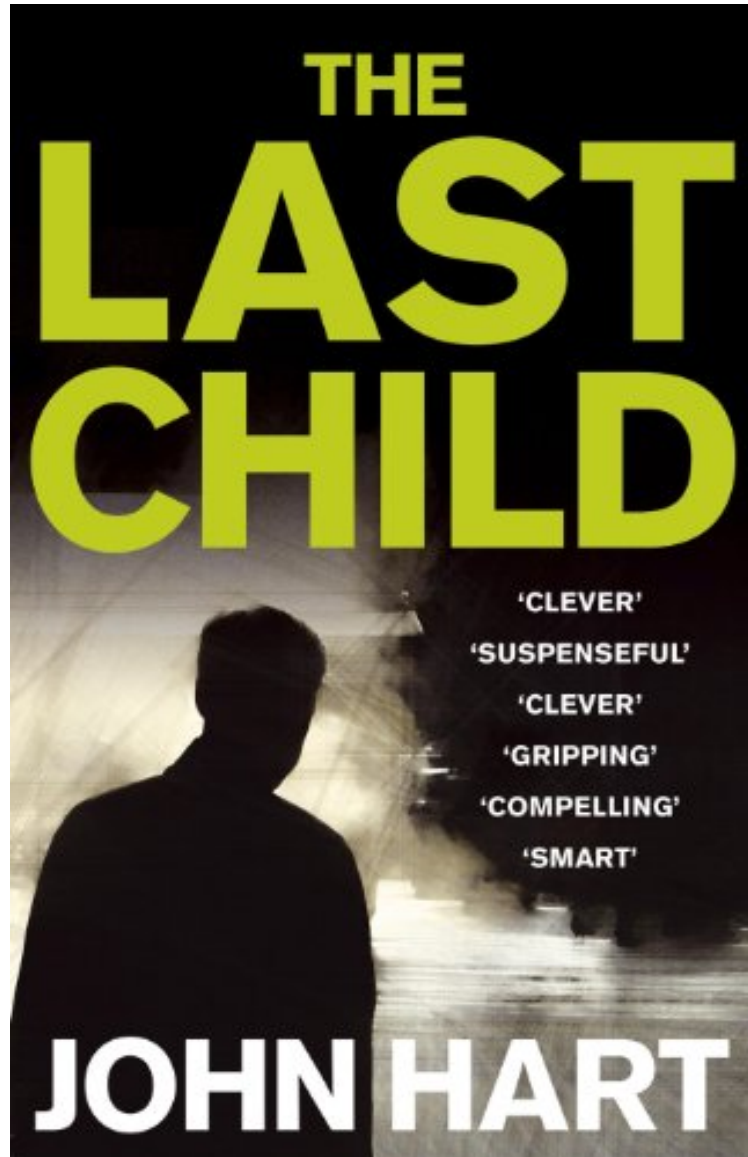


[Read now] The Last Child (English Edition)

## The Last Child (English Edition)

Von John Hart

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**Von John Hart : The Last Child (English Edition)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Last Child (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen2 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Family ValuesVon Donald Mitchell" And the land shall mourn, every family by itself: the family of the house of David by itself, and their wives by themselves; the family of the house of Nathan by itself, and their wives by themselves; the family of the house of Levi by itself, and their wives by themselves; the family of Shimei by itself, and their wives by

themselves; all the families that remain, every family by itself, and their wives by themselves." -- Zechariah 12:12-14 (NKJV) While on its surface, *The Last Child* is a mystery about a thirteen year-old-boy, Johnny Merrimon, searching for his missing twin sister, Alyssa, the book also portrays a darker message about the state of our families and our culture. The outlook is bleak in both cases, but it's worth the trip to think through the human misery that follows from families not caring for and taking care of one another in righteous ways. There's plenty of food for thought in this provoking novel. From the beginning, the plot raises lots of fundamental issues. Why did Alyssa go smilingly towards the van into which she disappeared? Did she know the person? Why did her father disappear soon after her death? Was it guilt that drove him? Why did her mother take up with a cruel, twisted lover? How can a youngster such as Johnny survive such shocks? The story soon expands to include Detective Clyde Hunt's obsession and lack of success in investigating the case. In the middle of these countercurrents, another young girl is missing. What's going to happen next? The challenge of a story like this is to make the young detective credible. Authors don't have to be perfect at this because readers are naturally sympathetic to and interested in such heroes. While Johnny's life isn't exactly Tom Sawyer's, certainly the most frightening parts would match Injun Joe's cave. The strength of the book is the tense suspense that's maintained until just before the end. You'll feel a great sense of relief when it's over. After letting the story settle for a few days, my enjoyment of the book was still strong but I also realized that the plot has a lot of artificial stretches in it that don't seem to serve much purpose other than to make it more "literary." I think the book would have been stronger without the window dressing. See what you think.

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Hat mir gut gefallen,... Von Frank Bittermann weil es ein runder, spannender, gut geschriebener und nachvollziehbarer Thriller ist. Immer knapp am Mainstream und trotzdem frisch wirkend. Jonny, ein Teenager mitten in Amerika, lebt dafr, seine vor einem Jahr verschwundene Zwillingsschwester zu finden. Ein Freund von ihm sah sie lchelnd in ein Auto einsteigen und von diesem Tag fehlt jede Spur von ihr. Akribisch und unkonventionell arbeitet er auf eigene Faust, denn von der Polizei kann er keine Hilfe erwarten und seine Mutter scheint am Verlust des Mdchens zu zerbrechen. Pltzlich verschwindet eine von Jonnys Mitschlerinnen und das ist erst der Anfang... 3 von 4 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Ein Thriller, der so nur in den USA geschrieben werden konnte - zweieinhalb Sterne Von dieleseratz Lange habe ich berlegt, wie ich diesen Thriller beurteilen sollte. Zwei Tage nach dem Lesen der letzten Zeile kann ich nun sagen: Solch ein Buch kann nur in den Staaten geschrieben werden: Sehr viel Pathos, sehr viel Schwarz-/Wei-Malerei, sehr viel Religiositt und Glauben daran, dass alles machbar ist.... Ein heldenhafter, fanatischer Detective, der auf der Suche nach dem Entfrhrer Alyssas seinen eigenen Sohn und seine Ehe vernachlssigte und gleichzeitig Alyssas (gerade mal 33jhrige) Mutter begehrt.... Diese ist zwar seit der Entfrhung stets unter Drogen und Alkohol, "bewahrte jedoch ihre Schnheit und Zartheit". Sie liegt tagelang nur im Bett, schluckt Tabletten und lt sich von einem Freund der Familie finanziell aushalten - gegen Sex. Dass sie arbeiten knnte oder sich zumindest ums berlebende Kind kmmern, kommt weder ihr noch irgendwelchen Freunden, die sie ja haben msste, in den Sinn. Der Sohn schnvzt mittlerweile die Schule, kmmert sich halbwegs um die Haushalt, ist ansonsten auf sich alleine gestellt und muss schauen, wo er was zu essen findet. Schwer zu schlucken, das ganze - auch im Land der unbegrenzten Mglichkeiten - und teilweise schon etwas stark berzeichnet. John Hart schreibt gut, ist ein guter Geschichtenerzhler, wenn auch 100 Seiten weniger der Spannung gutgetan htten. Fazit: Aufgrund des recht berraschenden Endes doch noch zweieinhalb Sterne. Man bleibt jedoch in Anbetracht der pathetisch-patriotisch-religisen Anklnge etwas zwiespltig zurck. Trotz allem ein neuer Autor, den man sich merken muss!

Kurzbeschreibung Thirteen-year-old Johnny Merrimon has to face things no boy his age should face. In the year since his twin sister's abduction his world has fallen apart: his father has disappeared and his fragile mother is spiralling into ever deeper despair. Johnny keeps strong. Armed with a map, a bike and a flashlight, he stalks the bad men of Raven County. The police might have given up on Alyssa; he never will. Someone, somewhere, knows something they're not telling. Only one person looks out for Johnny. Detective Clyde Hunt shares his obsession with the case. But when Johnny witnesses a hit-and-run and insists the victim was killed because he'd found Alyssa, even Hunt thinks he's lost it. And then another young girl goes missing . . .

Pressestimmen The scenes and characters are so powerful on their own that [Scott Sowers's] understated presentation is highly effective. He still manages to give the characters depth and distinction with subtle modifications of pace, tone, and degree of soft Carolina drawl. This is a difficult story to listen to - but an impossible story to put down. AudioFile

Pressestimmen "The Last Child is as satisfying as his previous books" -- Guardian 'Just once in a while a thriller comes along that makes you want to run out in the street and proclaim how good it is ? John Hart's third novel is one of those. Written with power, precision and an iron grip on character it makes him out as one of the outstanding talents of his generation ... it grips you by the throat and never lets go' -- Daily Mail 'A gripping thriller that will have you on the edge of your seat' -- The Sun 'Hart is emerging as one of the biggest new American talents in the psychological thriller field, and should be joining Harlan Coben and Linwood Barclay on the bestseller lists' -- Bookseller 'Third novel from this rising US author' -- Bookseller 'I absolutely love this man's writing, and by that I mean all aspects of it: plotting, characterization and its lyrical quality ... John Hart has

joined the highest ranks of crime fiction writing. Thank heavens he's a young man so we'll have his novels to enjoy for many years to come' -- Deadly Pleasures 'EDGAR Allan Poe Award winner John Hart does something in his latest book that few manage successfully: write a compelling thriller with a child as the main character... Hart, a former lawyer from the US deep south, writes finely detailed prose with a literary edge, a fine sense of atmosphere and just the right touches of creepy southern gothic' -- The Weekend Australian 'The main character in award winning author John Hart's thriller The Last Child, is a teenage boy turned vigilante, driven by the abduction of his older sister a year ago...a superb page- turner' -- Illawarra Mercury (Australia) 'A roiling, boiling, seething stew of passion and conflict' -- Courier Mail, (Australia) 'Brilliantly written with plenty of twists and clues' -- Crimesquad website Praise for Down River -- - [Hart] explores betrayal and forgiveness in indelible prose' -- Peter Guttridge, Observer Praise for John Hart and King of Lies -- - 'Presumed Innocent meets Fatal Attraction. Hart's prose is like Raymond Chandler's, angular and hard...' -- Entertainment Weekly 'Smart and swift-moving... Hart knows his way around the courtrooms and jailhouses...the way that Grisham and Turow do' -- Pat Conroy 'Akin to the close-range gut-roiling atmosphere summoned by the legal thrillers of Scott Turow' -- New York Times 'Presumed Innocent meets Fatal Attraction. Hart's prose is like Raymond Chandler's, angular and hard...' -- Entertainment Weekly 'Nobody does hate like Southerners, and you'll find plenty of it in the characters slithering through this well-spun murder mystery... a gripping performance' -- People Magazine 'A fast-paced mystery debut' -- Wall Street Journal 'John Hart has hit a home run with his first novel, The King Of Lies, which has garnered universal and well-deserved rave reviews' -- Deadly Pleasures 'A lovely writing style that's full-bodied and lyrical' -- Deadly Pleasures 'A masterly and suspenseful thriller' -- Good Book Guide