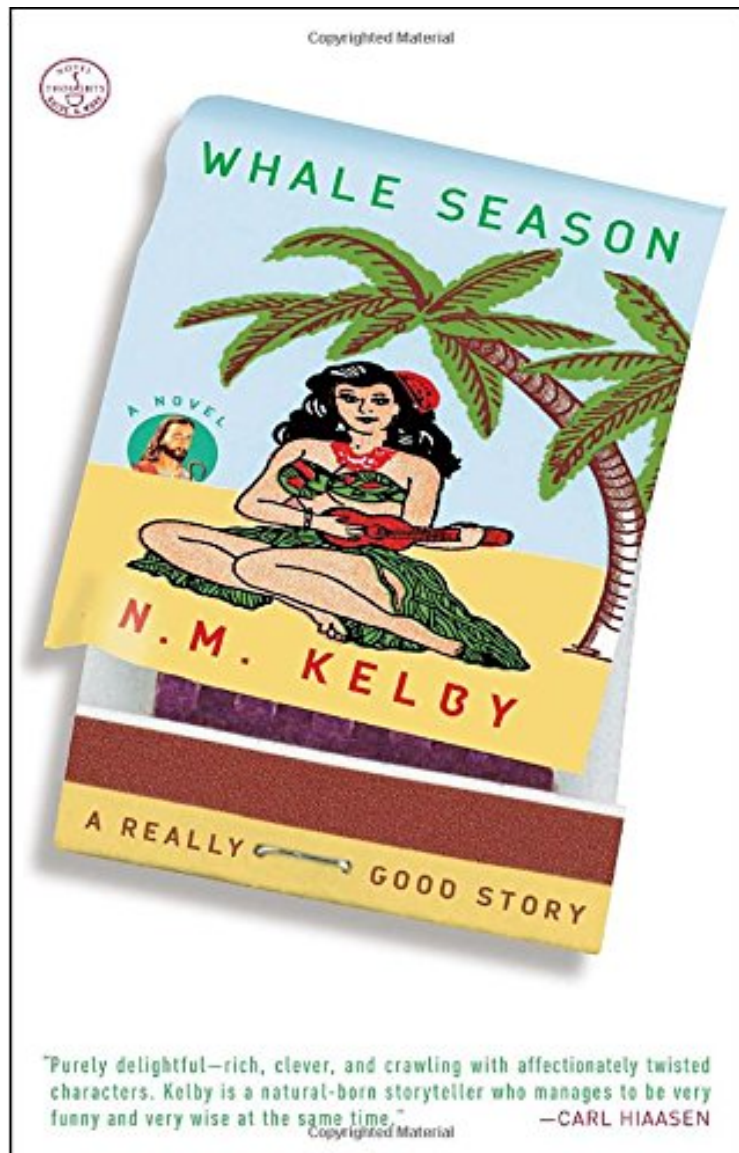


(Ebook pdf) Whale Season: A Novel

Whale Season: A Novel

N. M. Kelby

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N. M. Kelby : Whale Season: A Novel before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Whale Season: A Novel:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Florida Crazy Characters By Joseph H. Race Florida must have more than its share of crazy, zany, fun characters for the writers to jot down on paper...e.g., MacDonald, Franklin, White, Haasen, etc....Kelby's book was fun and enjoyable, and had a classic ending. She did excellent protagonist development, and a lot of the folks were strange, but lovable. I enjoyed it and would recommend it to others for an

airport or beach read. Lots of fun and hidden wisdom. Interesting and well worth the bucks and the time (which seemed to zoom by). Good job! 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Surprisingly entertaining! By Beckid I had to read this book for book club and was dreading it. It looked cheesy and didn't sound like anything I would enjoy. I was wrong. Once I started it, I was so amused and laughed out loud many times. I was also touched by the sweetness of it in parts. This would make a great summer vacation read for anyone just looking for a good story. 6 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Funny and deep. By Susan O'Neill I love this book. Nicole Kelby is a marvelous writer. Anybody who's read Theater of the Stars will respect her ability to blend seamlessly the truth of research with the craft of fiction, while not neglecting her very human characters. Anybody who's read her first bright little gem of a novel, In the Company of Angels, will see how brilliantly, economically and affectingly her writing cuts to the heart of a matter. Well. In Whale Season, she does it all--and she also indulges her marvelous, loopy sense of humor. The result is something rare: a novel with fascinating characters, a real storyline, a touch of mystery, a superb sense of place, a sneaky depth and relevance--all this, and the book is genuinely funny. Read it for the craft, the story, the characters, the humanity, the laughs. Whatever. Just...read it. Susan O'Neill Author, Don't Mean Nothing: Short Stories of Viet Nam

One Christmas Eve, Whale Harbor is visited by a man who thinks he's Jesus and claims to be looking for a game of poker. But, as usual, things are not quite what they seem. Having some version of the Lord in town for his birthday creates a strange effect on the locals: unlikely couples are breaking up and making up and making out; a luxury mobile home that belonged to an elderly couple from New Jersey (until they disappeared after a run-in with "the Lord") is won by a down-on-his-luck gambler in an unbelievable hand of poker; the area's most well-known and long-forgotten tourist attraction is rising up from a hole in the ground; and a gun no one has used in years is suddenly in hot demand. In the steamy climes of southern Florida, you take your miracles where you can get them—and if that means being led to salvation by a schizophrenic with a rap sheet, so be it. In the rollicking tradition of Carl Hiaasen's Tourist Season, with the heart of Garrison Keillor's Lake Wobegon, and peopled by the kind of colorful characters who would be quite at home in any Tom Robbins novel, N. M. Kelby's Whale Season is a sharp and funny novel made up of equal parts comic adventure and serial-killer inspired mayhem. From the Hardcover edition.

From Publishers Weekly A late-night Christmas Eve card game with a Jesus impersonator triggers misadventures galore in Kelby's screwball comedy with a dark side. In the dinky town of Whale Season, a faded (and whale-free) Florida tourist trap, various citizens mull over the lows life's brought them to. Sheriff Trot Jeeter and his best friend/oldest rival, Leon, a used RV salesman, form a love square with Carlotta, Leon's erstwhile girlfriend, and Dagmar, the owner of a local strip club and Leon's ex-wife (Trot loves them both, but Carlotta most). After winning a luxury RV from "Jesus" in poker, Leon gets drunk and burns down his trailer; everyone figures he's dead. Meanwhile, Jesus (who's really a serial killer named Dr. Ricardo Garcia) has decided that Jimmy Ray (a musician at Dagmar's club—and likely her father) will be his next victim. The nonstop comedy jives weirdly with the characters' backstories and the threat of grisly murder, best exemplified during a scene in which Jesus vows to give Jimmy "the Hallmark Card of Death," Jimmy finally acknowledges his paternity and everyone, weeping with joy, decides to eat French toast. Shaggy, silly, a little bit soggy—but as a holiday diversion, this is mighty good fun. (It's also a big shift for Kelby, who, writing as Nicole Kelby, offered up the luminous, haunting In the Company of Angels in 2001.) (Jan.) Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From Booklist Floridian Ricardo Garcia thinks he's Jesus Christ. But the second-generation Cuban doctor is far from a saint. In fact, he's a serial killer. That's but one of the revelations in this quirky--and, at times, creepy--comic yarn set in fictional Whale Harbor, Florida (where there are, in fact, no whales). Kelby's -character-driven offering has a skimpy story line involving murdered senior citizens and a hefty sum of shrink-wrapped cash stashed in a stolen RV. The cast includes former cheerleader Dagmar, who runs a "Naughty but Nice" strip club, her ex-husband Leon, owner of Lucky's RV Round-up and a pretty good poker player (thanks to a strategically placed mirror), and Sheriff Trot Jeeter, an unremarkable man in a perpetual state of unrequited love. And, of course, there's stringy-haired Jesus, clad in a white sheet, with requisite scars on his upper forehead and the tops of his hands. No doubt some readers will find the idea of a slayer disguised as a savior a bit irreverent, but fans of Tim Dorsey's Serge Storms novels (also about a goofy serial killer) will feel right at home. Allison Block Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved. Praise for Whale Season "Whale Season is purely delightful—rich, clever, and crawling with affectionately twisted characters. Nicole Kelby is a natural-born storyteller who manages to be very funny and very wise at the same time." —Carl Hiaasen "Kelby has created a crazy-quilt of unforgettable characters. You won't find whales in Whale Harbor but you will find ancient bluesmen, alligators in Minnie Pearl hats, sexy strip club owners with dreams of franchising, floundering RV salesmen, and the wackiest serial killer in modern fiction. Strap yourself in, it's one helluva ride." —J. A. Konrath, author of Bloody Mary "Poignant, hilarious, and melancholy, N. M. Kelby's strikingly entertaining novel feels like being on a theme park ride with Carl Hiaasen as tour guide. This is the real deal." —Will Staeger, bestselling author of Painkiller Praise for N. M. Kelby's Previous Work "Kelby's lovely language fuses sensuous specificity with metaphoric resonance. . . . To paraphrase and summarize such fine-spun fiction must inevitably be as inadequate as

any attempt to retell your most amazing dream the morning after.” —New York Times Book “Luscious and heartrending . . . overflows with miracles.” —Atlantic Monthly From the Hardcover edition.