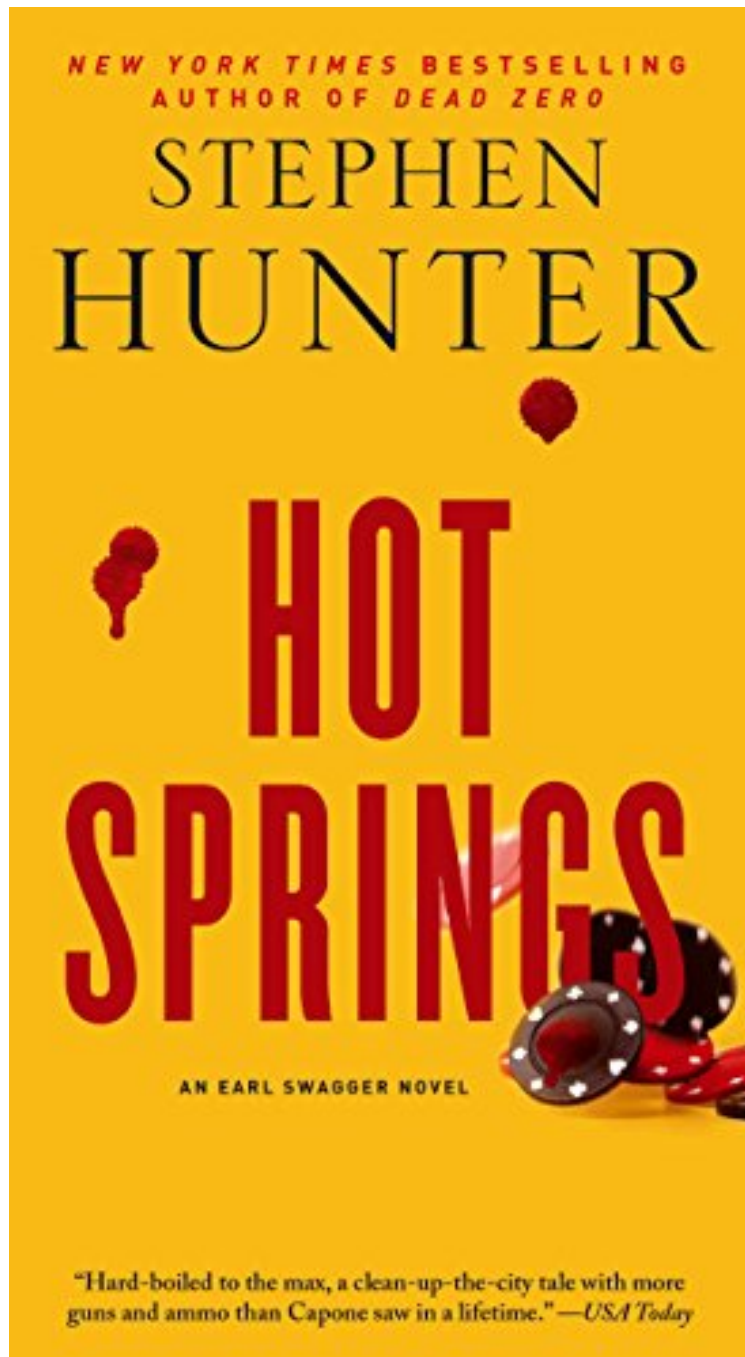


[Mobile ebook] Hot Springs (Earl Swagger)

Hot Springs (Earl Swagger)

Von Stephen Hunter

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Von Stephen Hunter : Hot Springs (Earl Swagger) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be

worth my time, and all praised Hot Springs (Earl Swagger):

Kundenrezensionen
Hilfreichste Kundenrezensionen
0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. pretty good
Von Victor C. Stephen Hunter's books hit a chord with a lot of people because: a) they are good mysteries; b) they are great action/adventure books, with lots of suspenseful shootouts and loving descriptions of really cool guns; and c) Hunter likes to write about the concept of HONOR, which is in short supply in Clinton-era USA. This story, about a marine hero cleaning up a gambling town, is high on the themes of honor and sacrifice, but it falls a little short as a suspense/mystery novel, compared to other stuff Hunter has written. The plot is quite straightforward, and there is little suspense in the book. But the setting is an interesting one - that of the collective relief/ grief/ hangover/ high expectations of the immediate post-WWII America, and Hunter seems to do a good job evoking that era. Also the subplot about the hero's tyrannical child-abusing father adds a lot. The subplot about the marine's wife and her problematic pregnancy is a little cliched, and as usual Hunter's female characters are a little one-dimensional. The whole thing does not tie together that neatly. It's worth reading, but only after "Point of Impact," "Black Light," and "Time to Hunt," all of which are impossible to put down.
0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. It doesn't get any better than this.
Von nobizinfla Stephen Hunter is simply a spectacular story teller. This is the latest in the Swagger saga and could be considered the prequel. "Hot Springs" presents the back story of Earl Swagger (Bob Lee a.k.a. "Bob the Nailer's" father.) Earl returns from the Pacific campaign a Medal of Honor winner...a true hero. He is tapped to ramrod a strike force whose agenda is to put an end to the illicit activities so pervasive in Hot Springs, mostly controlled by Owney Maddox. The head of the strike force has grand political ambitions, so Earl's enemies and allies both work against him. Mr. Hunter brings the likes of Harry Truman, Bugsy Siegel, Virginia Hill, Mickey Rooney and Alan Ladd in for cameo appearances and sets the 1946 scene to perfection in many subtle ways. The book moves at warp speed. You are compelled to turn pages in an attempt to keep up with the action. The story is presented from the minds of four or five main characters in alternating chapters so when you want to learn the outcome of one situation you must enjoy three or four more chapters to get that particular resolution. Like eating peanuts, you cannot read just one chapter. Mr. Hunter delivers a nonstop action read laced with taut suspense and peopled with rich, well defined characters. No one (heroes especially) is perfect and this novel is hard boiled noir at its very best.
0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. "HOT SPRINGS" IS KIND OF COLD
Von Nick G The year is 1946 and Hot Springs, Arkansas is home to gambling casinos, and brothels. Gangsters, as well as movie stars have come to take part in the fast excitement of the city overflowing with corruption. At the forefront is Owney Maddox, an English-born gangster representing the New York syndicate, and ruler of the glitzy empire called Hot Springs. Ex-Marine, Earl Swagger, is used to doing battle so it comes as no surprise that he is approached by a newly appointed county prosecutor to help "clean-up" Hot Springs. Swagger must train a team of men to do battle with the vicious crime lords running the city, but after a few successful raids against them the gangsters fight back...waging an all out war. Stephen Hunter is a good thriller writer...Two of my favorite novels "Dirty White Boys" and "Black Light" are Hunter novels. "Hot Springs" unfortunately, is not on the same level with them. Although this novel is readable, and does contain some good action sequences it does not thrill like his previous novels. "Hot Springs" is MUCH better than his previous novel "Time To Hunt", and does bring connection to characters found in previous books, it just seems like a genre switch for Mr. Hunter, it is not the thriller his fans have come to expect. Nick Gonnella

Kurzbeschreibung
The undisputed master of the tough thriller, New York Times bestselling author Stephen Hunter delivers a masterpiece of crime fiction set in 1940s Arkansas, where law and corruption ricochet like slugs from a .45 automatic.
HOT SPRINGSEarl Swagger is tough as hell. But even tough guys have their secrets. Plagued by the memory of his abusive father, apprehensive about his own impending parenthood, Earl is a decorated ex-Marine of absolute integrity -- and overwhelming melancholy. Now he's about to face his biggest, bloodiest challenge yet. It is the summer of 1946, organized crime's garish golden age, when American justice seems to have gone to seed for good. Nowhere is this more true than in Hot Springs, Arkansas, the reigning capital of corruption. When the district attorney vows to bring down the mob, Earl is recruited to run the show. As casino raids erupt into nerve-shattering combat amid screaming prostitutes and fleeing johns, the body count mounts -- along with the suspense.
de You can get anything you want in postwar Hot Springs, Arkansas--girls, gambling, drugs, or booze--courtesy of gangster Owney Madden, a picaresque character who affects jodhpurs, ascots, and an English accent to disguise his origins in New York's Hell's Kitchen. A county prosecutor, ambitious for higher office, sees Madden's destruction as the key to his political future, and he thinks Medal of Honor winner Earl Swagger is the right man to break Madden's stranglehold on the corrupt city. A decent man haunted by his warrior past as well as the memory of his suffering at the hands of an abusive father, Earl yearns for the peace and quiet of domesticity with his wife Junie and the child she carries. But his need for "the hot pounding of the gun, the furious intensity of it all," is even more compelling. Earl's fearlessness in the face of danger is his defense against guilt over having survived both the war and his father's cruelty. Tasked with

training a commando cadre to destroy Madden's criminal enterprise, Earl finds a way to channel his violent nature in the service of justice, despite his suspicions about his boss's political agenda, which threatens to compromise his assignment and destroy his team. A prequel to Stephen Hunter's three well-reviewed suspense thrillers starring Earl's son, former marine sniper Bob Lee Swagger (Point of Impact, Black Light, Dirty White Boys), *Hot Springs* is bloody, hard-boiled fiction at its best. Hunter's precise descriptions of combat, hardware, and commando training are rendered in spare, uncluttered prose, and the melodrama around a key subplot--Earl's tangled, love-hate relationship with his murdered father--enhances rather than detracts from the novel's superb pacing and powerful narrative. Another subplot, involving Madden's rivalry with Bugsy Siegel, whose plan to create a rival sin city in Las Vegas threatens his own prominence, is less successful, but that's a minor quibble. While it's the only part of *Hot Springs* that doesn't fully engage the reader, it highlights Hunter's verisimilitude in depicting the heady post-World War II era. This is a highly readable book that should send grateful fans to Hunter's backlist as soon as they've turned the last page. --Jane Adams

Pressestimmen "Los Angeles Times" Hunter is a consummate yarn-spinner whose eye for detail and ear for nuance...create their own riveting brand of reality. "The Denver Post" Hunter is Robert B. Parker on steroids, Mickey Spillane with a thesaurus. He writes crime fiction like no one before him. "The San Francisco Examiner" "*Hot Springs*" is a richly told tale driven by complex characters, strong dialogue, and a unique plot....Hunter is one of the best storytellers of his generation and he just keeps getting better. "The San Diego Union-Tribune" In this fourth Swagger episode, Hunter has lost none of his touch. "*Hot Springs*" is an action novel that is almost as hot as the 142-degree water percolating from the "*Hot Springs*" mountain. "The Providence Sunday Journal" (RI) Hunter brings power and poignancy to a tale that should be thought of as a great novel, not just a great thriller. Simply stated, he is one of the best novelists working today in any genre and "*Hot Springs*" is hands down the best book of the year so far. "The San Francisco Examiner" "*Hot Springs*" is a richly told tale driven by complex characters, strong dialogue, and a unique plot....Hunter is one of the best storytellers of his generation and he just keeps getting better. "Publishers Weekly" (starred review) Brilliant...His prose has that rare visual quality that takes the action off the page and into the mind....Furnished with brilliant period detail and a dynamo of a lead character, this big, brawny crime drama recounts in highly fictionalized form the true story of the backlash against corruption and decadence in *Hot Springs*, Arkansas, during the years following World War II....Hunter has written a powerful, sweeping story, one that effectively deals with multiple themes: the anguish of war vets, deep-seated racism, and fairness and duty in personal and professional life.