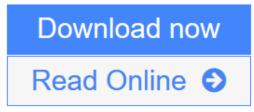


Under the Willow: The Legend Willie Cane

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From the day he was born in the late 1800s, Willie Cane's father knew he was special. Willie was taught to trap and hunt in the Tensaw River Delta of South Alabama and became well known for his skills. He was a strong man with a reputation of having no fear and knowing the ways of the swamp. Like the popular stories Jeramiah Johnson and Grizzly Adams, this story is of a young man that learned life the hard way. Willie had one close friend Sam Calhoun and some animals that kept him company. One day a gypsy told him of things to come, even of his desires for a woman that also lived in the delta. Molly Bell, a neighbor, captured his heart as he did hers. Molly left the swamp for the city, leaving Willie alone with no reason and a broken heart that was until she returned. The story is full of history, excitement, mystery, and love.

Under the Willow: The Legend Willie Cane Details

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Paul Kearley says

I won this book on Goodreads in exchange for a honest review.

I'm not sure where to start with this, maybe with credit to Eddie J Carr for writing a book and clearly following an instinct to put pen to paper. I always have respect for that.

Unfortunately I can't say many more positive things then that for this book.

The overall story could have been incredible, the concept that a man going through the hardships of the Deep South at the turn of the century when there was such an impact of modern technology that affected a world and the impact it had on this corner of the world. This begs for a story to be told.

Instead I got an amateur rendition of someone whose life was told in a matter of minutes that was only portrayed as a hero. Practically real life has to dictate moments that the reader can relate too as part of 'coming of age'.

Honestly, it felt like a script the author has put together to write the novel, there was so much more I wanted to know about this book that was brushed over. (Where was the detail of trapping life, how moonshine was made etc)

Overall, I was left with this:

- there was very 'required' descriptions of the characters, but only on a superficial level, (I would loved to have heard the story about the parents), I felt the author had to say things about the characters instead of investing emotion;

- A lot of short sentences, every paragraph was like reading multiple notes, (it needed a good editor).

publishing company, I'm looking at you

- There was no emotion, it was like reading a Wikipedia page on someone's life. I WANTED to connect with Willie, but he ended up coming across as an ignorant 'golden child'

- Using Deep South 'accents' was really jarring. If the use of a language is going to be used, then it needs to be written that way. 'Maw', 'Paw' and 'y'all' came across as a feeble stab at making the reader feel like they were in the geographical landscape.

Overall, the publishing company has a lot to be responsible for letting this book go out without some severe editing. On a positive note, I would like to see the author take this onboard and make me love his characters.