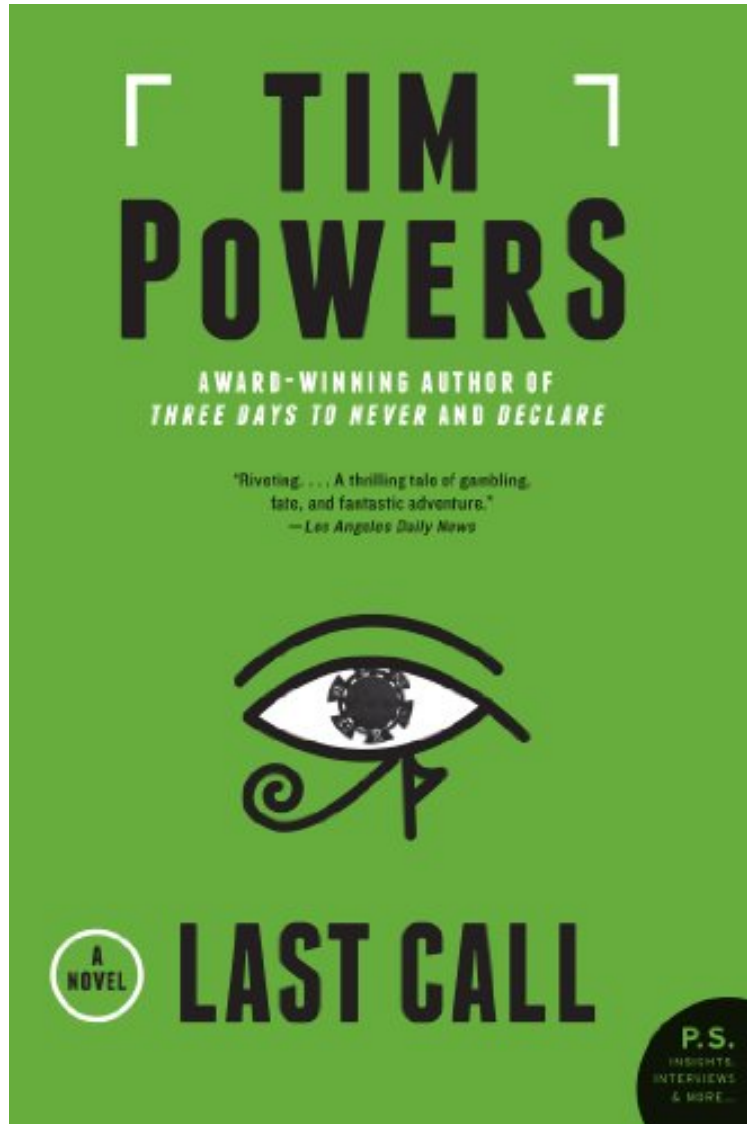


[PDF] Last Call: A Novel (Fault Lines Trilogy)

Last Call: A Novel (Fault Lines Trilogy)

Von Tim Powers

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Von Tim Powers : Last Call: A Novel (Fault Lines Trilogy) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Last Call: A Novel (Fault Lines Trilogy):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen4 von 4 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Never Draw On An Inside Straight....Von Ein KundeAfter reading Tim Powers' "Last Call" I found myself wanting to play poker again and go to Las Vegas, but holding on to some magic charm to save me from being absorbed by spirit catching immortals.Like his following book "Expiration Date" Mr. Powers characters are not what one would call

"sympathetic" characters, who one could find some spark of identification. They are not easily liked: drunks, gamblers, crazies and evil characters misusing metaphysics to further their nefarious ends. But because these characters are not sympathetic I found myself drawn into the story. Never before have I read a story that touches upon so many diverse topics: Jungian synchronicity, Tarot cards, poker, alcohol, magic, The Fisher King, TS Eliot, and gangsters. Only an author who has a wide view of the fictive landscape he rules can weave such a tale and make the reader stay up late on a work night to find out what is the next amazing and scary thing that is going to come up. Although some fans of Tim Powers are sad that he strayed from the historical fantasies he wrote before I am glad someone is writing about contemporary things, places and people that are infused with magic. The struggle between good and evil takes place everyday, with people who are less than likable, and this book speaks of one of those struggles. I await for his next book and hope he continues on this contemporary theme.

0 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Letzte Ausfahrt: Las Vegas Von schlimmerdurstPoker ist wieder schwer in. Das heutzutage uerst beliebte Texas Hold'em ist aber nicht die Art von Kartenspiel, die in diesem Buch betrieben wird: Hier geht es nicht um Chips oder Dollars, hier geht es um Macht, Zauberei und sogar ewiges Leben. Der etwas heruntergekommene Ex-Pokerspieler Scott Crane hat vor zwanzig Jahren einen schlimmen Fehler begangen, er hat sich auf ein seltsames Kartenspiel mit einem seltsamen Mann eingelassen, und stellt fest, dass der damalige monetre Gewinn einen Preis hat, der ihn selbst und alle, die sich um ihn herum befinden, teuer zu stehen kommt. Doch der Kartenzauberer rechnet nicht mit dem Potenzial, das in Scott Crane steckt... Tim Powers schreibt keine Romane, die man so mal schnell nebenbei liest. Auch in "Last Call" muss man sich durcharbeiten: Viele Handlungsstränge, viele Personen, ein aufreizend komplexer Spannungsaufbau. Hier bekommt man nichts serviert, sondern erst mit Fortschreiten des Romans versteht man Stückchen für Stückchen, was da eigentlich vor sich geht. Auch wenn das stellenweise zugegebenermaßen etwas frustrierend ist, ist das Endergebnis umso befriedigender: Hier entfaltet ein Künstler eine wahre Pracht an verrückten Ideen, die wie kleine Zahnräder ineinandergreifen, obwohl sie scheinbar auf den ersten Blick so gar nicht zusammenpassen. Powers hat das seltene Talent, aus etwas so Banalem wie Kartenspielen eine mystische, in sich geschlossene Fantasiewelt aufzubauen, die in unserer modernen Welt verortet ist, und dabei viel geheimnisvoller und spannender zu erkunden ist als alle künstlichen Fantasywelten. Das Taschenbuch ist eng bis an den Seitenrand mit etwas miefiger Tinte bedruckt. In Kombination mit billigstem Papier und einer sehr festen Klebebindung ist das haptische Leseerlebnis nicht unbedingt angenehm. Wie dieser Roman zeigt, braucht es nicht immer Drachen und Vampire, um Spitzenfantasy zu schreiben. Garantiert: Nach der Lektüre dieses Romans wird man Glücksspiele in Zukunft mit anderen Augen sehen.

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A Monument to Imagination Von Patrick Burnett "Last Call" is a book about loss, death, redemption, tarot cards and the Fisher King. It plays out in a vast and mythical Las Vegas that only marginally resembles the one that sits in the Nevada desert. Scott Crane is a man who loses. As a child, he lost an eye. As a young man, he lost his soul in a card game. As an adult, his wife dies and he loses his will to survive. Until he is drawn to Las Vegas, where the last Fisher King died, and learns his is one of four Jacks vying for the right to assume the King's place. It sounds wacky and ridiculous and I'm sure it would fall flat in any hands but those of Tim Powers. But Powers is a master of Urban Magic, at finding mystery in the ordinary and in drawing conclusions from history that might only be inferred by a madman. But once he has cast his eye on a subject and explained it to us, it all makes sense. We wonder why we never saw it before. In typical fashion, Powers has selected Eliot's "The Waste Land" as a sort of working illustration of the story, writing elements that make you stop and think "Oh, ho! Eliot was in on it, too!". Powers uses the poem to good effect, as he has with the Romantic poets in "The Stress of Her Regard" and other works. I don't get excited about many books or many authors, but this is one of the best. Powers is an amazing talent, always satisfying, always fresh and always jaw-droppingly unique.

Kurzbeschreibung Enchantingly dark and compellingly real, the World Fantasy Award-winning novel Last Call is a masterpiece of magic realism from critically acclaimed author Tim Powers. Set in the gritty, dazzling underworld known as Las Vegas, Last Call tells the story of a one-eyed professional gambler who discovers that he was not the big winner in a long-ago poker game . . . and now must play for the highest stakes ever as he searches for a way to win back his soul. Pressestimmen Riveting lyrical and brutal a thrilling tale of gambling, fate and fantastic adventure. (Los Angeles Daily News) A novel of the supernatural and occult that is hard boiled, seamy and suspenseful as the best film noir. (Tom Robbins) Distinctive and commanding . . . a strikingly inventive novel. (Publishers Weekly) Brilliant! Compelling and satisfying! Tim Powers is one of our best writers, and LAST CALL is his best book yet. (Raymond E. Feist) A terrific read . . . a believable tapestry of greed and passion. (Denver Rocky Mountain News) Weird . . . grippingly written . . . a nightmarish novel, brilliantly researched and made. (San Jose Mercury News) Kurzbeschreibung Enchantingly dark and compellingly real, the World Fantasy Award-winning novel Last Call is a masterpiece of magic realism from critically acclaimed author Tim Powers. Set in the gritty, dazzling underworld known as Las Vegas, Last Call tells the story of a one-eyed professional gambler who discovers that he was not the big

winner in a long-ago poker game . . . and now must play for the highest stakes ever as he searches for a way to win back his soul.