



The Lynching Waltz

Stephen L Kanne

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Stephen L. Kanne

The Lynching Waltz—the story of how a small community came to the defense of its black children in 1947 and unwittingly sowed the early seeds of the Civil Rights Movement.

Inspired by an actual racist incident of the author's youth, this is a remarkable story of how the good people of tiny Glencoe, Illinois, blunted a racist assault against its black children. Because all participants are gone and because what precisely occurred is unknown, the book has become a work of historical fiction.

Seen through the eyes of a black grandfather, retired federal judge James Lincoln Washburn Jr., and his twelve-year-old grandson, Jamie, the reader is carried away on a whirlwind journey of discovery which includes:

- a meeting with Bucky, the greatest baseball player of all time who never played;
- an encounter with large, oafish Bruno Steiner, a WWI hero who eventually becomes a great friend of Glencoe's children;
- a brutal, senseless racist atrocity perpetrated by the Ku Klux Klan;
- a Tuskegee aviator's perilous adventure in the flak-filled skies over Europe; and
- the tale of a brilliant slave who changes the lives of thousands.

With their journey of discovery now at an end, Judge Washburn and Jamie return to Glencoe where they witness the uplifting manner in which its citizens deal with racial injustice.

And, finally, in an Epilogue of both surprises and closure, the author promises a sequel on the shameful internment of Japanese Americans during WWII, yet another event of his youth.

Now in his 80's, author Kanne has carried Lynching's story with him throughout his lifetime before finally deciding to tell it. And why did it take so long? Because racism is ugly and difficult to deal with—as evidenced by his disgusting and nauseatingly uncouth racist characters—and writing his book required more than just exposing truth if he ever hoped to bring about change. Mr. Kanne has dared to humanize what up until now most considered something to be hidden and forgotten. Instead of merely describing the horrors of racism, Mr. Kanne's characters come alive. We learn of their brilliance, determination and courage as they relate to us their stories of survival and loss, of living and loving, of reaching beyond shattered dreams to become all they can be in our imperfect world. And the result? A modern-day classic of extraordinary importance.

Although historical fiction, The Lynching Waltz is an inspiring and moving tale, one designed for all of us—most particularly for every high school and college student throughout the land. We see it as seeding a

national discourse on racism and why that divisive evil must forever be purged from our way of life.

Here's what nationally-syndicated columnist Bill Husted had to say about *The Lynching Waltz*:

I covered the civil rights movement as a newspaper reporter years ago. It was an exciting time and occasionally a dangerous time. I was beaten by white mobs on two occasions. I remember my editor—after I telephoned from the field to tell him of the latest beating—saying (safely from afar by phone) "they can't do that to us, you get right back there."

You can get back there yourself now, courtesy of Steve's magnificent book. You will travel back in history and meet a cast of memorable characters—each with his or her own story that will let the reader see how we got to where we are now—both the good and the bad—in race relations.

Oftentimes when a book attempts to send a message, things get overly preachy and self-righteous. Not here. This book lets the story carry its own weight, takes the reader back using a whole cast of characters who feel real, feel right. It's a series of well told tales that has importance not only for what it says but how it says it.

This is Steve's second book and it's spellbinding. His first book was a fine read but this second book is an important read.

Bill Husted, Nationally Syndicated Columnist

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Faye Wilson:

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Jerry Linton:

The book untitled The Lynching Waltz contain a lot of information on the idea. The writer explains her idea with easy technique. The language is very clear to see all the people, so do not necessarily worry, you can easy to read the item. The book was compiled by famous author. The author brings you in the new period of literary works. You can read this book because you can read on your smart phone, or gadget, so you can read the book in anywhere and anytime. In a situation you wish to purchase the e-book, you can open their official web-site and order it. Have a nice go through.

Juan Farley:

Is it you actually who having spare time then spend it whole day by watching television programs or just telling lies on the bed? Do you need something totally new? This The Lynching Waltz can be the answer, oh how comes? It's a book you know. You are thus out of date, spending your spare time by reading in this brand new era is common not a geek activity. So what these books have than the others?

Ron Matthies:

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