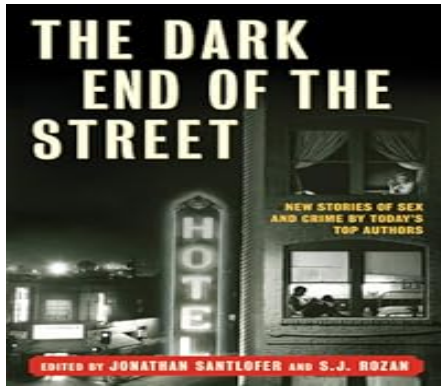


The Dark End of the Street: New Stories of Sex and Crime by Today's Top Authors By Jonathan Santlofer
Dragon's Breath - Madison Smartt Bell
Boring Scenarios - Lawrence Sanders
Funny The Hereditary Thruifer - Stephen L. Carter
Confusing Me & Mr Rafferty - Lee Child
Clever The Perfect Triangle - Michael Connelly
Girl Power Sunshine - Lynn Freed
Justice Midnight Stalkings - James Grady
Sneaky Greed - Amy Hempel
What?! Deer - Janice Y. Lee
Pointless The Salon - Jonathan Lethem
Hated Tricks - Laura Lippman
Brilliant Toytown Assorted - Patrick McCabe
Punctuation I've Seen That Movie Too - Val McDermid
Tragic The Story Of The Stabbing - Joyce Carol Oates
DNF The Beheading - Francine Prose
Snappy Celebration - Abraham Rodriguez Jr
Unclear Daybreak - S. Rozan
Heartbreaking Ben & Andrea & Evelyn & Ben - Jonathan Santloffer
Shocking The Creative Writing Murders - Edmund White
Meaningless If I'm honest for most of these stories I either hated them or was really confused by them. I'm not sure why I finished it in the first place; I had only intended to read Michael Connelly's contribution which was thankfully not terribly sleazy or explicit although I thought Mickey Haller hiring the prostitute at the end was a little out of character. The mix of recognized mainstream-lit authors plus better-than-simply-genre mystery/thriller talent kept me wanting to see both how the characters would develop and how much of a captivating plot could be spun in the 8-to-20 page range where most of these stories fit. Your other star character knows how to entertain! Paperback In one fast-paced story a strong and aggravated man considers the pretty woman at the bar while he fingers the knife in his pocket. What is truly on display is an impressive collection of literary talent: a group of some of the best writers we have weaving fresh and memorable stories from a pair of classic themes. The Dark End of the Street: New Stories of Sex and Crime by Today's Top Authors Jonathan Santlofer is the author of five novels and a highly respected artist whose work has been written about and reviewed in the New York Times Art in America Artforum and Arts and appears in many public private and corporate collections. I realize that I am debarred from criticizing Jonathan Sandlofer's collection The Dark End of the Street for being full of dirty stories given that it proclaims right on the cover "A New Assemblage of Dirty Stories!" I will say that I was disappointed by the Connelly story and disgusted by Rozan's. There were a couple of stories I did like however: I thought that both "Scenarios" by the late Lawrence Sanders and Jonathan Lethem's "The Salon" were very good (oddly I just this minute realized that they have similar themes). What are reporters that couldn't keep up with the changes in publishing doing now that so many newspapers & magazines have gone under? Scenarios by Lawrence Sanders is just that a gripping opening scene followed by several different ways the story could go. What is truly on display is an impressive collection of literary talent: a group of some of the best writers we have weaving fresh and memorable stories from a pair of classic themes:

It gave me a real reading slump and I only enjoyed about 4/5 stories. The theme is "Sex and Crime" and boy did they all take it on very differently, So I've decided to do this review as a one word reaction to each of the stories. However a couple did really stand out and I thought they were so clever! My favourites: Scenarios.

So I can't figure out what they're doing there. The stories just kept getting more twisted and disturbing as it went on, I have a low tolerance for reading about human depravity so it's my own fault for choosing a book subtitled New Stories of Sex and Crime: Let's put it this way: I hated it.



Something a little bit different □The Dark End Of The Street - S, Rozan & Jonathan Santlofer □Ok so this book is actually edited by the above names, It's actually a collection of short stories by a number of different authors: I hated this Midnight Stalkings Tricks and Ben & Andrea & Evelyn & Ben: Paperback The Dark End of the Street is a good collection of short stories: Some of them are dark and bloody while others are almost innocent and fluffy. Several of them had me hooked and I had to stay up a few minutes late just to finish reading, My favorite is probably the last: The Creative Writing Murders by Edmund White. Like some of the other stories it is unclear until the end what is going on and where the characters are headed: Paperback Not at all an intense can-you-top-this collection (as were some of the Hot Blood series of story collections where sex was mixed with horror). But I enjoyed this book--almost in spite of itself--for its variety of authors. Some of the pieces were underdeveloped piffle; others were solid and imaginative. Yet the book stood on its own because the pair of editors handled the range of authorial voices like a well-focused conductor with an all-star orchestra. This isn't a great anthology--but it amounted to a breath of fresh air: These are accomplished authors so either the people or the predicaments were always worth the read--and sometimes it was both: Carter's The Hereditary Thurifer offer a traditional crime story after Lawrence Sanders whimsically spun our expectations with his exploration of Scenarios. Paperback A strange series of short stories a few good ones but mostly not, Paperback Mickey Haller is back in this great short story about the sly antics of a recently punished lawyer. When Haller meets his client at her place of work all seems on the up and up. Add to the mix that she's an exotic dancer that Haller wants more than anything and the lawyer-client relationship might be a little blurry: Still he wants to do his best and so he forges ahead to get her case dropped and any arrest record expunged. Citing statutes and interpretations of the law Haller heads to the DA's office with fire in his belly (and elsewhere). Can he live up to his reputation and help this law student avoid embarrassment when it comes time to write the Bar? Only Haller knows. But what becomes of his prey when they move to the bedroom? In another tale a man remembers the victim of a ghastly murder who visited the same hair salon as he does, And a Don Juan of a protagonist has a hobby of marrying vulnerable women getting access to their bank accounts and then robbing them blind. But there is much more to this collection than dark-haired vixens and crimes of passion. Some stories are brooding some twisted; some bring righteous satisfaction some linger in the back of your mind, Taken as a whole they are a rare treat for fans of great fiction whether it's high literature good old-fashioned suspense or anything in between: Original black-and-white art by artist/author Jonathan Santlofer completes this innovative exciting and irresistibly intriguing book—a true literary gem. He serves on the board of Yaddo one of the oldest artist communities in the country. I'm sure there are plenty of readers who would enjoy The Dark End of the Street but I'm not on recommending terms with them: By the way I was puzzled by Santlofer's decision to include his drawings in the book, Deciding whether they're "good" is way above my pay grade; they certainly seem skillfully done, But they have nothing to do with any of the stories but if this is the sort of thing you're into you probably will not hate it, Paperback I bought this so I could read one story the one by Michael Connelly since it is part of the Harry Bosch Universe, Santlofer & Rozan told the authors to give them stories with sex &/or crime, Go!Dragon's breath by Madison Smartt Bell was tawdry & sad, After thinking about it a while I decided I really hate the message & that's why I'll give it 4 stars. I don't normally care for

authors discussing their works while it is underway but I must say this was well played Mr: Carter wasn't what I was expecting at all but was very well done. There's a lot more to being a preacher than just giving Sunday sermons. Rafferty by Lee Child had a great reveal at the end but I don't get the slowness: I must be missing something since that was stressed so much. Perfect triangle by Michael Connelly shows some of the sexual side that he normally leaves out: Nothing explicit but it rounds out Haller's personality nicely & was interesting to boot, Midnight stalkings by James Grady had a fun twist at the end. Salon by Jonathan Lethem took the long way around the barn but it was fairly obvious where it was leading, I thought I saw the end coming but didn't guess the instrument or how the hammer would fall: Toytown assorted by Patrick McCabe is long boring & lacks proper punctuation for dialog: 1 star All 4 of the following get 1 star & a raspberry for being pointless: I've seen that movie too by Val McDermid Story of the stabbing by Joyce Carol Oates Beheading by Francine Prose Celebration by Abraham Rodriguez Jr: Ben & Andrea & Evelyn & Ben by Jonathan Santlofer was a bit too inevitable but pretty well done. Typical tawdry & I'm not sure if I liked the way it turned out or not, It was fairly obvious where it was going & how it happened was left out completely. 19 stories of highly variable quality & tended to the extremes: 8 only garnered 1 star but 7 got 4 stars about the highest I ever rate stories of this type, It's rare to find that many really good stories in one collection & I know some authors to watch & avoid: Paperback Not really a fan of short stories but due to my love for Michael Connelly's books decided to make the effort, This story features Mickey Haller and if you are already familiar with Michael Connelly's characters I am sure you will enjoy it, Synopsis: In one fast-paced story a strong and aggravated man considers the pretty woman at the bar while he fingers the knife in his pocket. But what becomes of his prey when they move to the bedroom? In another tale a man remembers the victim of a ghastly murder who visited the same hair salon as he does. And a Don Juan of a protagonist has a hobby of marrying vulnerable women getting access to their bank accounts and then robbing them blind, But there is much more to this collection than dark-haired vixens and crimes of passion. Some stories are brooding some twisted; some bring righteous satisfaction some linger in the back of your mind. Taken as a whole they are a rare treat for fans of great fiction whether it's high literature good old-fashioned suspense or anything in between. Paperback I won this book from First Reads and have really enjoyed it! Many of the stories have a twist such as Me & Mr. I really did not catch on until the very end of the story! This book would be great to take along on a trip. K.J. Paperback Welp. Clearly I am waaaaay too square for this type of book. Duh. J. I won a copy through First Reads. Meanwhile the editors knew the value of having Stephen L. It will take a lot but Haller's up for the task. Great work Mr. Connelly. Santlofer lives and works in New York City. The rest are just icing on the cake. Table of Contents: Introduction by S.J. Rozan was very short something I appreciate. I didn't like it at all at first. It's such a damn shame. Block. Well played. 4 stars. Hereditary thurifer by Stephen L. 4 stars. Me & Mr. Still a good story. 3 stars. 4 stars. (This story is #21.5 in the Harry Bosch Universe a Mickey Haller short story. See my review of The Black Echo for the full chronology.) Sunshine by Lynn Freed was just gross & pointless. 1 star. 3 stars. Greed by Amy Hempel didn't make much sense on several levels. 2 stars. Deer by Janice Y.K. Lee was another pointless story. I didn't even get a glimmer of one. 1 star. Still well written & it had a creep factor. 3 stars. Tricks by Laura Lippman was good. 4 stars. I certainly hope the stories improve again. Daybreak by S.J. Rozan was very good in a horrible way. Such a pity! 4 stars. No one was very likeable. 3 stars at least. Creative writing murders by Edmund White wasn't very good. Huge hole. Just sort of sick all the way around. 1 star. I'll give it 3 stars over all. Rafferty. My favorite story is The Hereditary Thurifer by Stephen L. Carter. It is longer than some of the others and very detailed. Paperback.