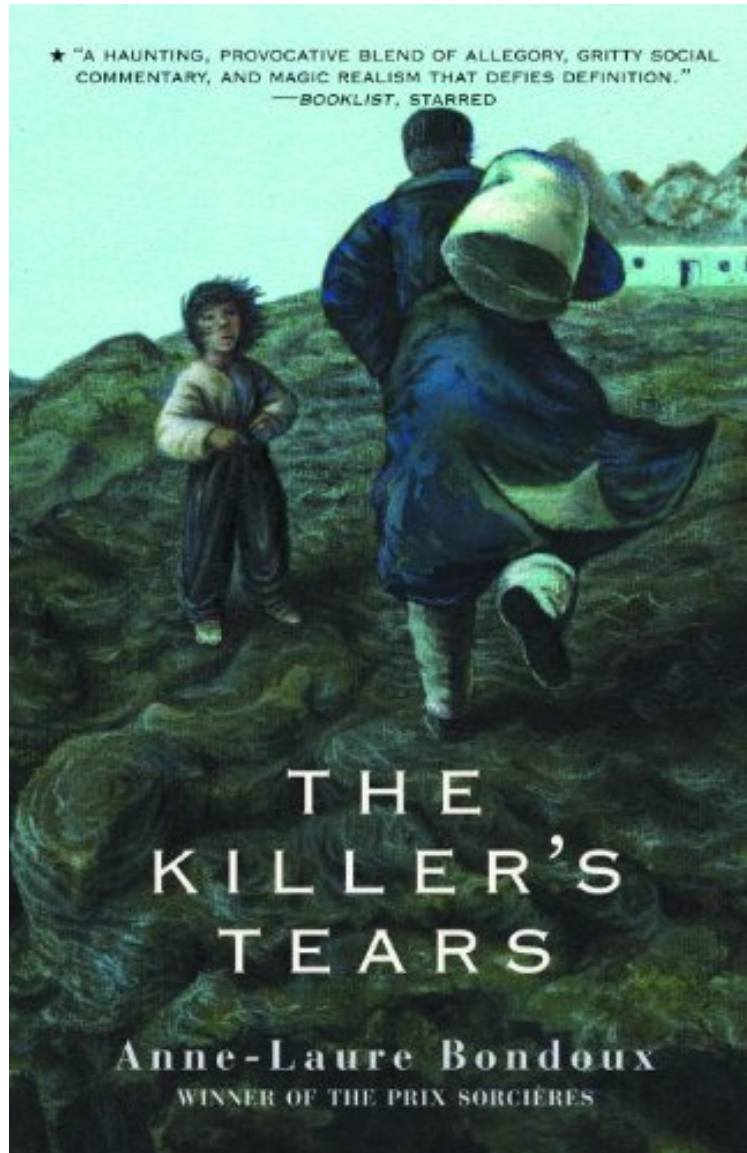


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The Killer's Tears

Von Anne-Laure Bondoux

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Produktinformation Verffentlicht am: 2008-12-18Erscheinungsdatum: 2008-12-18File Name:
B001O1O6TK | File size: 50.Mb

Von Anne-Laure Bondoux : The Killer's Tears before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Killer's Tears:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Courtesy of Teens Read TooVon TeensReadTooCan a killer love?Is Angel's murder strike just what Paolo needs to gain his strength?When Angel snatches the lives of Paolo's parents, Angel takes Paolo into his world. When an intelligent traveler discovers their house on the very edge of Chile, he teaches Angel how to love.The first trip Paolo ever takes

turns out to be a suicidal nightmare. What kind of trip does this turn out to be? *THE KILLER'S TEARS* tells a wonderful story of the love between a young child and a murderer. It has a wonderful word choice and is very well put together. A great read!!! Reviewed by: Holly

Kurzbeschreibung On the afternoon when Angel Allegria arrives at the Poloverdos farmhouse, he kills the farmer and his wife. But he spares their child, Paolo a young boy who will claim this as the day on which he was born. Together the killer and the boy begin a new life on this remote and rugged stretch of land in Chile. Then Luis Secunda, a well-to-do and educated fellow from the city descends upon them. Paolo is caught in the paternal rivalry between the two men. But life resumes its course . . . until circumstances force the three to leave the farm. In doing so, Angel and Luis confront their pasts as well as their inevitable destinies that profoundly shape Paolo's own future. From the Hardcover edition. From Booklist *Starred* Gr. 9-12. Bondoux's latest novel is a haunting, provocative blend of allegory, gritty social commentary, and magic realism that, like David Almond's work, defies definition. The shocking contradictions begin with the first scene: a thief and murderer named Angel kills a farmer and his wife and settles into their home on the desolate tip of Chile. He spares the family's small son, Paolo, and surprises himself with the intense devotion he develops for the boy. Then a young, wealthy traveler arrives, and at Paolo's insistence, the stranger settles into the improbable household at the end of the earth. Eventually, the trio is pulled back into the wider world, and its fragile connections are threatened and torn. The symbolism occasionally feels too purposeful, the characters more representational than real. But Bondoux asks the largest questions about crime, punishment, and how souls can change in language that is both visceral and poetic, and with unsparing, emotional truth, she describes a world in which the morality of the heart doesn't always match the morality of civilized society. "Poets know how to transform things," says one character. "They look at the world and they absorb it like a drink. And then when they start talking, nothing is the same." Winner of France's prestigious Prix Sorcières, this novel is filled with challenging ideas and potent language that will pull readers in new directions. Gillian Engberg Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved. From School Library Journal Grade 8 Up Young Paolo Poloverdos complex life is recounted in this translation of the winner of the French Prix Sorcières. Set in a remote location in Chile, the story begins when a boy's parents have their throats cut by a vagrant. In a rare moment of compassion, the murderer, Angel Allegros, decides not to kill the child. Paolo's response to these events is curiously distant, as is the entire narrative. The boy is vaguely upset by, yet matter-of-fact about, his parents' deaths. A second visitor, Luis Secunda, eventually appears and Paolo dispassionately asks Angel not to stab the man because he does not feel like digging another grave. The three settle into an uneasy routine, with the adults vying to be Paolo's father figure. A necessary trip to buy livestock is the catalyst for a number of tragic and perhaps inevitable events, including betrayal, an attempted suicide, and capital punishment. The major plot line concerns Angel's awakening conscience. Through his relationship with the boy, he begins to see the importance of life and love. While the book's haunting, melancholy air will keep readers turning pages, the complex yet remote telling gives it the feel of South-American literature, which may hold more appeal for adults than for teens. B. Allison Gray, John Jermain Library, Sag Harbor, NY Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.