



Pronto, Riding the Rap, Fire in the Hole

Elmore Leonard

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New York Times bestselling author Elmore Leonard's U.S. Marshal Raylan Givens is the mesmerizing hero of numerous books and the hit FX series *Justified*. Now the first three Raylan books—*Pronto*, *Riding the Rap*, and *Fire in the Hole*—are together in one ebook, along with an excerpt from *Raylan*, the brand new novel in the series.

Pronto, Riding the Rap, Fire in the Hole Details

Date : Published February 14th 2012 by William Morrow

ISBN :

Author : Elmore Leonard

Format : Kindle Edition 657 pages

Genre : Fiction, Westerns

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From Reader Review Pronto, Riding the Rap, Fire in the Hole for online ebook

Colin says

I read this while about two-and-half seasons into the FX series, so can't really review independent of that. *Riding the Rap* and *Fire in the Hole* formed the basis of a first-season episode and the pilot, and the events of *Pronto* predate the start of the series, though it dropped most of the particulars from that story.

On the whole Olyphant and the show capture Leonard's written voice well. It's a bit of an adjustment to start with two Raylan stories set in gangland Florida (and for a significant chunk of the first, in Italy). I think the show (particularly the second season) really draws its strength from Raylan's tangled Harlan roots, and coming from that perspective, *Fire in the Hole* is the best of the three books here. The first two books are much more about Raylan as a man out of place and out of time, and the larger cast of characters in each often seemed more fleshed out. (As Leonard's villains can be.) I'm saving the fourth Raylan novel until after I finish the tv series.

Some of the non-Raylan short stories in *Fire in the Hole* were also very good bits of distilled Elmore Leonard - *Hurrah for Captain Early* may have been my favorite of the bunch, and *When the Women Come Out to Dance* definitely the darkest.

Cathi Davis says

Interesting to see how the book and the TV show differ. The third book is a collection of short stories, only one of which includes Raylan. That said, I liked them the best. They had ironic endings, twists and turns and well developed characters

Redboy says

so close to the show (justified) that you really don't need to read it. easy and breezy though, so you might as well.

Paul says

Rayland Givins was a memorable but relatively minor character in Elmore Leonard's fictional world, but with the success of the FX television series "Justified," Leonard's publisher jumped on the bandwagon, reissuing the two short Givens novels (and one short story) under one cover.

Yes, the Givens stories are as good as I remembered, and one can pick out various plot lines that inspired the TV series, but the two Givenses differ. The literary Rayland, to my mind, more resembles a minor character from the TV series, Season #5's US Deputy Marshal Greg Sutter, played by actor David Koechner. Literary Rayland's personal life differs significantly from TV Rayland's as well. Fans of "Justified" coming to the books for the first time will definitely notice the difference. In all important ways, though, Rayland is

Rayland, and there's a lot more to him than the hat.

The third section of this book contains several non-Rayland Givens short stories, including a great one about US Marshal Karen Sisco, who could inspire a TV series of her own, and some of Leonard's earlier Western-themed tales, equally great.

All in all, the book is a delight to read, and now I'm tempted to re-read the rest of my Elmore Leonard collection.

Owen Gray says

The third book in this ebook displays in ALL CAPITALS on the KOBO Touch and the KOBO Desktop. KOBOBooks says this is the fault of the book, not their software. Caveat emptor.

Thomas Tyrer says

I began reading Elmore Leonard a few years ago and am very much enjoying making my way through his back catalog. I love the westerns, as well as the crime thrillers, and this Raylan Givens series contains much of the best of both. For anyone who's grown all too tired of today's metrosexual man archetype, Raylan Givens is a great character who's also no Neanderthal. He's a man's man, putting the bad guys (and girls) away, and has some fun doing it. I'm now reading "Raylan" so you know I enjoyed it.

David says

With Justified all wrapped up - great show - I decided to read the stories Leonard wrote that featured Raylan Givens. The first two stores in this book introduce and flesh out Givens and provides his back story. The third book is a set of short stories, one of which - Fire in the Hole - is the story on which Justified is based. The creators of Justified really got Givens right - hat, boots, sense of humor, even physically. Great stories.

Mark Mallett says

Aside from a short story or two, this may be the first Elmore Leonard that I've read. I can see why he's popular.

This is a set of three books - two novels and a set of short stories, with the novels and one of the stories being about Raylan Givens. Givens, who I (like many people, I'm sure) first encountered in the excellent TV series Justified, is a US Marshall. His job is to transport criminals, and sometimes it happens that is job is to catch them. The stories are mainly about him doing his job; his competence and matter-of-factness about it, and the odd assortment of people he runs into. There's plenty of humor, action, and observations about people and things. I almost feel obligated to use the word quirky too, although there's less than you might expect.

The novels are a lot of fun. The short stories are stand-out too, with some of them being perhaps more serious and more reflective than the novels. I'm inclined to seek out more of both.

Mark Boltz-Robinson says

Leonard creates some very memorable characters. Some of his works didn't translate so well, but these stories, primarily about U.S. Deputy Marshal Raylan Givens (with a few other short stories thrown in), are the basis of the excellent T.V. show, *Justified*. You will immediately see Timothy as Raylan in your mind's eye, and Leonard even takes care to describe the very hat. In other words, the show nailed it. But Leonard does more, and starts further back in the timeline, so there's a lot of new content for fans of the show as well. And the other short stories are like excellent little literary stocking stuffers.

Roger Strauss says

Just got done watching all 78 episodes of "Justified", so it was interesting to read the books that the show is based on. Leonard is fun to read, but you wonder how they got a TV series out of one short story.

Mike says

Fans of Justified would enjoy this collection though I prefer the Chili Palmer series.

David says

Leonard's writing style and dialogue exchanges just flow naturally. It really made this three-book collection an easy, enjoyable read. I didn't realize the third book was a collection of short stories, only one of which features Raylan, but it turned out to be a suprisingly good read.

David Dalton says

This rating is only for the 1st book in this collection: Pronto.

Marshall Rylan Givens comes across much cooler on the TV show Justified. However, you can read where the writers got several of the plot lines from this book. I'll read a few other books before I come back to the 2nd book in this collection: Riding the Rap.

William says

Has some fine short stories; some with tie-ins to other novels.

Nonamedufus says

Slow to get started on the first book but once I got going I loved these stories. And the short stories were a pure delight.
