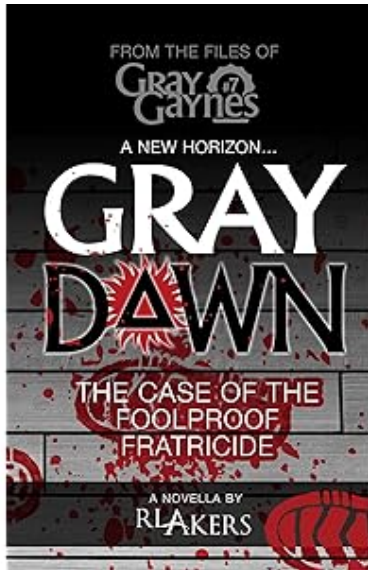




Readers' Favorite® Book Reviews and Award Contest

Book Review Mini-Critique



Below you will find ratings (scale of 1-5) with general descriptions for the major parts of your book followed by your Readers' Favorite review. Although this is just a Mini-Critique, we hope it will give you an insight into how readers may view the different components of your book.

These are the opinions of your reviewer, and although they are not a literary professional, they are an avid reader of books just like yours.

Title: Gray Dawn
Subtitle: The Case of the Foolproof Fratricide (Gray Gaynes Book 7)
Author: R. L. Akers
Genre: Fiction - Suspense



Appearance: The appearance of a book can make a significant impact on the experience of a reader, whose enjoyment is often enhanced by an enticing cover, an intriguing table of contents, interesting chapter headings, and when possible, eye-catching illustrations.

5

Plot: The characters of a book should be well defined with strengths and flaws, and while they do not have to be likable, the reader does have to be able to form a connection with them. The tone should be consistent, the theme should be clear, and the plot should be original or told from a unique perspective. For informative books -- those without plot and characters--this rating refers primarily to your concept and how well you presented it.

5

Development: Development refers to how effectively you told your story or discussed your topic. The dialogue should be realistic, the descriptions should be vivid, and the material should be concise and coherent. Organization is also a key factor, especially for informative books -- those without plot and characters. The order in which you tell your story or explain your topic and how smoothly it flows can have a huge impact on the reader's understanding and enjoyment of the material.

5

Formatting: Formatting is the single most overlooked area by authors. The way in which you describe scenes, display dialogue, and shift point of view can make or break your story. In addition, excessive grammatical errors and typos can give your book an amateurish feel and even put off readers completely.

5

Marketability: Marketability refers to how effectively you wrote your book for your target audience. Authors may include content that is above or below the understanding of their target reader, or include concepts, opinions or language that can accidentally confuse or alienate some readers. Although by its nature this rating is very subjective, a very low rating here and poor reviews may indicate an issue with your book in this area.

5

Overall Opinion: The overall starred rating takes into account all these elements and describes the overall reading experience of your reviewer. This is the official Readers' Favorite review rating for your book.

5

Review:

Reviewed by Essien Asian for Readers' Favorite

In a remarkably short time, Gray Gaynes has gone from a New York City detective to an Alaskan roustabout. Despite the harsh conditions of his new lifestyle, Gray prefers this form of anonymity, where no one in his current circle knows anything about his past. All of that changes when the local authorities find a bear that appears to have consumed human parts belonging to a missing resident. Matters get out of hand when an accidental death suddenly becomes a homicide, with the chief suspect being someone Gray considers a friend. He will have to return to his old habits if he wants to help his friend out of this situation, but is he willing to do so? Only time will tell in R.L. Akers's *Gray Dawn*.

Nature and mystery collide in R.L. Akers's *Gray Dawn*. The author highlights key aspects of Gray's background from previous books in the series, which take on greater prominence in this one, such as his personal tragedy and unique medical conditions. The result of this approach to the storytelling is an immersive narrative that flows seamlessly with its predecessors. The rapid pace complements the dialogue that goes from casual daily banter to investigative and technical. Akers deserves kudos for the attention to detail in seemingly subtle aspects, such as the natives' features, unique names, and references to weather phenomena like the Aurora Borealis. The standout of Akers's narrative style is how he places subtle clues in a particular order that encourages perceptive crime enthusiasts to think outside the box when connecting them, much like the layers of a matryoshka doll. I enjoyed reading this fascinating novel.