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Von Sara Paretsky

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**Von Sara Paretsky : Fire Sale: V.I. Warshawski 12 (The V.I. Warshawski Series)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Fire Sale: V.I. Warshawski 12 (The V.I. Warshawski Series):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen3 von 3 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Schattenseiten des Kapitalismus...Von Astrid M.Sie sprechen fliegend Englisch, sonst htten Sie dieses Hrbuch nicht

gekauft, und wahrscheinlich waren Sie auch schon in den USA. Aber haben Sie auch schon hinter die Kulissen geschaut? In Chicagos South Side habe ich mich nur einmal verfahren und gehofft, dass mein Auto jetzt keine Panne bekommt, ansonsten lebte ich einige Jahre in Detroit... und dort ist es ganz hnlich. Dieses Buch beschreibt m.E. die Lebensumstnde der Arbeiter, alleinerziehenden Mtter, Einwanderer ziemlich treffend. Auch in dieser Geschichte von Sara Paretsky geht es weniger um das "who's dunnit" (auch die Anzahl Leichen ist ziemlich gering, was der Spannung aber keinen Abbruch tut), als mehr um die Zusammenhnge zwischen Armut, Ausbeutung, Preis- und Einkaufsstrategien groer Handelsketten, dem Verfall bestimmter Viertel, die frher von der traditionellen Industrie beherrscht wurden, den Schattenseiten des US-Krankenversicherungssystems und vor allem der Schulmisere. Positiv ist dann jedoch, wieviel ein Einzelner bewirken kann (und auch das ist Amerika) - allen voran natrlich V.I., mit der wir uns auch hier wieder gerne identifizieren, aber auch einige andere der Heldenfiguren gewinnen unsere Sympathie.

2 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. V.I. Stomps on Her Old Turf Von Donald Mitchell Sara Paretsky's work is best when she uses the chilling surroundings of the poor as one of her characters. The bleak streets provide a color that makes all of her characters and plots that much more vivid and interesting. Take V.I. out of the slums and the characters become uninteresting, thin and superfluous. Fire Sale is squarely placed in the depths of South Chicago. That's what lifts this book above being an average novel. There's a nice touch to the story as V.I. finds herself recruited to be a fill-in for her old high school basketball coach who's fighting cancer. In the story, there are many flashbacks as V.I. reflects on her own times and how those times are different from these times for these young women. You've never attended a basketball practice like these. Observers include the children of the players and their "boyfriends". There's also gripping material about a slum factory . . . and the accidents that dog its existence. V.I. finds herself with more "cases" than she can handle (most of these are of the nonpaying variety). That makes the plot deliciously complex -- something Ms. Paretsky does not always achieve in her books. The book has two annoying qualities that keep it from being a five-star novel. First, Ms. Paretsky falls into the trap that many novelists do who have heroines . . . they turn the heroines into either punching bags or pincushions for physical violence. It's unnecessary and it's annoying. Second, as usual, her portrayal of the rich makes them so obnoxious and annoying that you don't really want to read those sections. Ms. Paretsky needs to appreciate that even villains become more interesting when you give them sympathetic qualities. The material about the Bysens is so annoying that I was tempted to grade the book at three stars. Think of this as a three-and-a-half star book.

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Kurzbeschreibung V I Warshawski may have left her old South Chicago neighborhood, but she learns that she cannot escape it. When V I takes over coaching duties of the girls' basketball team at her former high school, she faces an ill-equipped, ragtag group of gangbangers, fundamentalists, and teenage moms, who inevitably draw the detective into their family woes. Through young Josie Dorrado, V I meets the girl's mother, who voices her worries about sabotage in the little flag manufacturing plant where she works. The biggest employer on the South Side, discount-store behemoth By-Smart, pays even less, and Ms. Dorrado doesn't know how she'll support her four children if the flag plant shuts down. The elder Dorrado's fears are realized when the plant explodes; V I is injured and the owner is killed. As V I begins to investigate, she finds herself confronting the Bysen family, who own the By-Smart company. Founder William Buffalo Bill Bysen, now in his eighties, has four sons who quarrel with each other and with him; the oldest, Young Mr. William, is close to sixty and furious that his father doesn't cede more power to him. And then, there's Billy the Kid, Young Mr. William's nineteen-year-old son, whose Christian idealism puts him on a collision course

with his father, his grandfather, and the company as a whole. When Billy runs away with Josie Dorrado, V I is squeezed between the needs of two very different families. As she tries to find the errant teenagers, and to track down a particularly cruel murderer, her own life is almost forfeit in the swamps that lie under the city of Chicago. From Publishers Weekly Nobody does physical danger and personal pain better than Paretsky, and in many ways the audio version of her 12th V.I. Warshawski mystery captures those qualities more effectively than the book. It helps considerably that Burr makes us believe almost instantly that she is the thorny Chicago private eye who has never really escaped her rough South Side roots even though she now usually works in more upscale neighborhoods. Burr catches all the vocal nuance the tough and touching young female basketball players from V.I.'s old high school; the black cop ex-lover and the foreign correspondent seriously wounded in Afghanistan who has taken his place; and V.I.'s crotchety, well-meaning old neighbor. As Warshawski looks for a corporate sponsor for the basketball team she has agreed to coach, a flag factory explodes and its owner is killed, a young man from a giant discount store family disappears with one of the basketball players and once again life for V.I. becomes extremely complicated, not to mention painful. Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From Booklist \*Starred \* Long-running mystery series have a way of losing readers over time, but anyone who has drifted away from Paretsky's V. I. Warshawski should promptly return to the fold. The thirteenth Warshawski novel is one of the best, primarily because it takes V. I. back to her South Chicago roots, filling in fascinating backstory on the sleuth's evolution and effectively utilizing both the city's broad-shouldered past and its radically globalized present. V. I. returns to her old neighborhood--in the far southeast corner of Chicago--to fill in for her former high-school basketball coach, who is fighting cancer. Confronted by a dilapidated gym and a team made up mainly of gangbangers and single mothers, V. I. feels overwhelmed--for about five minutes, before she reacts with typical ferocity, driving her players and doggedly pursuing corporate funding for the team. It's the latter that takes her to By-Smart, South Chicago's main employer, run by a bigoted, born-again billionaire. Soon V. I. is caught in the middle of a Romeo and Juliet romance between the son of Mr. By-Smart and the daughter of a Latina single mother, whose employer's factory has just been destroyed by fire. Paretsky has never been better than she is here at evoking a sense of place--abandoned and rusting steel mills casting long shadows over the difficult lives of largely immigrant families. Nothing seems forced as Paretsky plays socioeconomic realities against a universal story of passion and jealousy, building the plot from the marshy ground up and allowing Chicago to muscle its way into a costarring role. Bill Ott Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved