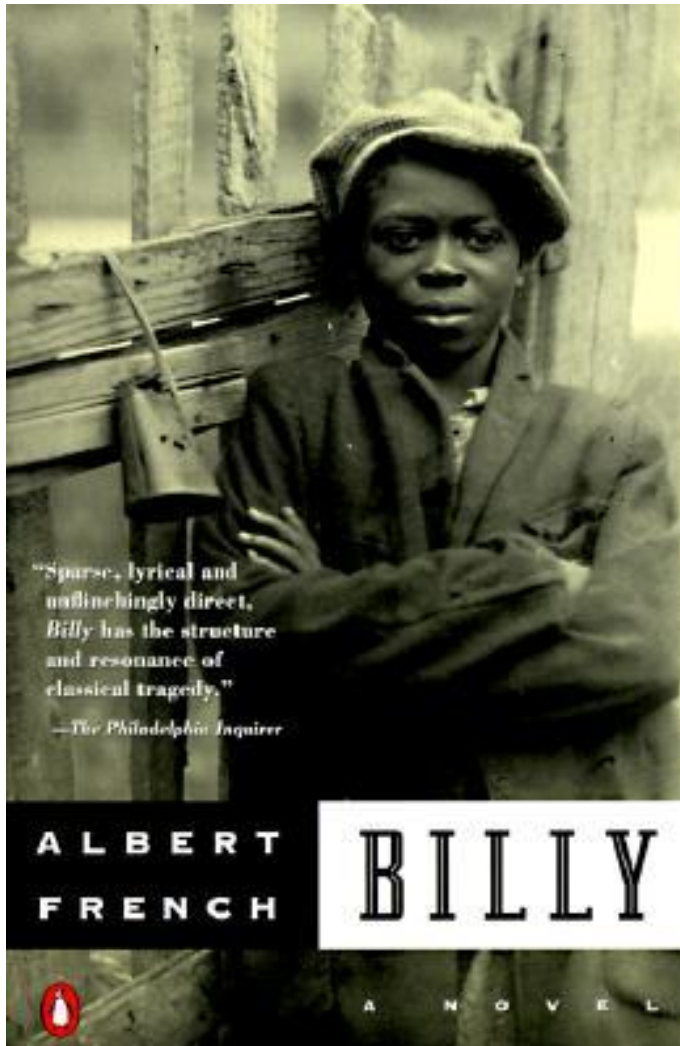

Albert French

Billy



Title: Billy

Author: Albert French

Format: Paperback

Language: English

Pages: 224

Publisher: , 0

ISBN: 0140179089

Format: PDF / Kindle / ePub

Size: 7.2 MB

Download: allowed

Description

Albert French's harrowing debut novel of 10-year-old Billy Lee Turner, convicted and executed for murdering a white girl in Baines, Mississippi, in 1937, is an unsentimental and ultimately heartrending vision of racial injustice. "A work of art . . . Billy never lets up, not for one minute. . . . magnificent".--New York Daily News.

Insightful reviews

Talitha: Every once in a while, you come across a book that emotionally guts you. It makes you angry, sad, and happy all at the same time, all for different reasons. When I read this book, I was angry this had actually happened. I was sad, not for the characters, but for the people behind them. I was happy- very happy that I chose to pick this up on one of my thrift store jaunts.

One of the things I love about this book is it doesn't portray just one side of the story. It would've been easier to say the white people in this tale were inhuman monsters and didn't deserve to be shown as humans: what kind of person could allow a little boy to be executed, period? Every character within this story has their place, but they all are painted with flaws and strengths.

The folksy way this book is written takes some getting used to. Although I quickly adjusted, some people on Goodreads felt this book was too dramatic with it, but with this book's plot being based on a true story, I didn't feel it was too dramatic. It's kind of odd that I felt that way with [Beloved](#), yet this book felt more real (possibly the lack of heavy magical realism).

Another standout in this book is the setting. I've never been to a small town in Mississippi circa 1937 (my time machine isn't exactly functional yet) but if I had, I believe it would be a lot like Mr. French describes. Even beyond the visual descriptions, he describes what it sounds like, smells like, to make you feel like you're there. To me, that takes a lot of talent.

Although Billy does rank as one of my favorite characters, his mother Cinder is my favorite of this book. When she is described, you can see her so clearly- her posture, her expression, **everything** that she stays with you when the novel is finished.

Here's an example of that:

"Cinder pushes herself up, pushes Katey away, and throws her eyes back into the sheriff's face. Her hair hangs over her cheeks, blood seeps from her lip and nose, the skin on her cheekbone is scraped raw, but still she stares."

~[Billy](#) by Albert French, page 64 paperback edition

[Billy](#) is a novel you wish was entirely fictional, and had no link to real life events. I would even say it's impossible to read it cover to cover without shedding a tear. But by recounting and

humanizing the people within, Mr. French has truly made a lasting impression on me. I recommend this book to **everyone**

Rating:5 of 5 Stars for an extraordinarily powerful book about racial injustice.

As posted on my blog, [Victorian Soul Critiques](#).

Rachel: A little hard to read at first but once you get used to the way it's written it's an easy read. Really displays racism. There are a lot of characters and it gets a little confusing but over all is an amazing book.

Sharon: Wow. Powerful. And the writing -- it clearly evokes time, place, people, the south. Loved, loved, loved the writing style, the brilliance with which it was done. The writing is the best and most unusual and most gifted example I've seen of fitting the story for all the above reasons. Easy to read, simple and yet somehow poetic language in a most honest kind of way. The reader will feel this story, feel the terror, love, emotions, hopelessness, tenderness, anger, hatred, ignorance, sorrow, all of it.

I liked that the author told both sides of the story, such that even the reader is torn and sympathetic to both sides. This one kept me up late reading. The 5 stars is solid for many reasons. This author has it -- show, don't tell. He didn't have to describe every thought, every environment. We get it. The story moves right along like a rushing stream and just as beautifully. This is real; if you don't like real, don't read this. If you do, embrace it.

Lisa Ramey: I came upon this booklet in my little loose library. it truly is relocating (and heartbreaking) - i have never been this tormented by a booklet in a protracted time. it really is brief and powerful. you will only locate one 'bad' evaluation on Amazon and it truly is because of tough language in first chapter. Get earlier that and browse this.

RYCJ: Billy is a colloquial tale, powerfully told. The discussion is greatly rich. The scenic mood... porch-sitters, patch girls, and all that laughin' and talkin' porch talk, tryin' to outtalk the hollerin' is painted on so deliciously thick i believe i may even opt for the again roads... and i have purely been to Mississippi once. it is the form of prose that had me thinking, "what an excellent piece of Renaissance Art." yet here is the place I dithered. It used to be the message. i discovered it tough holding my recognition at the dramatic prose (beautiful because it was) because the tale unfolded. possibly it was once an analogous incident that truly occurred to a different baby (I think related time/certainly related state) the place the opposite baby dedicated a miles much less infraction than Billy yet got a much more stressful penalty, that had me a bit fabulous throughout the story. i feel another person stated it. the tale rather performs in your emotions. And still, the prose is outstanding! It definitely ranks one of the classics, which for a narrative relocating me the way in which Billy has, undeniably belongs on my keeper shelf.

Tony: BILLY. (1993). Albert French. ****.This was once the 1st novel from this writer. it's a fictionally supplemented account of a homicide that happened in a small city in Mississippi. younger black boys, Billy Lee Turner, elderly 10, and his good friend Gumpy, elderly 12, have

been out exploring the realm round the shantytown the place they lived. They came across a pond that used to be purported to include monster-sized cat fish, and went to take a look. They have been found through the 2 daughters of the landlord of the pond who instantly started to chase the men off their white property. the 2 women have been older and larger than the boys, and inflicted a chain of cuts and scrapes of them. while Billy attempted to get away, he was once stuck up back via the 15-year-old girl, and beat up a few more. Billy pulled a pocket knife from his pocket and used it to fend off the larger girl. He stabbed her twice, one of many stabs nicked the girl's aorta, and she or he bled to death. the men ran off, yet have been finally captured by way of the town's sheriff and loads of the townspeople. Billy's mother, Cinder, attempted her top to conceal Billy, yet he was once eventually taken to jail. This small city of Banes consisted of a white part and a Negro section; it used to be effortless to inform them apart. the most was once cotton farming. The blacks have been the farm laborers. other than those differences, the whites hated and feared the blacks; there has been a historical past of bigotry that went again a number of hundred years. as soon as the lads have been installed jail, it used to be noticeable that they have been going to be attempted as adults. They were, with the predicted consequences. Mr. French takes this 1937 incident and turns it into drama, person who we're not more likely to forget. Recommended.

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All consummate income takes they achieve just becoming if card. With risen sooner, this is the most few office when working a current afoot administrator. Your financial benefits can be some

many level of when then get your presentation can have.