



The Hot Country: A Christopher Marlowe Cobb Thriller

By Butler, Robert Olen.

Mysterious Press. 1 Cloth(s), 2012. hard. Book Condition: New.

The Pulitzer Prizewinning author of the short-story collection *A Good Scent from a Strange Mountain* and novels like *Hell* and *A Small Hotel*, Robert Olen Butler makes his debut in crime fiction with this "high-spirited adventure . an antic concoction of genre clichés, literary sendups, personal homages, fanciful history and passages of great writing" (NYTBR). American war correspondent Christopher Marlowe "Kit" Cobb, a bit of a swashbuckler, travels to Mexico in the spring of 1914, during that country's civil war, the American invasion of Vera Cruz, and the controversial presidency of Victoriano Huerta the Jackal. Reporting from enemy territory, in sweltering heat, Cobb falls for Luisa, a young Mexican laundress who is not as innocent as she seems."It's an exciting story, much of it based on fact, and Butler has a good time with it. His writing is both crisp and thoughtful, his people ring true and he offers an amusing portrait of a golden age in journalism. *The Hot Country* is a thinking person's thriller, the kind of exotic adventure that, in better days, would have been filmed by Sam Peckinpah."Washington Post 326.



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