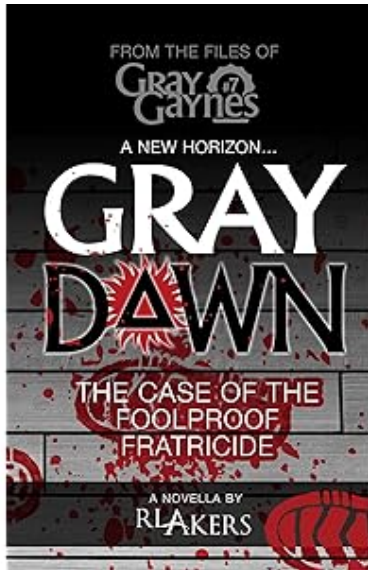




Readers' Favorite® Book Reviews and Award Contest

Book Review Mini-Critique



Below you will find ratings (scale of 1-5) with general descriptions for the major parts of your book followed by your Readers' Favorite review. Although this is just a Mini-Critique, we hope it will give you an insight into how readers may view the different components of your book.

These are the opinions of your reviewer, and although they are not a literary professional, they are an avid reader of books just like yours.

Title: Gray Dawn
Subtitle: The Case of the Foolproof Fratricide (Gray Gaynes Book 7)
Author: R. L. Akers
Genre: Fiction - Suspense



Appearance: The appearance of a book can make a significant impact on the experience of a reader, whose enjoyment is often enhanced by an enticing cover, an intriguing table of contents, interesting chapter headings, and when possible, eye-catching illustrations.

5

Plot: The characters of a book should be well defined with strengths and flaws, and while they do not have to be likable, the reader does have to be able to form a connection with them. The tone should be consistent, the theme should be clear, and the plot should be original or told from a unique perspective. For informative books -- those without plot and characters--this rating refers primarily to your concept and how well you presented it.

5

- Development:** 5 Development refers to how effectively you told your story or discussed your topic. The dialogue should be realistic, the descriptions should be vivid, and the material should be concise and coherent. Organization is also a key factor, especially for informative books -- those without plot and characters. The order in which you tell your story or explain your topic and how smoothly it flows can have a huge impact on the reader's understanding and enjoyment of the material.
- Formatting:** 4 Formatting is the single most overlooked area by authors. The way in which you describe scenes, display dialogue, and shift point of view can make or break your story. In addition, excessive grammatical errors and typos can give your book an amateurish feel and even put off readers completely.
- Marketability:** 5 Marketability refers to how effectively you wrote your book for your target audience. Authors may include content that is above or below the understanding of their target reader, or include concepts, opinions or language that can accidentally confuse or alienate some readers. Although by its nature this rating is very subjective, a very low rating here and poor reviews may indicate an issue with your book in this area.
- Overall Opinion:** 5 The overall starred rating takes into account all these elements and describes the overall reading experience of your reviewer. This is the official Readers' Favorite review rating for your book.

Review:

Reviewed by Tanja Jurkovic for Readers' Favorite

Gray Dawn is a mystery thriller and the seventh book in the Gray Gaines series by R. L. Akers. Gray Gaines, a now-retired homicide detective, finds himself rebuilding his life at the far corners of Alaska's North Slope, where life is rough, and wildlife and weather conditions are even rougher. Nevertheless, Gaines is keeping a low profile while adapting to a simpler life without the stress that comes with solving crimes. But when one of his friends is arrested and accused of murder, Gaines' detective skills again come into play while he does his best to unravel the mystery of human remains found inside a bear. He quickly becomes entangled in a web of intrigue and secrets, wondering if he will be able to solve this crime and keep the life that he started building in the wilderness of Alaska.

R.L. Akers builds a narrative that will leave every reader wondering about the intricacies of human character and humanity, describing a different, more desolate and isolated world than the one of bustling cities and positioning himself as a true author of mystery and thriller. The main character's portrayal as a broken man trying to rebuild himself in a new environment is relatable, emotional, and full of surprises. The slow burn and eloquent writing in Gray Dawn create an enjoyable atmosphere, offering readers the option to immerse themselves in the story of a small community town disrupted by a mysterious, almost unsolvable crime. It will keep everyone on the edge of their seats with suspenseful scenes and an enigmatic, surprising ending.