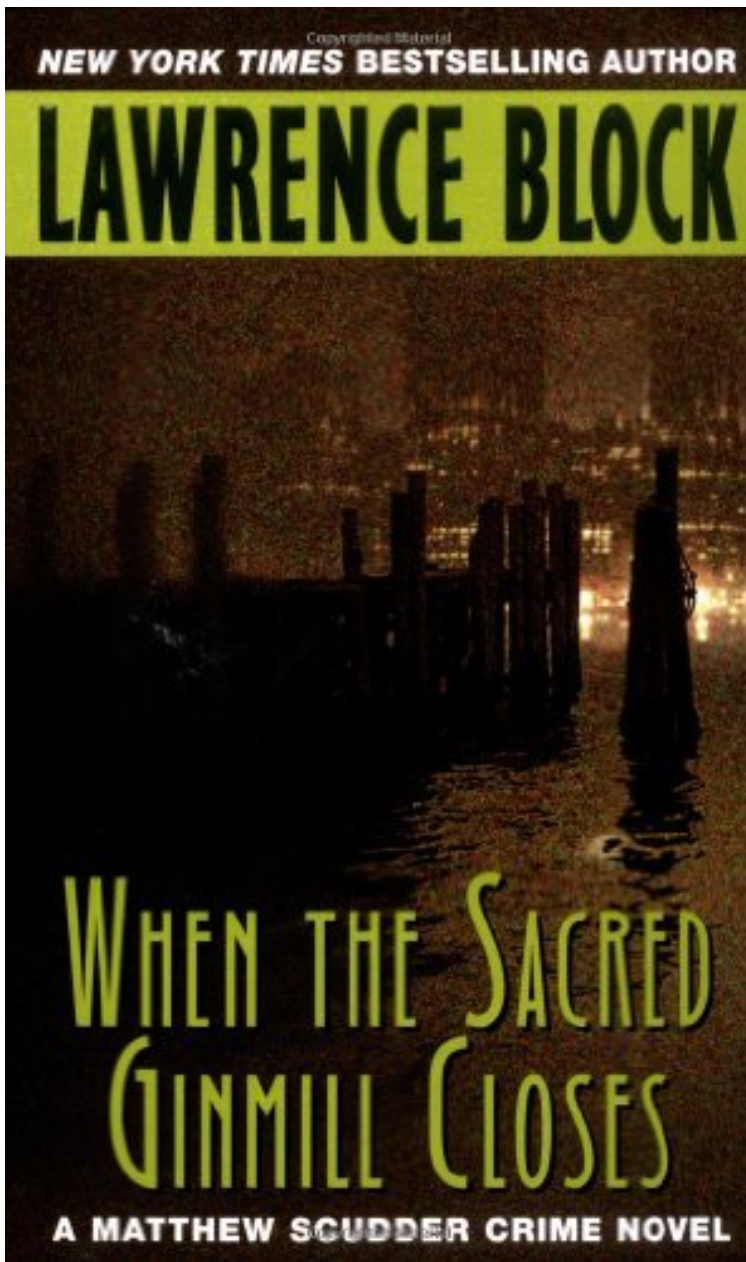


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When the Sacred Ginmill Closes



Par Lawrence Block
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Description : Description du produitIn the dark days, in a sad and lonely place, ex-cop Matt Scudder is drinking his life away -- and doing "favors" for pay for his ginmill cronies. But when three such assignments flow together in dangerous and disturbing ways, he'll need to change his priorities

Prsentation de l'diteurIn the dark days, in a sad and lonely place, ex-cop Matt Scudder is drinking his life away -- and doing "favors" for pay for his ginmill cronies. But when three such assignments flow together in dangerous and disturbing ways, he'll need to change his priorities from boozing to surviving.From Publishers

WeeklyThe prolific, Edgar Awardwinning Block has written many mysteries, most in assorted series with colorful protagonists. Featured here is Matt Scudder in his follow-up appearance to Eight Million Ways to Die. Scudder is a former New York cop, now an unlicensed private detective who does favors for friends. Divorced from his wife, who lives with their sons on Long Island, Scudder rooms in a West Side hotel. His real home, however, is any one of three or four local bars, and his family are their owners, staff and habitues. In the summer of 1975, Matt is busy with assorted favors. Tommie Tillary, an investment salesman in flashy clothes, whose wife has been murdered in Bay Ridge, needs to be cleared of suspicion. The real booksas opposed to those shown to the IRSstolen from Skip Devoe's bar must be ransomed, and the masked gunmen who robbed the Morrissey brothers' after-hours place have to be identified. Drinking steadily all summer, Scudder accomplishes all of the above, his intuition, doggedness and respect for a higher law sputtering through the alcoholic haze. Block is an accomplished storyteller, and Matt Scudder is a fine example of hero as human being. Mystery Guild selection. Copyright 1986 Reed Business Information, Inc.From AudioFileEx-cop Matt Scudder does favors for friends, in this case, saloon friends. As he looks for information from barroom to barroom, the drinking life of Scudder and friends unfolds for the listener. Wrapped up in this alcoholic haze is quite a good mystery. Mark Hammer has the perfect voice for Scudder and his drinking companions. His gritty, low tones put the listener on the scene. Dialogue among boozy men offers considerable challenges, but Hammer aces the voices, the slurred speech and their languor. He captures the steel and integrity Scudder hides. For fans of Block, this audio portrait of Matt Scudder should not be missed. R.F.W. (c)AudioFile, Portland, Maine