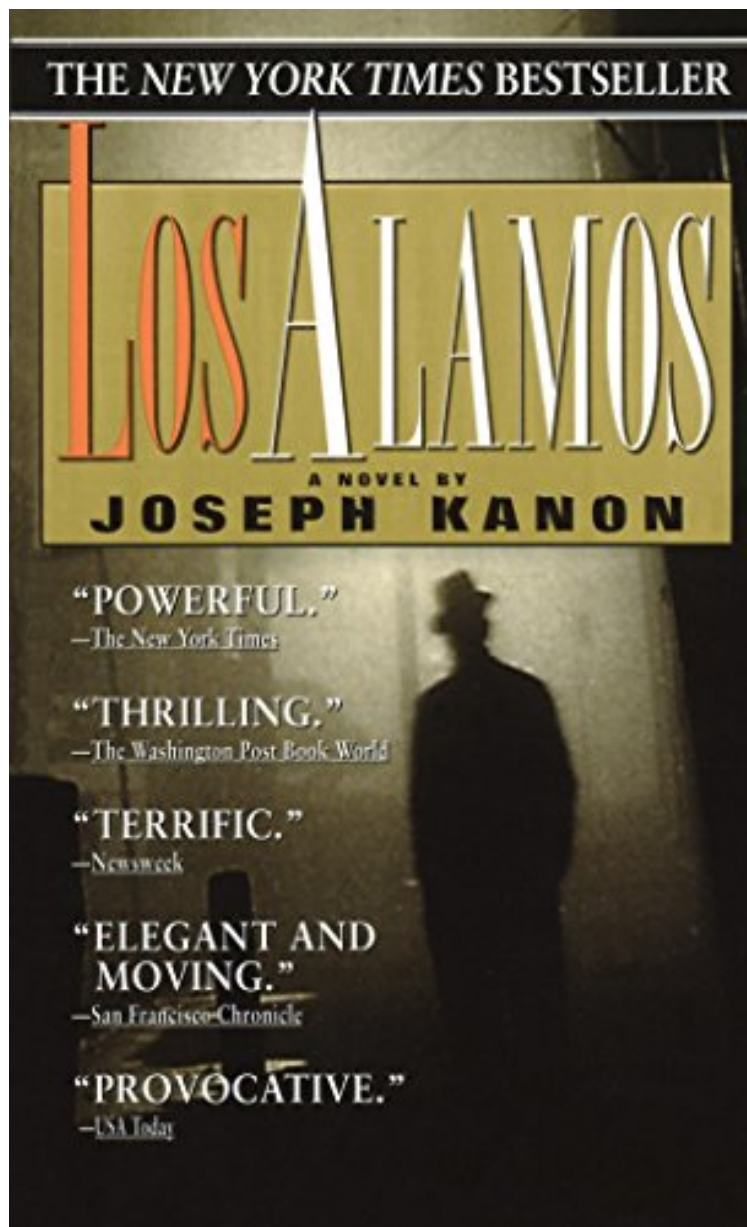


Los Alamos

Von Joseph Kanon

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Von Joseph Kanon : Los Alamos before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Los Alamos:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen2 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Don't get

your hopes up Von Paul Butler, pwbutler@cswnet.com I bought this book expecting to be entranced by the characters and science in and around Los Alamos. Creating "The Bomb" was arguable the greatest collection of genius ever assembled in search of one goal. The thought of a murder connected with this now historic community seemed interesting at first. The first few dozen pages even hinted at a good novel. But..The author goes nowhere. The book drags on for the last 250 pages; if good books are "page turners" this one had the pages glued together. Only the description of Oppie kept it going. Kannon even has a nugget of a good idea by inserting some of the philosophical disputes of the day (communism vs. democracy, nationalism vs. humanism, German vs. the Jews, loyalty vs. self will, etc.) in the death of one of Los Alamos' scientists, but he makes it boring. I can't write a review without mentioning that the insertion of nearly pornographic (and poorly written) sex scenes into this book floored me. Its as if Kannon left his PC on and his 12 year old son came in and wrote some smut into his text. Kannon even makes sex boring. Bottom line, if any engineers or science folks want to try this book because of the rare mixture of science and mystery (like I did), don't waste your time. There are some redeeming qualities, but not many. The science is skimmed over, the characters are stereotypical and one dimensional and the plot never grabs you. The time period information is interesting and so are a FEW of the characters and encounters. But, read something else first. 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A Nicely Done WWII Murder-Mystery-Romance Von Ein Kunde I read quite a lot, including many techno-thrillers, and I know what I like. I liked Los Alamos quite a bit. I don't expect the author to have the science of the Manhattan Project exactly right. It's only the setting for the story, not the story itself. This is not a techno-thriller. It's a murder mystery/romance. The book is written in the first person for the most part, and the author adopts his protagonist's admittedly limited understanding of what the Manhattan Project was all about: building a really powerful weapon that would end the war. That's all Michael Connolly needed to know about what was going on at Los Alamos in order to do his job of tracking down a murderer and a potential security breach, and that's all the author really gives the reader about the project. The author did an excellent job of setting the period scene, in the spring and oppressive summer of 1945 in and around Los Alamos, NM. I found the main characters engaging, and the historical fiction entertaining. There are no real good guys and bad guys in this book. Everybody in this story wears sort of a gray hat, with competing elements of good and evil within them. I found the book very entertaining, and look forward to reading something else by Mr. Kanon very soon. 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Great setting, characters kinda shallow Von Dick Oliver Joseph Kanon's excellent writing (not ornate, just smooth) and the fascinating story of Los Alamos itself saved this book from being Yet Another Murder Mystery. Kanon also did a great job painting the characters, though under the surface they didn't seem to actually have any genuine emotions, which seemed rather strange...(that's the mood of all the sex scenes in this book).. with or without any enthusiasm from her. He eventually decides it's true love, apparently because his life without her was so boring and pointless that stealing her from her husband could only be an improvement. Nonetheless, the suspense and the setting were enough to make me neglect all sorts of important things to finish this book. The attempts at moralistic philosophy about the bomb also fell pretty flat, mostly because I couldn't believe the main character gave a darn about any of that. If you like a good mystery, you'll find one in this book. If you like a little romance and ethics mixed in, you'll find that too (but *very* little). Oh, and if you're after neat details on the science and personalities of Los Alamos, better skip this title. He doesn't really get into that, except for a nice character portrait of Oppenheimer.

Kurzbeschreibung In a dusty, remote community of secretly constructed buildings and awesome possibility, the world's most brilliant minds have come together. Their mission: to split an atom and end a war. But among those who have come to Robert Oppenheimer's "enchanted campus" of foreign-born scientists, baffled guards, and restless wives is a simple man, an unraveler of human secrets a man in search of a killer. It is the spring of 1945. And Michael Connolly has been sent to Los Alamos to investigate the murder of a security officer on the Manhattan Project. But amid the glimmering cocktail parties and the staggering genius, Connolly will find more than he bargained for. Sleeping in a dead man's bed and making love to another man's wife, Connolly has entered the moral no-man's-land of Los Alamos. For in this place of discovery and secrecy, hope and horror, Connolly is plunged into a shadowy war with a killer as the world is about to be changed forever.... From the Paperback edition.. de Joseph Kanon is a brave man; for his first novel, Los Alamos, he has chosen the Manhattan Project as a backdrop and Robert J. Oppenheimer as a central character. The year is 1945, and a group of scientists squirreled away in the New Mexico desert are in a frenzied race with the Nazis to finish the first atomic bomb. Inside the fence that surrounds Los Alamos, everything moves according to plan; outside, however, something has gone horribly wrong. A security guard is found murdered in a city park, possibly the victim of a deadly homosexual encounter. But the niggling question remains: is this merely a private tragedy or, more alarmingly, a governmental security breach? To answer that question, the military calls in Michael Connolly, an intelligence officer who quietly continues the slain man's investigation. Connolly's efforts are complicated by reluctant scientists, a local sheriff, and a love affair with Emma Pawlowski, the mysterious wife of one of Los Alamos' scientists. Eventually, of course, the scientists complete their bomb and Michael Connolly gets his man. If the

historically based scenes seem a little flat (what fiction, after all, can compete with the reality of that first mushroom cloud?), the mystery at the heart of Los Alamos is brisk and entertaining, and the moral questions it poses give you something to ponder once the killer is uncovered..co.uk Joseph Kanon is a brave man; for his first novel, *Los Alamos*, he has chosen the Manhattan Project as a backdrop and Robert J. Oppenheimer as a central character. The year is 1945, and a group of scientists squirreled away in the New Mexico desert are in a frenzied race with the Nazis to finish the first atomic bomb. Inside the fence that surrounds Los Alamos, everything moves according to plan; outside, however, something has gone horribly wrong. A security guard is found murdered in a city park, possibly the victim of a deadly homosexual encounter. But the niggling question remains: is this merely a private tragedy or, more alarmingly, a governmental security breach? To answer that question, the military calls in Michael Connolly, an intelligence officer who quietly continues the slain man's investigation. Connolly's efforts are complicated by reluctant scientists, a local sheriff, and a love affair with Emma Pawlowski, the mysterious wife of one of Los Alamos' scientists. Eventually, of course, the scientists complete their bomb and Michael Connolly gets his man. If the historically based scenes seem a little flat (what fiction, after all, can compete with the reality of that first mushroom cloud?), the mystery at the heart of Los Alamos is brisk and entertaining, and the moral questions it poses give you something to ponder once the killer is uncovered.