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Soul of a Whore and Purvis: Two Plays in Verse

By Denis Johnson

Farrar, Straus and Giroux. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 240 pages. Dimensions: 8.2in. x 5.4in. x 0.7in. Two playshilarious and searing in equal measureby one of our most essential and original authors In his poetry, short stories, novels, and plays, the National Book Award-winning author Denis Johnson has explored the story of Americaespecially of the West, land of self-made men and self-perpetuating mythswith searing honesty and genuine sympathy. These two plays, written in verse at once hypnotic and clear, confirm his position as one of our great verbal stylists and a literary conscience for our times. In Soul ofa Whore, a lively cast of charactersfaith healers, pimps, strippers, actual demonsconverge, with unexpected hilarity, as Bess Cassandra awaits execution for the murder of her infant daughter. Purviss seven reverse-chronological scenes catalog the fall and rise of Melvin Purvis, the G-man who brought down John Dillinger and Charles Arthur Pretty Boy Floyd. Johnson takes us from Washingtons back rooms to a Midwestern cornfield, dramatizing the seductive allure of power and our own human capacity for both pettiness and grace. In these furiously entertaining, occasionally terrifying works, Johnson chronicles and questions Americas myths, heroes, and everyday realities with verve and elegance, revealing himself once...



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Reviews

This publication is really gripping and exciting. It really is basic but unexpected situations in the 50 % in the book. It is extremely difficult to leave it before concluding, once you begin to read the book.

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