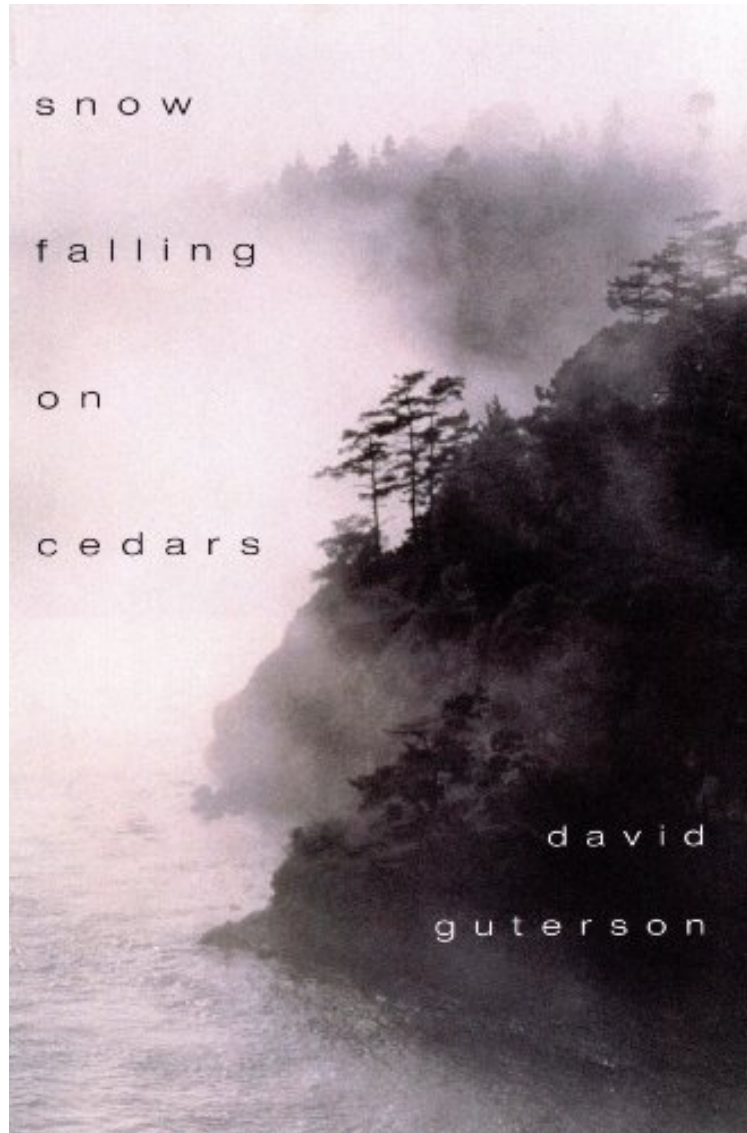


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Snow Falling on Cedars

Von David Guterson

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Von David Guterson : Snow Falling on Cedars before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Snow Falling on Cedars:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Let this book soak into your bonesVon Michael K. SmithAs an avid reader (of everything) for the past five decades, I'm annoyed that I somehow missed hearing about Gutterson until a friend recommended him to me. I know something about the far Northwest and I have several longtime Japanese-American friends, and this story is true to the cadence

and nuances of both, alternating between the quiet dignity of the strawberry farmers (even in the love scenes) and the hard-edged instincts of the fishermen. I finished this amazing book a month ago and have read two other novels since... yet scenes and bits of dialogue and descriptions of the island keep wafting back into my mind. I can't recommend it highly enough. 2 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Beautifully written, but.... Von R.

Maynard When I started reading this book I was enthralled with the prose the theme and the descriptive talents of the writer. It starts with a sensitive teenage love affair, moves on to a historically accurate treatment of the Japanese Americans citizens who were rounded up and interned at the beginning of World War II. When the war ends, the tale moves on to a mysterious death at sea of a veteran fisherman. A grand jury finds that a decorated Japanese American soldier returning from the European War theatre, is culpable in the fisherman's death and hands down a indictment of murder. A trial follows and it appears that there is little doubt in the minds of the citizens that the heroic veteran did indeed commit the murder. As the trial phase unfolded, I began to have doubts: the author had done such a wonderful job up to this point, but the story was obviously winding down ---- a story that deserved a great ending. But, that was not to be: the ending wimped out. Additional evidence, introduced to the trial judge in his chambers, provides reasonable doubt and ends the case. Aw shucks, gosh, gee whiz, couldn't there have been some evil character who tried to frame the heroic veteran for some devious reason? Well ---- maybe I expected too much. 2 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Classic Whodunnit with a Twist of Forbidden Love Von Jason Chan Like most books I read, this one was recommended by a friend. I had no idea what it was about and knew nothing about David Guterson. In addition, had just finished reading the incredible "Memoirs of a Geisha" and knew that the next book I read would have a hard time keeping my attention. That being the case, I wasn't all that excited when I started with Cedars. The first 50 or so pages are on the dry side, but set the stage for the trial. To be honest, I almost gave up on the book, but persevered and was glad that things really picked up shortly after that. STYLE: Guterson has a fairly elegant writing style and does a good job weaving the flashbacks into and out of the main storyline. It's fair to say that about 1/2 of the book is flashback and it Guterson seamlessly leads the reader in and out of the past with little effort. FLOW: As I mentioned earlier, the book begins with the trial and gives us a taste of things to come. As I progressed further into the book, I gained some real insights into Ishmael Chambers' emotional and moral dilemmas. Guterson also makes Hatsue a real tough nut to crack, all the way til the end, which makes the book that much more suspenseful. Dialog is a bit heavy at times, and is a bit confusing in the first couple of chapters as new characters are introduced during the trial. Personally, I found the deluge bordering on overwhelming and liked how they were less involved in the the recent movie. CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT: Boy, there is character development galore here. We see the main characters grow up from kids to adults and from youthful innocence to mature decision-makers. The trying circumstances of the plot would put extraordinary strains on regular people, and it takes a tremendous step in terms of maturity to overcome their tabooess of forbidden love(!) I breathed a sigh of "wow, he actually did it" when Ishmael finally learns to accept reality. Hatsue -- I think she still has unresolved issues, but that's a topic for another discussion. OVERALL: It took a while to get going, but I did enjoy Cedars. Not as much as "Memoirs of a Geisha," but it's still a solid effort in its own right. If you're thinking about watching the movie, be prepared to lower your expectations as it doesn't do justice to Guterson's prose.

Kurzbeschreibung A finely wrought, flawlessly written novel (New York Times Book), set on a small island in the Puget Sound, that is at various moments a courtroom drama, an interracial love story, and a war chronicle (San Francisco Chronicle). Guterson has fashioned something haunting and true (Pico Iyer, Time). Winner of the PEN/Faulkner Award. A fall 1999 major motion picture.