



Prison Noir (Akashic Noir)

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"Reading the fifteen stories in *Prison Noir* is a sobering experience. Unlike most claimants to that much-abused term, this is the real thing...The power of this collection comes from the voices of these authors, voices suffused with rage ("3 Block From Hell," by Bryan K. Palmer), despair ("There Will Be Seeds for Next Year," by Zeke Caligiuri), and madness ("Shuffle," by Christopher M. Stephen)."

--*New York Times Book Review*

"These are stories that resonate with authenticity and verve and pain and truth. Any collection edited by the National Book Award-winning author Oates (*them; Blonde, Rape: A Love Story*) deserves attention, but the contributors are deft and confident, and great writers without her imprimatur....Authentic, powerful, visceral, moving, great writing."

--*Library Journal*, Starred review

"A remarkable anthology of stories written by inmates of correctional institutions across America...Most importantly, this landmark volume amplifies the voices of the incarcerated."

--*Publishers Weekly*, Starred review

One of **BookRiot's** Must-Read Books from Indie Presses for 2014

"A strong compilation of prison literature, varied, well-written and not always what might be expected."

--*Reviewing the Evidence*

"No matter what side of the bars you live on, *Prison Noir* is worth doing time with."

--*Killeen Daily Herald*

"This is a collection of stories that you will want to take your time with, savor, and probably reread a few times."

--**Jenn's Review Blog**

"There is an intensity and melancholy that shines through these fifteen short stories, all written by prison inmates incarcerated throughout the US, and edited by the inestimable Joyce Carol Oates."

--**A Lit Chick**

"Affecting, powerfully written and arresting literature. Well worth seeking out."

--**BRSBKBLOG**

Akashic Books continues its groundbreaking series of original noir anthologies, launched with the summer '04 award-winning best seller *Brooklyn Noir*. Each book is comprised of all-new stories, each one set in a distinct neighborhood or location within the respective geographic range of the book. This anthology, with stories set in different prisons across the US, presents an absolutely new perspective on prison literature.

From the introduction by Joyce Carol Oates:

"*The blood jet is poetry*--these words of Sylvia Plath have reverberated through my experience of reading and rereading the stories of *Prison Noir*. In this case the blood jet is prose, though sometimes poetic prose; if

we go a little deeper, in some chilling instances, the blood jet is exactly that: *blood*. For these stories are not "literary" exercises--though some are exceptionally well-written by any formalist standards, and artfully structured as narratives; with a single exception the stories are stark, somber, emotionally driven *cris de coeur*...We may feel revulsion for some of the acts described in these stories, but we are likely to feel a startled, even stunned sympathy for the perpetrators. And in several stories, including even murderers' confessions, we are likely to feel a profound and unsettling identification...There is no need for fantasy-horror in a place in which matter-of-fact horror is the norm, and mental illness is epidemic. Vividly rendered realism is the predominant literary strategy, as in a riveting documentary film."

Featuring brand-new stories by: Christopher M. Stephen, Sin Soracco, Scott Gutches, Eric Boyd, Ali F. Sareini, Stephen Geez, B.M. Dolarman, Zeke Caligiuri, Marco Verdoni, Kenneth R. Brydon, Linda Michelle Marquardt, Andre White, Timothy Pauley, Bryan K. Palmer, and William Van Poyck.

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From reader reviews:

Katy Pinkham:

Have you spare time to get a day? What do you do when you have much more or little spare time? Yep, you can choose the suitable activity regarding spend your time. Any person spent their spare time to take a move, shopping, or went to often the Mall. How about open or even read a book eligible Prison Noir (Akashic Noir)? Maybe it is to be best activity for you. You realize beside you can spend your time along with your favorite's book, you can more intelligent than before. Do you agree with its opinion or you have additional opinion?

Thomas Murray:

Spent a free time and energy to be fun activity to accomplish! A lot of people spent their leisure time with their family, or their friends. Usually they doing activity like watching television, about to beach, or picnic from the park. They actually doing same thing every week. Do you feel it? Would you like to something different to fill your own personal free time/ holiday? Could be reading a book may be option to fill your totally free time/ holiday. The first thing that you ask may be what kinds of book that you should read. If you want to try look for book, may be the guide untitled Prison Noir (Akashic Noir) can be excellent book to read. May be it may be best activity to you.

Henry Reavis:

Reading can called mind hangout, why? Because when you are reading a book specifically book entitled Prison Noir (Akashic Noir) your head will drift away trough every dimension, wandering in each and every aspect that maybe unidentified for but surely will end up your mind friends. Imaging each word written in a reserve then become one web form conclusion and explanation which maybe you never get before. The Prison Noir (Akashic Noir) giving you a different experience more than blown away your brain but also giving you useful information for your better life in this particular era. So now let us explain to you the relaxing pattern at this point is your body and mind will probably be pleased when you are finished studying it, like winning an activity. Do you want to try this extraordinary paying spare time activity?

William Powell:

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