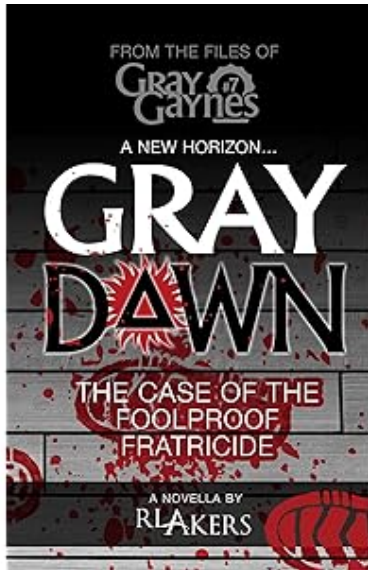




Readers' Favorite® Book Reviews and Award Contest

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.

4

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 Gabriel Santos for Readers' Favorite

Gray Gaynes is a legendary former NYPD detective whose fame and infamy spread across the country. But very few know about this past in the remote oil field work camp of U-Turn, in the North Slope of Alaska, where Gray spends his days laboring under the harsh, dark environment. Dawn, who runs a restaurant in U-Turn, is one of the few bright spots, warming the tired workers' bodies and minds. Needless to say, Dawn's sudden arrest for her brother's murder shocks everyone. Certain of Dawn's innocence, even as the incriminating evidence keeps piling up, Gray joins her defense team as a private investigator. R. L. Akers' *Gray Dawn* follows the complex investigation of what Gray believes to be a massive cover-up for a larger conspiracy.

Though this is the seventh entry in the series, the novel is basically a fresh beginning for Gray and readers, with a brand new setting and characters. Speaking of the setting, R. L. Akers does a great job of describing life in Alaska's North Slope, giving you a glimpse of its wildlife dangers and brutal weather while helping you appreciate its rustic beauty, with bits of Inuit culture sprinkled throughout. The mystery is grounded but intricate, constantly raising questions and challenging you with increasingly overwhelming evidence. The finale is satisfying on its own, making almost every puzzle piece snap into place after a few key reveals, but it still leaves you hungry for a sequel. Overall, *Gray Dawn* is a solid procedural thriller I can safely recommend to any fan of the genre, especially if you're looking for a good head-scratcher.