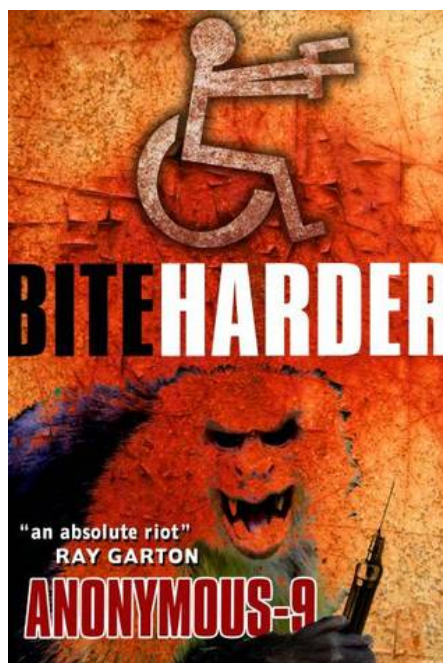




Bite Harder

Anonymous-9

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BITE HARDER--Some say he's a serial killer. Others say he's a vigilante doing what police can't or won't do. What's certain is that Dean Drayhart, a paraplegic, will soon sit on death row for killing hit and run drivers in Los Angeles. But not if the Mexican Mafia gets hold of him and those he loves first. Dean may be broken in body but his fierce spirit is determined to protect his pet monkey Sid and girlfriend Cinda--out there running hard and fast from the law.

Hardboiled, funny, relentless, and unexpectedly tenderhearted BITE HARDER delivers riotous action all the way to a bombshell climax that could only have been written by Anonymous-9, the self-declared mad scientist of crime fiction.

Bite Harder Details

Date : Published October 15th 2014 by Down and Out Books (first published September 1st 2014)

ISBN : 9781937495756

Author : Anonymous-9

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Genre : Horror

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From Reader Review Bite Harder for online ebook

Jackmeister says

This was a great read, I really enjoyed it and an excellent sequel to Hard Bite, wonderful characters in Dean, Cinda and especially Sid the monkey, it was all happening, car chases, prison breaks, shootouts etc. my favourite quote "In other words we're tits-up in the tank." love it. Someone call Hollywood, movie please!

Stephanie Hughes says

I started reading Bite Harder while on vacation at the beach, it has been a long time since I actually read a book usually I listen to them on my iPod at work but since I have recently lost my job I wanted to read this one I was very excited to do so. I thoroughly enjoyed it! It kept me on my toes wondering what was going to happen to each character, I definitely can't wait for the next book keep writing Anonymous-9 I will be desperately waiting!

Chuck Barksdale says

This is a prison hospital, the Medical Services building at Los Angeles County jail. There are innocent men in prison here. Men falsely convicted of murders they didn't commit. I am not one of them. You'd think a cripple couldn't take revenge but you would be wrong. Uh oh, had to read that sentence twice did you, the one with the word *crippled* in it? Yes I'm talking to you reading this. I'm a living reminder that life does awful stuff to some people. I'm not going to use nice terms for my horror show. I have zero interest in making you feel comfy, asshole sorry, buddy. I'm sorry. You're not reading this to get sucker punched. I lose it sometimes. Keep reading, please? At least stick around for the laffs.

Bite Harder is a sequel that continues the story of Dean Drayhart and all the other entertaining (but not always likeable) characters found in **Hard Bite**. You could read and enjoy this book without reading the first book, but I would not recommend that since you would be missing a great book, and my favorite book of 2012. I was fortunate to have been one of the first people given a chance by Elaine Ash (Anonymous-9) to read and review **Hard Bite** for goodreads (I'm even acknowledged at the end of **Bite Harder**!), but now many others have read it and this sequel, and both are getting the great praise that they deserve by many reviewers and authors.

As the quotation above indicates, Dean Drayhart is now in prison for murder. Orella Malalinda, a crazed drug trafficker and the mother of one of Dean's targets (hit and run drivers who killed), is even more crazy over not only killing Dean in revenge, but also killing his killer monkey Sid. (You have to read the first book...) Dean's prostitute girlfriend Cinda is now working in a diner but still willing to help Dean in any way she can. When the Malalinda's family attempt to break Dean out of prison so they can kill him goes, wrong, the action really heats up in this very enjoyable sequel.

Benoit Lelièvre says

Well, that was some serious non-stop action boogie. You kind of have to have read HARD BITE in order to full enjoy the BITE HARDER experience because it is a direct sequel in the Lethal Weapon tradition of direct sequels, but it's faster, leaner, more cohesive and an oddly visual little novel that could very well be turned into a graphic novel.

The issues I have with the style in HARD BITE have been ironed out here aside from a few chapters narrated by Dean Drayhart, it's an all-out third person action/pulp novel. The legacy of the paralyzed killer of Los Angeles is starting to draw itself in the publishing world. Although I think this would benefit a graphic novel treatment in order to give justice to its brilliant writing, the novel will please whoever wants to give it a chance.

Josh says

The murderous mayhem continues where HARD BITE left off in a tale of vengeance, redemption, death, and loss. Equal parts humanist and animal instinct, author Anonymous-9 delivers another shot of pure pulp goodness.

The lead character Dean Drayhart, a paraplegic as a result of a hit and run that also ripped his family apart, is further explored via flashbacks of his former family life. The omnipresent sense of sadness and sloping slide towards acceptance really give Dean a completely three dimensional feel. He's no longer the tortured soul hell bent on revenge, rather, he's more about preserving the lives of those close to him, Sid (helper monkey) included, as he struggles to free himself of the shackles of the Mexican Mafia.

Where HARD BITE focused on Dean's quest to rid the demons of his past by becoming an unlikely serial killer, BITE HARDER targets Dean as the victim of the Mexican Mafia's blood lust as a result of Dean having murdered one of their own. It's a nice flip of the script from the books' predecessor.

BITE HARDER is a lethal mix of black humour, heart, and hard bites. A self contained story that fits in with a broad spanning pulp narrative that leaves room for further installments while still delivering a satisfying read of a uniquely engrossing vigilante.

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

Mike Hughes says

Ok. The first book I thought was amazing and there is no let down with this one. This book takes place just after Hard Bite and the title Bite harder is very fitting! A great book, could not put it down, even while sitting on the beach with all the hotties in bikinis running around. loved it and Anonymous-9 has again provided me with one of my top reads again this year. Thank you Elaine!!

Shelleyrae at Book'd Out says

Bite Harder caught my attention on Just A Guy Who Likes To Read, I left a comment and a few days later the author contacted me requesting a review and I decided to give it a shot based on the premise, and Josh's praise.

Dean Drayhart is a paraplegic amputee, having been severely injured when a hit and run driver ploughed into he and his family on a crosswalk. Drayhart's young daughter didn't survive, nor did his marriage, and with little left to lose, Drayhart, along with Sid, his helper monkey/assassin, and Cinda, a prostitute with a heart of gold, embarked on a vigilante spree across L.A., in Hard Bite executing hit and run drivers who thought they had gotten away with their crimes. Bite Harder is the sequel, though it works well enough as a stand alone.

It opens with Dean arrested for the murder of his last target, Ambrose Malalinda, the youngest son of a local drug-dealing crime family who mowed down a father of four. The Malalinda family have already twice attempted to exact their own revenge on Dean by first attacking the police transport during his transfer, which resulted in the death of Ambrose's older brother Mateo, and then arranging Dean be stabbed to death in his cell. With both attempts thwarted the apoplectic Malalinda matriarch, Orella, takes matters into her own hands and arranges to hijack Dean during a manufactured medical emergency but things quickly go wrong and Dean, reunited with Cinda and looking for Sid, is on the run.

Fast paced and action packed with plenty of humour, bordering on the slapstick at times, Bite Harder is an entertaining read. The characterisation is good, Dean is a well developed protagonist, though the author is fairly reliant on stereotypes for most of the supporting cast. The writing is solid, using both a first and third point of view, but personally I would prefer character's don't address the reader directly, as Dean does on occasion.

A quick, aggressive and darkly funny read, I enjoyed Bite Harder, and I'm glad I gave it a shot.

Col says

Synopsis/blurb.....

Some say he's a serial killer. Others, a vigilante doing what police can't or won't do. What's certain is that Dean Drayhart, a paraplegic, will soon sit on death row for killing hit-and-run drivers in Los Angeles. But not if the Mexican Mafia gets hold of him first. Somewhere, Dean's trained companion monkey Sid and girlfriend Cinda are outrunning the law in a fast '98 Trans Am. The Los Angeles Sheriff's Department wants Sid, dead or alive. Dean may be broken in body but his fierce spirit is determined to protect Sid and Cinda in the most creative ways imaginable. Hardboiled, funny, relentless, and unexpectedly tender-hearted, Bite Harder delivers riotous action all the way to a bombshell climax that could only have been written by Anonymous-9, the self-declared mad scientist of crime fiction.

My take....

My third time around the block with Elaine Ash – aka Anonymous-9. Bite Harder is the sequel to Hard Bite

a novel which introduced us to Dean Drayhart. Dean is a paraplegic – the result of a hit and run accident; an accident that not only cost him his legs but his family. Since then he has been revenging himself, by tracking down other hit and run drivers and unleashing his trained carer monkey Sid on the guilty with the instruction “Hard Bite!” Not a pretty way to die.

Drayhart is in prison now, but not for long. One of his victims was a member of a Mexican crime family and the matriarch wants him dead along with his trained monkey. The Mexicans unwilling to trust in the US justice system, bust him out of jail in order to kill him, as slowly and painfully as possible.

Drayhart has a semi-death-wish, wanting to be re-united with his wife and daughter, so he’s kind of philosophical about his intended fate. He does have a fierce loyalty towards his replacement family – Sid the monkey and Cinda, his sex-worker girlfriend. When they are threatened, he decides to live a bit longer.

Outlandish, pacy, furious, and funny by turn Anonymous serves up just the right blend of action, thrills and comedy.

Bribery, prison break, murder, cops, kidnapping, proposed sex-action with a rich geriatric, family – albeit a highly dysfunctional and inept criminal enterprise, with a hot Mexican widow mama and some less than capable off-spring, a few old people with a fondness for a kind-hearted hair-dyed helper primate, a scheming entrepreneurial nephew and lots more.

Only in LA, I think.....a fantastic read, obviously the product of a warped, disturbed but brilliant mind.

5 from 5

Hard Bite was reviewed here.
<http://col2910.blogspot.co.uk/2012/11...>

Some of Elaine’s short stories were reviewed here – JUST SO YOU KNOW I’M NOT DEAD.
<http://col2910.blogspot.co.uk/2014/07...>

The lady herself was kind enough to submit to a Q+A session last year, here.
<http://col2910.blogspot.co.uk/2014/07...>

You can catch up with here at her website – here,
<http://www.anonymous-9.com/>

and on Twitter - @_Anonymous_9
https://twitter.com/_Anonymous_9

Anonymous 9 was kind enough to send me a copy of this and I subsequently bought my own afterwards.

<http://col2910.blogspot.co.uk/2015/05...>

Max says

The publisher Blasted Heath was started a few years ago by the excellent crime writer Allan Guthrie, of whom I am a big fan. The books that Blasted Heath put out were almost uniformly excellent and I bought

every one.

I'm glad I developed that habit, because who knows if I would have found HARD BITE, the book that BITE HARDER is a direct sequel to, otherwise?

I loved HARD BITE tons and bunches. I wrote a review for it that you can find here... someplace. A very positive review, in which I praised the breezy pace and the dark comic moments. I think I likened Anonymous-9 to Carl Hiassen.

As soon as HARD BITE 2: BITE HARDER (and is anyone else immediately put in mind of DIE HARD 2 here? Was it actually subtitled DIE HARDER, or was that just a great marketing tag line?) became available, I was all over it.

I won't recap the plot of either book here, because I hate when people do that in book reviews and you can just scroll up and read a professional summarizer/recapper do a better job of it anyway. I will say, though, that the characters are funny, fallible and fully fleshed. They are complex and relatable and it is obvious that Anonymous-9 cares about each and every one of them, even the ones that meet terrible, violent ends (yeah, about half the cast).

She cares about them enough to let them breathe. She gives them the leash to wander around, sniff bushes and pee on fire hydrants (dog analogy, in case you think that was a crazy weird aside and yeah, cliché as it might be, dogs love them some sweet fire hydrant action), but in no way does that allow for the story to become meandering or unfocused. Because it's anything but - again, the pace is breezy, making for a quick, satisfying (pulpy) read.

It's a read that I thoroughly enjoyed, if that hasn't become clear. If you enjoyed HARD BITE, you will definitely enjoy HARDER. If you haven't read either, I recommend that you just buy both now - they're cheap as hell and I think a back-to-back read would be immensely satisfying; while HARD is a complete, satisfying story, HARDER picks right up where it leaves off and develops into a righteous second act.

Will there be a third? I dunno. But I look forward to reading, and writing a review for a possible future BITE HARD: WITH A VENGEANCE.

Keith Nixon says

Dean Drayhart is in prison. He's a self-confessed serial killer, but with a difference. His wife and child were mowed down in a hit and run, the same accident which left him a paraplegic and barely able to move. Worse, the perpetrator was never caught.

Drayhart wanted revenge and he gained it in the strongest possible fashion, by finding other hit and run drivers in and around Los Angeles who'd escaped justice and killing them. Dean is aided and abetted in his vigilante crimes by an a unique sidekick – a monkey called Sid. He's highly intelligent and well trained, and when Dean says 'hard bite' Sid goes for the victim's jugular.

But Dean was caught and is now awaiting trial for these crimes, which took place in Hard Bite. However, a crime syndicate run by Maria Orella, wants revenge because Dean killed Maria's son, another hit and run driver. So in an eye-for-an-eye response the Orellas want to wipe out everything Dean loves – his prostitute girlfriend Cinda, his murderous monkey Sid, and finally Dean himself.

First, they break Dean out of prison, but he manages to slip out of their clutches. Reunited with Cinda, the pair try to find Sid, who's been on his own since Drayhart was caught. A chase follows with Drayhart pursued across and around Los Angeles by both the law and the Orellas.

It is worth noting that Bite Harder is the sequel to Hard Bite. Although it isn't necessary to read the first novel it would help as a number of the characters and their motivations are driven by the events previously outlined.

Hard Bite was such a revelation to read, very different from anything else this reviewer had come across. However, Bite Harder doesn't have that same shock value - and it can't. It's like watching Twelve Monkeys or Fight Club for the second time. The big twist is out of the bag. A monkey? And it's a weapon! However, this is not a criticism. It would have been easy for the author to give up writing about these unusual characters simply because of this point. Thankfully Anonymous-9 didn't, and she has produced another thoroughly enjoyable novel.

The author excels at setting up tussles among her creations. What's interesting is that Drayhart spends much of the novel conflicted. He wants to be caught. He's seriously disabled and is desperate to be set free, reunited with his wife and daughter. They're the only reason he took up a life of crime. But then again he has a positive relationship with Cinda and Sid – if you ignore the fact the former is a prostitute, the second a killer primate. The Orellas are a mix of bright (Maria) and dumb (the children), but all are clear on one thing: Drayhart must die. They're slightly slapstick, which suits the mood of this noir-ish affair.

Finally, the author also successfully puts us in the mind of Sid. We are able to witness what he thinks and feels. And this is what she does best, creating this mix of grit, sadness, positivity and humour out of which pops a story.

It's thoroughly good fun, go get it...

Originally reviewed for Crime Fiction Lover.

Mysticpt says

Wow, another blast of high octane adventure with Dean, Sid, and Cinda! this picks right up where things left off in Hard Bite and the mayhem continues. now i may be just slightly overrating this book (hard to give 4.5 on here), but i totally underrated Hard Bite, so it all works out. if you don't like it, stop reading this review :) the more i read about these characters, the more i like them. there is never a dull moment in this book. shootouts, gangsters, prison breaks, social commentary, sex workers, you are laughing one minute then racing thru action filled pages as events conspire for one final shootout with the seriously deranged matriarch (you just have to read to believe it) of the Malalinda family and her minions. not for the faint of heart, but you will not have a more action filled fun read this summer, highly recommended! and the deal with the devil at the end of this book has me really anticipating the next installment. could be the hardest bite yet!

Bettyb says

Bite Harder is a great sequel to Hard Bite. Dean Drayheart and Sid the monkey are two of the best, most

unique, characters in crime fiction. I really enjoyed spending more time with them and Cinda, Dean's girlfriend. It is easy to root for this them, even though the odds are usually not in their favor. I loved every word of the book and only wish it could have been longer. I sure hope we see them again.

Ctgt says

4.5 stars

I was given an ARC by the author.(Thanks Anonymous-9)

If you have read any of my earlier reviews of her titles you know I've been a fan since I read The 1st Short Story Collection several years ago and A-9 would have had to drive this baby off a cliff for me **not** to enjoy the story.

Dean, Cinda and everybody's favorite helper monkey Sid are back, but not in the same way. Dean is in the slammer while Cinda and Sid are on the run. We also get a much closer look at the whacked out drug dealing Malalinda family.

I initially gave this 4 stars but after mulling for a day decided to move it to 5. The big problem with any ongoing series with recurring characters is the author falling back on a tried and true formula trying to milk that cow as long as possible. Instead of waving a magic wand to wipe away the consequences of the first book, the author buckled in and wrote a very enjoyable, and different, second book. I also thought the writing had a bit more flow to it which made the story move along at nice pace. Trying to write an animal POV can be dangerous but I enjoyed the moments behind the eyes of Sid and was pleased with the development of the relationship between Dean and Cinda. When I combined all these factors, I had to bump the rating up a notch.

All in all a great follow up and I can't wait for the next book.

Anonymous-9 Anonymous-9 says

Readers CHoice Award (2014) The House of Crime and Mystery (Canada), "Brilliantly, brutally funny..." says Douglas Lindsay, author of THE LONG MIDNIGHT OF BARNEY THOMSON

Jerry says

Wow! Just Wow!

It's hard to believe but "Bite Harder" is a quirky, rip-roaring, fun read that improves on its excellent predecessor, "Hard Bite".

The action picks up where we left off in "Hard Bite". Dean Drayhart, a paralyzed serial-killer vigilante is in jail and the psychotic matriarch of a drug syndicate is still hungry for revenge. (One of her children is a victim of Dean Drayhart and his partner in crime, Sid the helper monkey.)

In "Bite Harder" a more reflective, fatalistic Drayhart emerges and Cinda (Dean's gal pal), Sid, and the

Malalinda clan are treated to even greater character development.

There are no slow parts. "Bite Harder" is non-stop action and flowing story line. No punches are pulled and this book is filled with plenty of laughs, mayhem, tension, and bloody action galore along the way to a satisfying conclusion. Without revealing too much of the plot, there is room for yet another volume in this tale of understandably sympathetic (?) violence, and a world where the line between right and wrong are all but erased.

In my opinion, the author is at her best in detailing the seedy underside of L.A. and injecting humorous dialogue and cleverly biting observations.

From Hard Bite:

A few hours later Maria Stamos arrives. In her early forties, she is expensively dressed in a black Carolina Herrera suit and four-inch heels. A Latin version of the classic ice queen. Killer body, shame about the face flits through Burnham's mind. It's not that she isn't pretty, it's the expression—he's seen kinder faces on feral cats.

From Bite Harder:

I'm forgetting where we are. Crazy Town. Los Angeles, California. They don't abort crazy here, they clone it.

Having read all of the authors published works to date, I can honestly state that she just keeps getting better and better.

Dare I say it - All hail the new Empress of L.A Noir!
