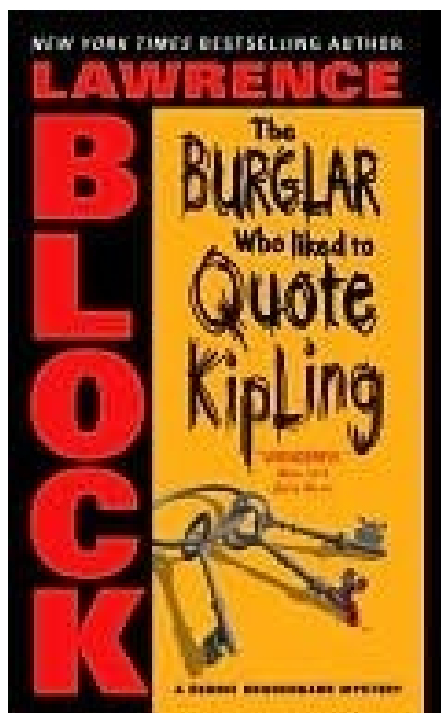




The Burglar Who Liked to Quote Kipling

Lawrence Block

Download now

Read Online ➔

The Burglar Who Liked to Quote Kipling

Lawrence Block

The Burglar Who Liked to Quote Kipling Lawrence Block

Bernie Rhodenbarr has gone legit -- almost -- as the new owner of a used bookstore in New York's Greenwich Village. Of course, dusty old tomes don't always turn a profit, so to make ends meet, Bernie's forced, on occasion, to indulge in his previous occupation: burglary. Besides which, he likes it.

Now a collector is offering Bernie an opportunity to combine his twin passions by stealing a very rare and very bad book-length poem from a rich man's library.

The heist goes off without a hitch. The delivery of the ill-gotten volume, however, is a different story. Drugged by the client's female go-between, Bernie wakes up in her apartment to find the book gone, the lady dead, a smoking gun in his hand, and the cops at the door. And suddenly he's got to extricate himself from a rather sticky real-life murder mystery and find a killer -- before he's booked for Murder One.

The Burglar Who Liked to Quote Kipling Details

Date : Published (first published 1979)

ISBN :

Author : Lawrence Block

Format : Kindle Edition 304 pages

Genre : Mystery, Fiction, Humor, Crime

 [Download The Burglar Who Liked to Quote Kipling ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Burglar Who Liked to Quote Kipling ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online The Burglar Who Liked to Quote Kipling Lawrence Block

From Reader Review The Burglar Who Liked to Quote Kipling for online ebook

Tfitoby says

Bernie the Burglar has retired. He's now selling antiquarian books. Don't we all dream of that kind of retirement? Only Bernie isn't pushing the business as much as he might, Bernie is still keeping his fingers gloved and on the look out for something fun to burgle. Enter a Rudyard Kipling enthusiast with a decidedly juicy proposition and Bernie's burglar tools are packed and ready to go, breathing holes cut in the palms of his rubber gloves.

The format is much as previous (and almost certainly future) instalments, Bernie finds himself in a jam, on the run from the police with only his wits able to save him from clink and a even worse, not getting paid for his work. It's light hearted but not absurd and as with all other Block novels incredibly well written.

I'm loving the Bernie books almost as much as the Scudder books. Almost.

Josh says

Comprising a gentle dose of humor deftly mixed in the world of professional thievery, Lawrence Block's Bernie Rhodenbarr series is a lighter shade of crime fiction which also caters to those readers who like tension and a constant threat of violence on the horizon.

Bernie owns a bookstore and has seemingly given up the life of crime. However, when presented with a nice payday to retrieve a valuable book from a semi-serious collector, he can't refuse.

From that point forward, THE BURGLAR WHO LIKED TO QUOTE KIPLING is very much a classic whodunit as suspects fall and others emerge. It's a buyers market for death, little alone the item in question.

I've been reading some heavy crime fiction and some rather bleak non-fiction and found this book to be a light read, just at the time when I was needing one.

Additionally, THE BURGLAR WHO LIKED TO QUOTE KIPLING is the third book in the Bernie Rhodenbarr series and is new-reader-friendly, another tick in my book.

Review first appeared on my blog: <http://justaguythatlikes2read.blogspot...>

Roxana-M?lina Chiril? says

Reasons this book was boring:

1. The police doesn't use Bernie Rhodenbarr as a murder-detector yet - despite his tendency to stumble onto fresh or about-to-happen murder scenes.
2. All characters we already know (except Bernie and the cop) are discarded for a new cast, so Bernie can

continue to have no developing relationships whatsoever.

3. The murder clues can be deciphered by nobody but Bernie while I give a damn, then the solutions are thrown at me when I no longer care.

4. I'm not sure what the fourth reason is, it's already been a day since I read it and it's such a memorable novel that the details are starting to fade...

Noah Goats says

I've just about read all the books in this series (this one is only #3 but I haven't been reading them in order) and I can say that they are uniformly entertaining. Block employs his gifts for dialogue and humor to excellent effect in every one of the Burglar novels. It may not, on a fundamental level, make any sense for a burglar to be put into situations where he has to solve murders on a regular basis, but these books are so much fun I don't care.

Suze says

I'm on a "The Burglar Who..." binge. Bernie is a fun protagonist, the books are just fun to read. If you have a problem with moral ambiguity (he IS a burglar), you might have a problem with these books, but the adept burglar who keeps stumbling over bodies, his lesbian best friend Carolyn, and "the best cop money can buy" are just fun to hang out with.

Rob says

Number 3 in the Bernie Rhodenbarr series.

What a breath of fresh air this was.

Bernie Rhodenbarr is a master burglar with a good heart. He's a bit of a modern day Robin Hood, takes from the rich and maybe gives some back to the not so rich.

The offbeat humour is infectious, and there's lot's of it.

This book is nearly 40 years old and it's interesting to note that Bernie's sidekick, Carolyn Kaiser, is a devout lesbian. I'd say that put's Block well ahead of public opinion at the time.

Bernie is a full time second hand bookstore owner but as part time burglar is contracted to purloin a very rare Kipling book from a personal library. Bernie compleats the contract but before he can hand over the book and get his money he is held up at gunpoint in his shop and asked to hand over the book. Not long after that Bernie is drugged and set up for a murder that he didn't commit. Bernie is now in one hell of a fix. With the help of Carolyn, Bernie sets about trying to figure out who is doing what and why.

This is a good old fashioned whodunit mystery, light on the violence and not a naked body in sight.

There are lots of red herrings to keep you guessing and the humour lasts right to the last page.

If you are looking for a good read without the gore, blood and sex this will be right up your ally.

An entertaining read with a 4 star recommendation.

Norton Stone says

I love a quick read, and I love good crime that demonstrates an author's grasp of history. Block puts enough real or potentially real stuff in to create interest in an unsurprising conclusion. I feel the Block template has periods where you know he is withholding information because disclosing it would mess with the summing up. The ending is very Agatha, but why not, the formula works. I like Blocks descriptions and the effortless pace. Romance for men.

Nadine Larter says

Over the weekend I was mock-pouting at my husband for "abandoning" me to go and run a marathon (seriously: why do folks in their 30s insist on this weird phenomenon?) and for the fact that I was up way too early on a Sunday morning because of his sudden need to sports. I then jokingly grumpy-yelled at him that he needed to go and find me a book to read and that he should be aware that the state of our relationship depended on his choice.

This is the book he brought me. I imagine it is because it was one of about 3 that he has read in my entire library.

So this book has a copyright date of 1976. Now honestly I find that quite impressive because often when I read older books, I find them filled with cliches. This is not necessarily the fault of the authors themselves, because maybe they weren't cliches back then but they are today. Anyway - this book is quite low on the cliches and I love that because I personally suck at steering clear of cliches in my own writing, but am quite adept at spotting them in the work of others.

This is a fast-paced read and it's heavy on the dialogue. Somehow it's easy to read without being annoying, in fact sometimes it's even quite charming with a hint of humour that doesn't try too hard to be funny. It's not meant to be a grand masterpiece and that's fine. Just something easy to read over a couple of days before moving onto something a little more taxing, perhaps?

I loved the relationship between the protagonist and his sidekick. She is a lesbian, which is a subject barely tackled in the novel. I love how flippantly it is treated, like it was no biggie for those days. Then again, I suppose he is also treated as if his burgling is no biggie, just an extension of himself. (I mean no offense in comparing homosexuality to burgling - of course I don't think they are the same. I am merely pointing out that these two characters were beautifully accepting of each other while never making any sort of big deal about the acceptance. It was nice. Especially out of a time when such things were far more taboo than they are now.)

Elizabeth says

Our dear gentleman burglar tries to go straight in this book (well sort of) as he sets up shop as the owner of an antiquarian bookstore. You see, Bernie Rhondenbarr, cat burglar though he may be, also loves to read and has had a life long passion for good literature.

Unfortunately, he couldn't resist stealing a rare Kipling edition and equally unfortunately, in doing so, he was once again framed for murder. However, he is a greater detective than any of the NYPD and was able to solve the murder and clear his name yet again.

I really enjoyed Bernie's philosophizing about the moral decline of the nation in this book. I agree with everything he says but it's just ironic coming from a burglar Hahaha!

Oh one other note about Bernie's character: in this book he had to steal a car for a burglary but on his way to put the car back, he filled it with gas and got the oil changed. Nice burglar!

Mike French says

Very enjoyable and entertaining. Easy to see why Lawrence Sanders is such a popular author!

Erin ? *Proud Book Hoarder* says

The Bernie Rhodenbarr series remains an unusual series since the main character is an unapologetic burglar who doesn't lose sleep over swiping some valuables. This time Bernie is behind the front of a used bookstore he wants to succeed with, but he's drawn into a shady deal against his better judgement when conned into a valuable book deal of all things.

Outside the same police detective that Bernie bribes occasionally, there continues to be no continuing cast. All new people yet again, dependable and non-judgemental women. It does grow old in the series that, by continuously recycling out any regular characters, there is no need for Bernie to have a continued, developing or layered relationship.

I do find it refreshing how matter of factly the lesbian relationship was treated, especially considered it was the 70s and published, but I suppose it's about a burglar being okay with breaking and entering and robbing people of their possessions, so why have any hang ups about what people do in the bedroom?

The detective is a returner, as I said, and he's amusing. I always liked him. He speaks in the classic noir type - chopped and figuratively, much like Bernie and those he interacts with. Like a lot of crime novels, each character's dialogue rings as too similar to be wholly believable.

The story just wasn't that interesting, despite its bonuses. I was bored in a few sections and kind of ready for it to be over by the time I was halfway through.

Kemper says

Professional thief Bernie Rhodenbarr is trying to go legit by buying a book store, but that's a tough way to make the rent even back in the days before Amazon. So when Bernie gets an offer to swipe a rare volume of Kipling verses for a hefty payday he's more than willing to start picking locks again.

However, what should be a simple exchange of the book for the cash goes sideways, and Bernie finds himself on the run from the cops after being framed for murder. He'll need all of his criminal skills and some

help from his best friend Carolyn to get out of this one.

As I've stated on other reviews I'm a huge fan of Lawrence Block, but this series wasn't my favorite thing he's done although I quite enjoyed The Burglar Who Counted the Spoons. I think it's because while Bernie is a thief the books generally revolve around him playing amateur sleuth rather than actually being about his profession. Still, there's a charming low-key quality to these, and I always enjoy Block's casual dialogue where characters often ramble and make amusing observations about life's quirks.

I liked this the most of the early ones I've read because it introduced Carolyn, the lesbian dog groomer who is the person that Bernie can count on most and vice versa. Their friendship is one of the things I've most enjoyed about the series.

Overall, it's a solid mystery with a good sense of humor, and Block always makes a character just trying to navigate the treacherous waters of daily life in New York City a treat to read.

Nanosynergy says

Book 3 in the Bernie Rhodenbarr series. Mind-candy reads. This is the second in series I have read. Despite the main character's on-again/off-again profession as a talented burglar, Block is able to make Bernie likable and sympathetic. The tone of Block's books are humorous and lighthearted. Bernie finds himself in serious scrapes resulting from his life of crime - such as becoming a murder suspect (more than once). A bright and literate burglar, he manages with the help of friends he develops along the way (including cops), to solve the crime and keep himself from going to prison for the crime of which he is innocent (murder) while not being arrested for the crime he did commit (burglary).

Karl says

This is an enjoyable fun read. A mystery about the book world is usually always fun and is quite enjoyable if done correctly. Larry Block, I call him Larry as that is the way he signed this book, can do the job better than some.

The writing is fast and humorous about a New York bookseller who also happens to be a burglar, his best friend, a self proclaimed lesbian who runs a dog grooming shop a few doors from his book shop is clever and well written. Beside the plot, of a stolen book, that may or may not be rare, Mr. Block drops references to other books his protagonist has in his shop and authors he enjoys, the customers who come into his shop to either buy or steal his offerings.

The book was written in 1979 so some of the prices of books are quite a bit dated, but Mr. Block's humor still stands up, especially humorous is the ongoing gag about a Pontiac the burglar steals to drive around the city.

This is the third book in the series and can be read out of sequence without any major difficulty.

This copy is signed by Lawrence Block.

Tom says

The plot got so convoluted that even the suspects were expressing confusion -- Block's puckish nod that his own story had gotten away from him? Regardless, still a fun read that succeeds more on Rhodenbarr's character than suspenseful plot, though there us enough of that to keep you guessing.

The dialogue, especially that with gay, dog-groomer pal, echoes wittier side of Block's Matthew Scudder. Carolyn was a delightful and substantial side-kick who added much to story.

A must-read for Kipling completists? Sure, why not. Block had me going about the alleged long-lost Kipling book.
