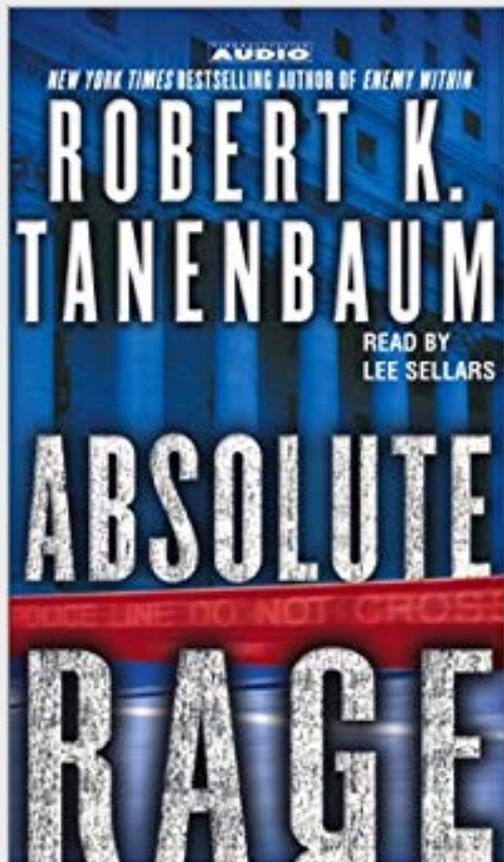


Absolute Rage by Lee Sellars, Robert K. Tanenbaum



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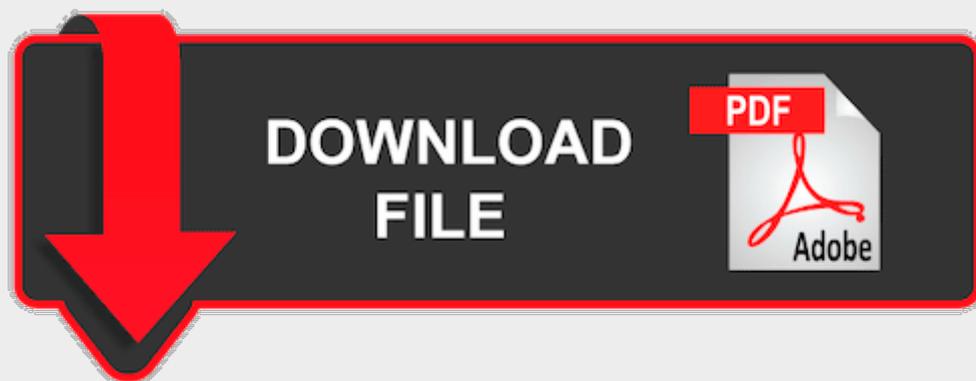
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The murder of a Teamster and his family lands Chief Assistant DA Butch Karp on one of his most challenging cases--one that will threaten his own family with violence.



Reviews of the Absolute Rage by Lee Sellars, Robert K. Tanenbaum

1. salivan

I had really enjoyed the previous books in this series, especially Corruption of Blood, as I'm what some might, unfairly and inaccurately, call a conspiracy theorist. I don't follow or believe in other conspiracies

but with JFK the simplest and most reasonable explanation for his reaction and the direction of his skull fragments and brain tissue is that there was a shot from the front. Magic bullets and one in a million reverse reactions are dishonest and farcical explanations. Anyway as Mr. Tannenbaum was involved in the 70's House investigation I read Corruption and was hooked. The plots were interesting if not incredible. The dialogue was sharp and usually funny. The characters were over the top and somewhat unbelievable. Can anyone imagine someone with Karp's scruples actually becoming the New York DA? Then there's the homicidal wife and the child who can speak every language and one can't forget the Vietnamese gangster nanny. True to life? Because the writing was good and solidly entertaining I could suspend disbelief until I came to read this particular book.

It was a struggle to turn the pages. The story was going nowhere. The wit was absent. Most of the book seemed forced and simply recounted events in previous books. About halfway through I finally gave up. I couldn't understand why this book was so different in every aspect from the others so I started researching and found out that Mr. Tannenbaum wasn't the author of this series at all and that the reason that this book was so bad is that it may actually have been written by him. It appears that his brother-in-law wrote all of the previous books in the series and whether due to pay or simply of being tired of being an uncredited ghostwriter quit his ghostwriting chores and began publishing his own novels.

Any number of writers have used ghostwriters and it's not illegal but not to credit a writer is, I think, immoral if not dishonest. It's something I thought only hacks like Brett Halliday and Ellery Queen (authors such as Theodore Sturgeon were uncredited) did. Mr. Tannenbaum lost all credibility with me. It's not enough to read a poorly written book but to support and encourage literary chicanery is intolerable.

The dedications in the books are rather interesting in that they seem to stop just short of saying that the brother-in-law wrote them. Too bad that Mr. Tannenbaum didn't go a step further.

2. Cordann

I seriously doubt if Tanenbaum could write a book that wasn't an absolutely I-couldn't-put-the-book-down read. This is one of his best. It starts calmly enough, and gradually builds up to a brain bashing crescendo as it zeroes in on some genuine hillbilly killers who hold an entire region of West Virginia in terror and who have involved Butch and his family by killing a friend.

Lucy is by now a young woman and happily is more deeply involved in the plot than she has been in quite some time. Needless to say, altho' Marlene starts out as a calm, civilized type, she reverts easily to the bull-bashing physical type that seems to be ingrained in her psyche.

No fan of Tanenbaum's will be dissatisfied with this book. Unlike many authors who write successive series, he doesn't spend page after page telling about the past or describing the personalities of his characters. He lets that information develop as part of the story, which is a real relief.

About the only thing I could find to strongly disagree with is Tanenbaum's tendency to make Butch overly idealistic. I think Butch's final assessment of the situation in West Virginia is far closer to reasonable than his puritanical view of how it was achieved.

I can't wait for another in this series.

3. Defolok

This story starts out on a mysterious note and moves swiftly into action. A story for both sexes. Interesting to the last word. The characters are believable and relatable.

4. Goltizuru

It took a long time to get into anything actually happening. Getting to know the family that was ultimately killed took way too much time and chapters. When action finally did start it too was slow developing. I skimmed through a lot of this book. I do not recommend it.

5. Trash

Looking forward to book 16, this is an awesome series! Read some of them a long time ago. Enjoying the repeat

6. Voodoosida

I am an avid reader of Butch Karp & Marlene Ciampi series. However, the each one becomes more and more ridiculous. Absolute Rage was so ridiculous that it was unenjoyable reading. Also, the more I read Mr. Tanenbaum the more I am beginning to dislike him. I find his ridiculing of any place other than New York City very offensive. He constantly degrades anyone and their capabilities if they do not work in New York. This time West Virginia...a novel before Delaware. Get a grip Bob....there is a life outside of the Big Apple.

7. Kerahuginn

but I gulped it down nevertheless! As usual, the unstoppable Marlen goes head first into something she really, really shouldn't have and finds herself, and her family, in a midst of a generations old feuds in a truly Wild West town, full of colourful characters.

Expectedly, things quickly turn for the worse and (unexpectedly) Karps do not come out of this mess unscathed (no, I won't go into details - read the book).

Maybe not the best in the series, but I am biting my nails for the next installment nevertheless.

8. Great



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