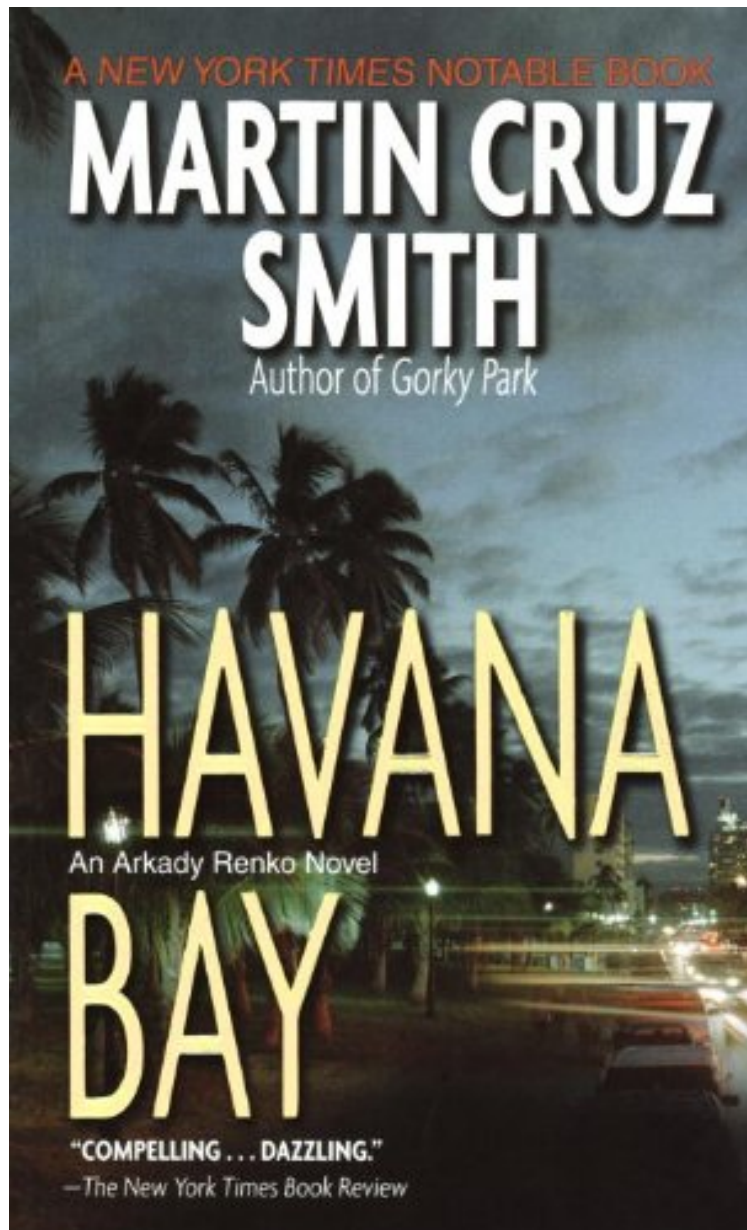


(Read ebook) Havana Bay: Martin Cruz Smith (Arkady Renko Series)

## Havana Bay: Martin Cruz Smith (Arkady Renko Series)

Von Martin Cruz Smith  
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Von Martin Cruz Smith : Havana Bay: Martin Cruz Smith (Arkady Renko Series) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Havana Bay: Martin Cruz Smith (Arkady Renko Series):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Another

classic Renko adventure! Von Alezzo A badly decomposed body is discovered surrounded by fishing gear and floating in an inner tube in Havana Bay. The deceased was a uniquely Cuban concept, a neumatico, a fisherman who uses an inner tube. On site at the discovery are Havana Detective Ofelia Osorio, forensic pathologist Dr. Blas, an interpreter from the Russian Embassy named Rufo Pinero, and Arkady Renko, a Russian detective who had just arrived from Moscow. The fisherman is identified as Colonel Sergei Pribluda, an officer in the SVR (the former KGB) attached to the Russian Embassy in Havana. So begins Martin Cruz Smith's Havana Bay (1999), the fourth in his Arkady Renko series. Russians are unwelcome in Cuba since they ended financial support of Fidel's regime, an act of treachery in the eyes of the Cubans. Arkady is told to butt out and return to Moscow on the next flight, one week hence. This still leaves plenty of time for some local investigating. Soon there is an attempt on his life by Rufo in one of the more ironic scenes in the genre. Arkady has been depressed by his wife's recent death following an injection of the wrong medication at a Russian hospital. When he returns to his Havana apartment from the seaside, Arkady is about to kill himself by an injection when Rufo bursts in and tries to kill him. Survival instinct takes over and Arkady kills Rufo. Poor Rufo: BAAAD timing! 5/52 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Steamy Intrigue in Sweltering Havana Von Ein Kunde This is the first of the Arkady Renko novels I have read, and buying it was influenced by the fact that I had spent time exploring Havana and its environs a short time before. Summoned by an unsigned fax from what turns out to be an old hand at Havana's diminished Russian Embassy, detective Renko travels from mid-winter Moscow to subtropical January in Havana, to investigate the disappearance and death of a KGB operative and one-time associate. Both he and his drowned friend Pribluda are of a mindset unable to come to terms with life in public service in post-communist Russia. With an almost bumbling manner and persistence, reminiscent of a Slavonic Peter Faulk playing Columbo in the 1970's television series (in a black cashmere coat with a story of its own, in place of a trench-coat), Renko finds himself an unwelcome and unpopular reminder to the Cuban police investigating the gruesome corpse washed up in Havana Bay, of Russia's once domineering influence over their affairs. And a threat to some shadowy individuals with their own agenda for change in this outwardly ramshackle island nation. Martin Cruz Smith has captured many of the undercurrents that pervade society in modern Havana. They range from a crumbling political, economic and social system (to say nothing of crumbling buildings and crowded tenements), to the moonlighting, hustling, and sex-for-sale, that puts bread on Cuban tables in the way that the state's mediocre salaries do not. He captures too, the camaraderie of Cuban war veterans of Angola and Ethiopia. The pervasiveness of African mysticism and music in Cuban life. And the combination of stoicism and sheer exuberance that shine through in what Castro euphemistically calls the "special times", of no Russian aid and an ongoing US embargo. These ingredients are skillfully blended into a suspenseful tale that draws us into three hundred plus pages of the intrigue and double-dealing that swirl around a handful of well-drawn characters. Once into it, I found the book hard to put down. I'm sure it will make a good movie too, though it may be a little too cerebral for current Hollywood tastes. All the better if it could be filmed on location. Conjo! 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Disappointing from such a good writer Von Susan Nicholas Although the writing, characterizations and creating of atmosphere are flawless in this book, and demonstrate how much talent Cruz Smith has, the most important element of any work of fiction is a plot. A plot that can be understood by the reader. This is where this book fails terribly. At the end, I still wasn't quite sure what went on. Perhaps this was the author's intent, but I like to know what a story was about by the time I finish a book.

Kurzbeschreibung When the corpse of a Russian is hauled from the oily waters of Havana Bay, Arkady Renko comes to Cuba to identify the body. Looking for the killer, he discovers a city of faded loneliness, unexpected danger, and bewildering contradictions. His investigation introduces him to a beautiful Cuban policewoman; to the rituals of Santeria; to an American fugitive and a group of ruthless mercenaries. In this place where all things Russian are despised, where Hemingway fished and the KGB flourished, where the hint of music is always in the air, Arkady finds a trail of deceit that reaches halfway around the world and a reason to relish his own life again. From the Paperback edition. de Russian detective Arkady Renko made his debut in Martin Cruz Smith's powerful 1981 novel Gorky Park. An enigmatic and complex character, he made further appearances in Polar Star and Red Square. In Havana Bay Renko has gone to Cuba to identify the body of an old colleague. It seems a simple enough task, but the putrefying corpse is unrecognisable as a human being and the authorities' insistence that he agree with their conclusions serves only to make Renko more stubborn. Soon it becomes apparent that his unexpected arrival is ruffling some powerful feathers. Finding himself in a strange limbo Renko slowly forms a bond with Detective Ofelia Osorio whose revolutionary zeal is tempered by her pragmatic intelligence. Unofficially investigating the case with Ofelia leads Renko to be gradually enmeshed in a world where conflicting cultures and the fallout from past events threaten to destroy what proves to be a deceptive calm. Martin Cruz Smith evokes beautifully the faded, colonial grandeur of Havana and its revolutionary legacy; its sense of a society whose engagement with history has left it outside of time. The pleasures of Havana Bay are of the slow-burning variety, but are all the more satisfying as a result. --Jonathan

Crawford.co.uk Russian detective Arkady Renko made his debut in Martin Cruz Smith's powerful 1981 novel Gorky Park. An enigmatic and complex character, he made further appearances in Polar Star and Red Square. In Havana Bay Renko has gone to Cuba to identify the body of an old colleague. It seems a simple enough task, but the putrefying corpse is unrecognisable as a human being and the authorities' insistence that he agree with their conclusions serves only to make Renko more stubborn. Soon it becomes apparent that his unexpected arrival is ruffling some powerful feathers. Finding himself in a strange limbo Renko slowly forms a bond with Detective Ofelia Osorio whose revolutionary zeal is tempered by her pragmatic intelligence. Unofficially investigating the case with Ofelia leads Renko to be gradually enmeshed in a world where conflicting cultures and the fallout from past events threaten to destroy what proves to be a deceptive calm. Martin Cruz Smith evokes beautifully the faded, colonial grandeur of Havana and its revolutionary legacy; its sense of a society whose engagement with history has left it outside of time. The pleasures of Havana Bay are of the slow-burning variety, but are all the more satisfying as a result. --Jonathan Crawford