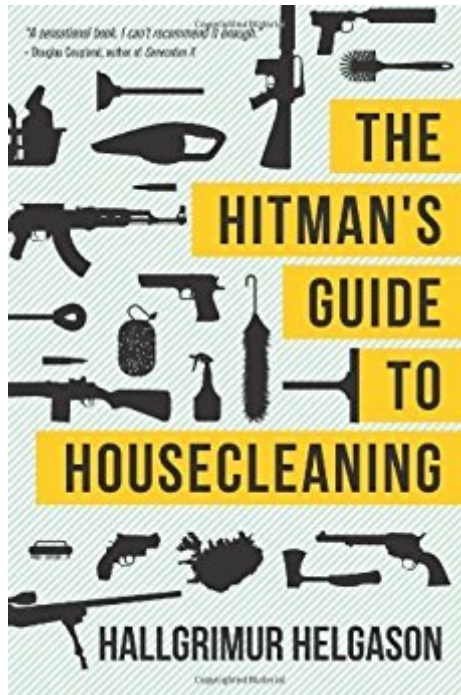


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The Hitman's Guide To Housecleaning



Synopsis

With some 66 hits under his belt, Tomislav Bokun, or Toxic, has a flawless record as hitman for the Croatian mafia in New York. That is, until he kills the wrong guy and is forced to flee the States, leaving behind the life he knows and loves. Suddenly, he finds himself on a plane hurtling toward Reykjavik, Iceland, borrowing the identity of an American televangelist named Father Friendly. With no means of escape from this island devoid of gun shops and contract killing, tragicomic hilarity ensues as he is forced to come to terms with his bloody past and reevaluate his future.

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Customer Reviews

The Hitman's Guide to Housecleaning by Hallgrimur Helgason I loved this story. I only put the book down when I had to. I am a sucker for gangster stories. The main character in this book points out hypocritical people like me who wouldn't think of crossing on a red light but love watching Tony Soprano. I also enjoy reading about living in cold climate areas and Iceland is a place I don't often get to visit in books or movies. The story is irreverent, funny, disturbing, location driven and maybe the smallest bit political if you'd want to take it that way. Maybe antiestablishment might be a better description. The main character is currently in the Croatian Mafia. Previously he fought the Serbs in

the Croatian war for independence. The entire story is from his POV and he has an internal story for everything. So you spend time with him remembering the war. He is a killer by trade so his tolerance is higher than the readers and there are times when I found myself laughing and liking him and then was shocked in the next moment by something he did or remembered. I have been reading a lot of Scandinavian authors lately but I never really get used to all the long names and spellings that are out of my comfort zone. The Croatian main character in this book helps the reader with all the Icelandic words by giving them phonetic like substitutes that also partly describe the character. So Gunnhildur becomes Gunholder and so forth. The book is never a chore to read and by the end I was very comfortable with the occasional Croatian, Icelandic, Russian, Serbian, Polish or Lithuanian word. I loved the way the main character processes his thoughts on women. That mechanism right there is reason enough to read this book.

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