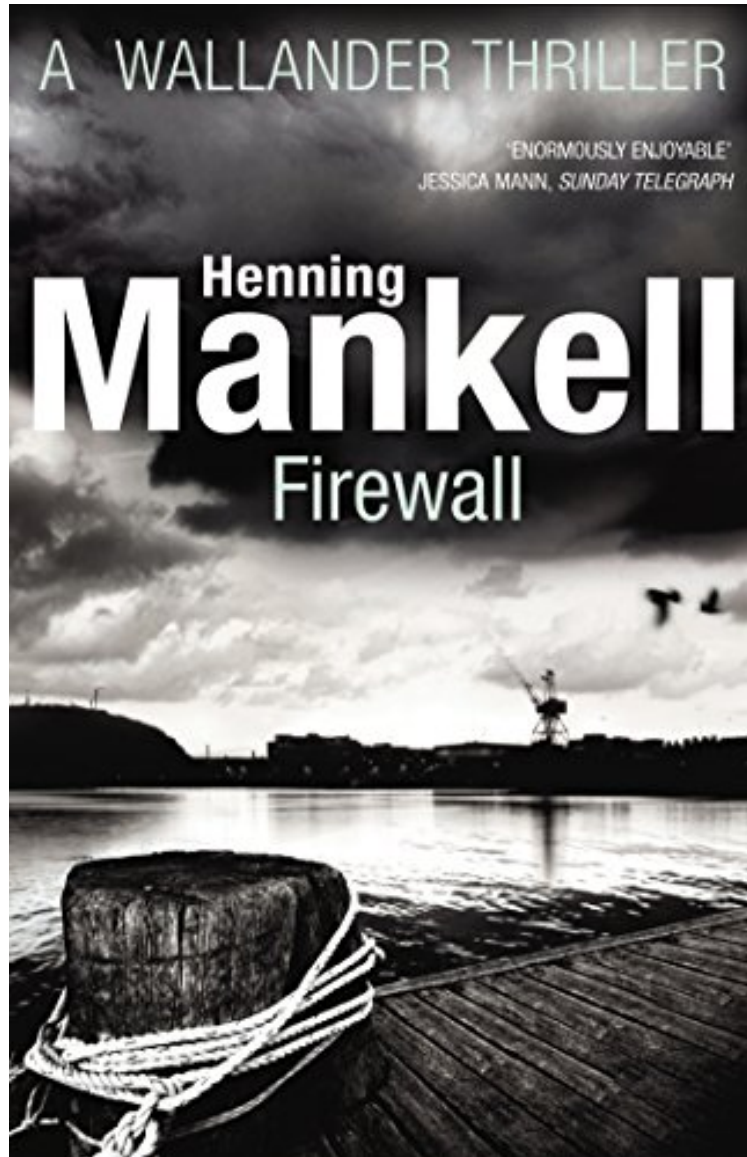


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Firewall: Kurt Wallander (English Edition)

Von Henning Mankell

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Von Henning Mankell : Firewall: Kurt Wallander (English Edition) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Firewall: Kurt Wallander (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich.
Wallander's midlife crisisVon Alfred J. KwakSurely, the quality of Henning Mankell (HM)'s oeuvre is uneven. Books rooted in Africa are his most passionate creations, but not all are great reads. The same applies to his 10-book Wallander-series and a string of other crime novels. Most are entertaining, even thrilling, some are memorable and

brilliant, and a few disappoint. After completing this tiresome, overlong 8th police procedural about a whining and paranoid Kurt Wallander (KW), author HM shelved him as a character for 10 years. [But also gave him a superb cameo role in a much better crime novel starring KW's daughter Linda in 2002]. In 'Firewall', KW (50, long divorced) is an annoying, depressed book character with no friends, close colleagues or companions. Despite dieting, he is still a secret diabetic, becoming forgetful and prone to acting impulsively. This book is pure Nordic gloom, not a pleasure to read given its size and convoluted, poorly-researched plot. Twenty pages from the finish, this reader still does not know what disaster the thriller foretells, despite all the self-doubt, self-pity and other feelings of the hero. What is the conspiracy about that killed at least three out of more than a handful of people in this book? Whatever the conspiracy is really about, upgraded somewhere in the book to have a worldwide impact and to be devastating economically, is for readers to enjoy. It must be something totally devious, brilliant or silly... This thriller starts energetically with a man found dead in front of a cash machine, and with two wayward girls (14, 19) confessing to killing a 60-year old taxi driver. Then, strange things begin to happen in a police procedural with KW and his team working long hours. A key question is: does KW listen to his instincts and inputs from his staff and makes the right decisions? 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Disappointing Von RobI had not read any of Mankell's books before, and have never seen any of the TV/film adaptations, so had not much to go on apart from a few recommendations from friends. Frankly, I found the book truly disappointing - poor plot, wooden characters with no real depth or breadth, cookie-cutter sentences, this book has them all. The final resolution is somehow pulled together haphazardly, and the reader is left with a profound sense of having been let down by an author who is obviously not up to the job. If this is the best that Mr. Mankell has to offer, I'll not bother with the rest. 2 von 3 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Brannvegg Von Professor Joseph L. McCauley This book is very different from 'Sidetracked'. There, the first 100 pages were filled with Wallander's repeated introspections, so that the book only took off after that. I read this book partly while visiting S. Sweden. However, I must state that the occurrence so many murders so fast in Ystad in the book contrasted sharply with the nice reality of street life and cafe atmosphere in Ystad in July! The old town (gamlebyen) is surprisingly large, not so many like it are left in Scandinavia. This book is highly recommendable, really takes off from the start. It makes references in the beginning to two of Wallander's earlier cases, Sidetracked and Hunde von Riga, and with all of Wallander's complaints about health and his colleagues foreshadows his coming retirement. I read in a German article this summer that Mankell lives in Africa and soon will replace the Wallander series with one where Wallander's daughter 'stars'. This review is based on the Norwegian translation 'Brannvegg'.

Kurzbeschreibung Stopping to use a cash machine one evening, a man falls to the ground: dead. A taxi driver is brutally murdered by two teenage girls who demonstrate a complete lack of remorse. One girl escapes police custody and disappears without trace. Soon afterwards, a blackout covers half the country. When an engineer arrives at the malfunctioning power station, he makes a grisly discovery... Inspector Kurt Wallander is sure that these events must be linked - somehow. Hampered by the discovery of betrayals in his own team, lonely and frustrated, Wallander begins to lose conviction in his role as a detective. And somehow these criminals seem always to know the police's next move... de Not too long ago, Henning Mankell was a well-kept secret, but his latest book, Firewall, will be received by readers worldwide with much fanfare, which is as it should be; Mankell is something special. Some of the initial resistance to Mankell's work might be understandable; like one of the greatest of all filmmakers, Ingmar Bergman, Mankell is from a country noted for Nordic gloom and the lazy-minded are not always prepared to go beyond stereotypes. Their loss: like his cinematic compatriot (Mankell is in fact married to Bergman's daughter), this is an artist of rare achievement. Firewall continues Mankell's unvarnished portraits of modern life, in which society and all its institutions (not least the family) are on the edge. Here, his long-term protagonist, Inspector Kurt Wallander, moves into new area of crime: cyberspace. Various deaths have occurred: the user of a cash machine, a taxi driver killed by two young girls. The country is plunged into blackout by an electricity failure, and a grim find is made at a power station. What's the connection? Wallander finds himself on the trail of cyber terrorists with shady anarchic aims. But can his own malfunctioning team of coppers pull together to help catch them--or is there a fifth columnist in the police? Plotting here is impeccable, although Firewall may not be a prime entry point for those new to Mankell. But Wallander (here worried about his diabetes and failure to lose weight) is one of the great literary coppers: enthusiasts need not hesitate. --Barry Forshaw.co.uk Not too long ago, Henning Mankell was a well-kept secret, but his latest book, Firewall, will be received by readers worldwide with much fanfare, which is as it should be; Mankell is something special. Some of the initial resistance to Mankell's work might be understandable; like one of the greatest of all filmmakers, Ingmar Bergman, Mankell is from a country noted for Nordic gloom and the lazy-minded are not always prepared to go beyond stereotypes. Their loss: like his cinematic compatriot (Mankell is in fact married to Bergman's daughter), this is an artist of rare achievement. Firewall continues Mankell's unvarnished portraits of modern life, in which society and all its institutions (not least the family) are on the edge. Here, his long-term protagonist, Inspector Kurt Wallander, moves into new area of crime: cyberspace. Various deaths have occurred: the

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