage. In any event, Home's touch is far too heavy to pull this whole enterprise off.³ of 3 people found the following review helpful. sex and violence for beginners
By K. Wark
Hilarious mix of art world satire and plagiarism of antique English porn and street punk fiction. Home realises that the leading characteristic of pulp fiction is repetition, and he just perfects the method, with highly amusing results. The book is populated with fictional versions of some of Home's own 'real-world' avant garde provocations, although with Home one is never sure what is original and what is a copy; what is 'real' and what is fiction.

Sexual violence and violent sex plus skinheads attack the art world. A great punk novel.

From Kirkus
Slow Death (\$12.99 paperback original; May 1996; 245 pp.; 1- 85242-519-9). A dreary, noisy novel that recounts with visceral overenthusiasm the adventures of a gang of British skinheads in conflict with a sex-starved woman doctor, a London "art star," and one another, as they explore the vicissitudes of "Art and Resistance" in a foulmouthed frontal assault on the avant-garde art scene. Its contempt for bourgeois values produces some agreeable inventions ("Neoism," "the Semiotic Liberation Front," and "the Journal of Immaterial Art" constitute decent throwaway gags at least), but its blood- and sperm-soaked narrative and its characters' continual entreaties for oral sex are muted, though scarcely redeemed, by what might in another context be called elegant variation ("liquid genetics," indeed). This is the kind of book that gives mindless violence and sexual degradation a bad name. -- Copyright ©1996, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.