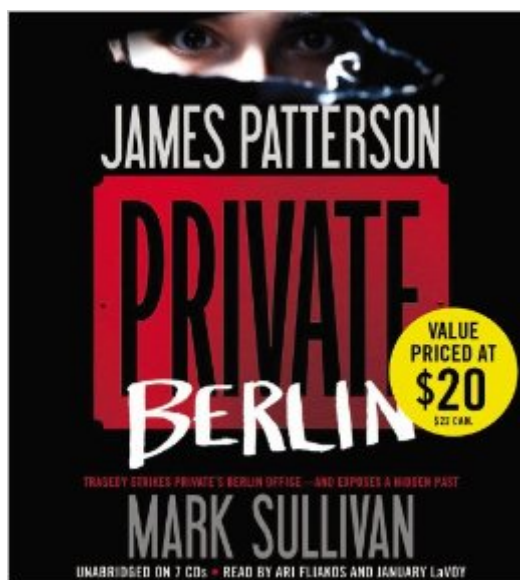


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Private Berlin



Synopsis

Private Berlin has the extraordinary pace and international sophistication that has powered *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* and Patterson's #1 bestseller *The Postcard Killers*. IN EUROPE'S MOST DANGEROUS CITY Chris Schneider is a superstar agent at Private Berlin, Germany headquarters for the world's most powerful investigation firm. He keeps his methods secret as he tackles Private's most high-profile cases-and when Chris suddenly disappears, he becomes Private Berlin's most dangerous investigation yet. AN INVESTIGATOR IS SEARCHING Mattie Engel is another top agent at Private Berlin, gorgeous and ruthlessly determined-and she's also Chris's ex. Mattie throws herself headfirst into finding Chris, following leads to the three people Chris was investigating when he vanished: a billionaire suspected of cheating on his wife, a soccer star accused of throwing games, and a nightclub owner with ties to the Russian mob. Any one of them would surely want Chris gone-and one of them is evil enough to want him dead. AND SHE'S AFTER MORE THAN THE TRUTH Mattie's chase takes her into Berlin's most guarded, hidden, and treacherous places, revealing secrets from Chris's past that she'd never dreamed of in the time they were lovers. On the brink of a terrifying discovery, Mattie holds on to her belief in Chris-in the face of a horror that could force all of Europe to the edge of destruction and chaos. James Patterson has taken the European thriller to a masterful new level with *Private Berlin*, an adrenaline-charged, spectacularly violent and sexy novel with unforgettable characters of dark and complex depths. *Private Berlin* proves why Patterson is truly the world's #1 bestselling author.

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Customer Reviews

Something every reader should note before buying this book is that it is not written only by James Patterson. This can be both a good and bad thing, but it depends on the book. In some we are treated to a thrill ride, NYPD Red being one of them, and in others we are slammed with a disappointment such as Zoo. Now there is nothing wrong with writing with other authors, but if you lose the style of writing that people have come to know and love then we have a problem. This is how I felt with Private Berlin. In and of itself it was an awesome read. The style was similar to that I found in NYPD Red; not the original Patterson, but one I enjoyed none-the-less. That being said it was a fast paced, explosive, and adrenaline filled thriller. It could have been better but in a book I expect to read in less than 2 days I got the best for my money. If James Patterson took the time to author this one by himself I think he could have easily spun out a longer, more compact, and more cohesive story. It seems that the use of double space typing and chapters that begin with more than half the page blank is just a simple way of making the story appear longer. To me that is frustrating to pay \$27.99 for a hardback book when I can go and buy The Legend of Broken or The Yard for the same price and have the book last for 4 or 5 days. Overall I think this was another job well done for James Patterson. Not the best; but certainly not the worst one. For all of you who enjoy a Patterson novel I think you would regret not reading this one; even if it is simply to say you have. I think you will find you appreciate this one and it might help you to open your eyes to the books he has coauthored with others.

I had high hopes for this one, based on the advance promotional material, but have to say that it was a disappointment. Who cares if there are two authors, as long as the presentation lives up to one's expectations? It was clear at the outset that somebody had informed the writers about well-known sites in and around Berlin. That bodes well for authenticity, if nothing else, doesn't it? I've known the city for a very long time through visits there beginning in 1963, so perhaps that influences my opinion too much. However, I feel that I can separate the authenticity issue from the artful crafting of a novel, and this one doesn't have anything new to offer. Authenticity is much more than place names. Authors who have captured the nuances of German characters in their books know what I mean. One cannot simply transpose emotional states of a character from one culture to another, without having experienced, for example, how a German individual, be it an artist, a cop, or a politician typically responds to fear, death, betrayal, happiness, and so on. For example, a bereaved man, woman, or child in the U.S. thinks, speaks, and behaves quite differently from the German counterparts. Herein lies the greatest weakness of this novel, in my view.

I usually like a good Patterson book but the quality is now very iffy. He lets other people do the writing so he can publish a book a week and it shows this book was Awful. Too many characters, too little connection, too much change in timing..a pile of garbage. After 39 pages I stopped reading. Don't waste your time.

i stopped reading it because I am sick of demented, pathological creatures who thrill with torture and killing. I am fixing to delete it from my lor and am sorry I spent the money buying it. If you can refund my money that would be very comforting. Patricia Willsonprwillson@sbcglobal.netMrs. Patricia WillsonPRIVATE BERLIN--TITLE

This book was one of the most dissapointing books I have ever read by James Patterson. I used to like him as an author, but in the past ten years that he has been writing with co-authors, he has lost all quality control over what is written. After reading about 50 pages I wanted to put the book down, but kept reading to see when it became more interesting. It never improved. It was a very dark book describing body bones, burials, killings all with little purpose. The Private Berlin agency appeared very unrealistic. The city of Berlin being described has no relationship to the Berlin I know after living in Germany for four years. Don't waste your time or money on this book.

This has been on the best seller lists for some time, which puts me at odds with most readers. I used to enjoy Patterson's books when he wrote them, but since he has gone to co-authors in a big way I don't enjoy them nearly as much as I did. This one has too many twisted scenes for me.

I like James Patterson books. However, his "dual authorship" mode is simply marketing ploy. When it's two authors, you don't get a Patterson book... It's a way for Patterson to churn out (X)number of books per year.

I think James needs to cut back and put a whole lot more into the plot. Basic premises and what are becoming transparent story lines are not his original style. Just an opinion. Think he is better than this and a couple of others he has penned in collaboration and alone over quite a few books. First two privates good reads.

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