



Wild Thing: A Novel (Peter Brown series Book 2)

By Josh Bazell

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Beat the Reaper left critics applauding, readers gasping, and Dr. Pietro Brnwa on the run from the mob. *WILD THING* finds him adrift: at sea, literally, as a cruise ship doctor under an assumed name. So when a reclusive billionaire offers him a job accompanying a sexy but self-destructive paleontologist on the world's worst field assignment, Pietro reluctantly agrees. And that means an army of murderers, mobsters, and international drug dealers--not to mention the occasional lake monster--are about to have a serious Pietro Brnwa problem.

Facing new and old monsters alike, Pietro proves he's one of the crime genre's most exciting new heroes, in this darkly funny and lightning-paced sequel to Josh Bazell's bestselling debut.

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Wild Thing: A Novel (Peter Brown series Book 2) By Josh Bazell Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From [Booklist](#)

This is a throwback to that time a decade ago when praise went to crime novels that “transcended the genre,” or tried to. Thus this promising story of a hired killer on the run from his own clients is constantly being stalled by digressions that are—depending on your point of view—fascinating or just mannered. We meet the killer after he’s taken a job on a cruise ship, and the descriptions of boat life are dead-on. We follow him when he’s hired by a billionaire to join the search for a mysterious sea creature in the northern U.S., and the narrative is propulsive. But the “transcend” argument believes it’s low rent to tell a story, so we have flashbacks, dream sequences, and endless footnotes. We get disquisitions on the Jewish state, the lives of trees, and the fallacy of cryogenics. One senses an author who can’t quite keep his mind on his book or maybe wishes he was writing a different book. Could be that’s why the intimate moments sound like scenes from an Adam Sandler movie. --Don Crinklaw

Review

PRAISE FOR *WILD THING*:

"[Bazell's books] are hard-boiled thrillers, written in one of the most distinctively entertaining new fictional voices I've run across in years, in any genre. There is a massive density of information in [*Wild Thing*]...but Bazell wields it with wonderful lightness. Reading him is like being able to monopolize the attention of the most interesting person at a party...It's so rare that you see a really brilliant writer who is committed, 100%, in every sentence, to giving you a good time. Bazell is, and he does."

(Lev Grossman, *Time*)

"Carl Hiaasen fans will relish Bazell's frenetic sequel to 2009's *Beat the Reaper*...Bazell expertly blends action, farce, and political satire, and his wide-ranging imagination bodes well for the future of the series."
(Publishers Weekly (Starred Review))

"The book is composed in Bazell's propulsive, profanity-laden style, peppering startling violence with detailed footnotes that cover subjects like tooth reinsertions and human cryogenics...Props to Bazell for not cranking out an idle retread of *Beat the Reaper*. A funny, unexpected journey for our hero that sets up the next installment with finesse." **(Kirkus)**

"Is this novel better than Bazell's debut? It's as good as and more. In addition to the mayhem and madness of the original, there's an element of ecoconsciousness and political satire (the long-delayed appearance of the government official is worth the purchase price) that will leave readers wanting still more. Bazell makes being smart sexy and footnotes fun." **(Bob Lunn, Library Journal)**

"Insanely funny...the work of a crackpot genius." **(Marilyn Stasio, New York Times Book Review)**

"A rousing, fast-paced sequel...Bazell's mix of violent lunacy and social commentary should appeal to fans of Carl Hiaasen...The novel is packed with witty footnotes, and when Brnwa isn't lustng after the paleontologist, he's a profanely trenchant social observer." **(Washington Post)**

"Bazell's inventiveness and a series of plot twists ensure that *Wild Thing* never lets up...For suspense, the monster plot sinks its claws in, blending the best of *Jaws* with the comic sense of your favorite episode of *Scooby-Doo*. At its heart, this book is wildly fun." **(San Francisco Chronicle)**

"A very thoughtful examination of the collision of rationality and superstition...Comes with the funniest footnotes and appendix (no kidding) ever written." (*Daily Beast*)

"The novel is violent, sexy and relentlessly funny." (*Cleveland Plain Dealer*)

"*Wild Thing* walks, talks, and squawks like a crime thriller, but it makes casual passes at left-field absurdity that aim for Hiaasen or Vonnegut...a fun, fast read." (*Entertainment Weekly*)

About the Author

Josh Bazell has a BA in writing from Brown University and an MD from Columbia. His first book, the international best-seller *Beat the Reaper*, has been published in thirty-two languages and was one of *Time's* ten best novels of 2009. He lives in Brooklyn and Barcelona.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

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