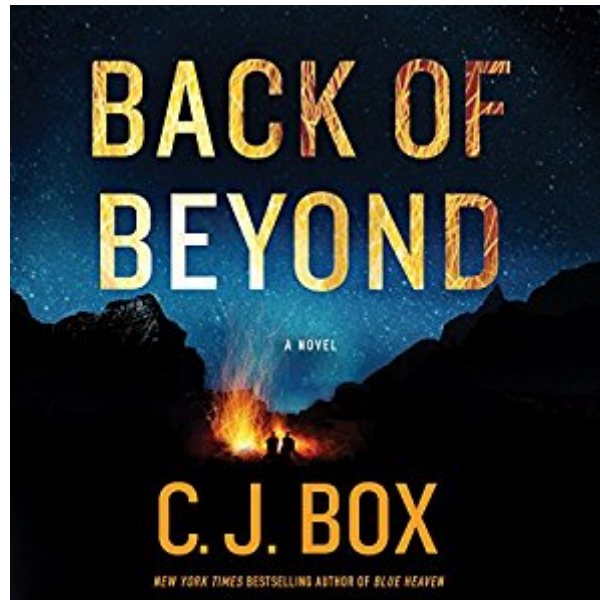




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Back Of Beyond



Synopsis

The Edgar® Award-winning and New York Times best-selling author delivers a thriller about a troubled cop trying to save his son from a killer in Yellowstone. Cody Hoyt, while a brilliant cop, is an alcoholic struggling with two months of sobriety when his mentor and AA sponsor Hank Winters is found burned to death in a remote mountain cabin. At first, it looks like the suicide of a man who's fallen off the wagon, but Cody knows Hank better than that. Sober for 14 years, Hank took pride in his hard-won sobriety and never hesitated to drop whatever he was doing to talk Cody off a ledge. When Cody takes a closer look at the scene of his friend's death, it becomes apparent that foul play is at hand. After years of bad behavior with his department, he's in no position to be investigating a homicide, but this man was a friend and Cody's determined to find his killer. When clues found at the scene link the murderer to an outfitter leading tourists on a multi-day wilderness horseback trip into the remote corners of Yellowstone National Park-a pack trip that includes his son Justin-Cody is desperate to get on their trail and stop the killer before the group heads into the wild. Among the tourists is 14-year-old Gracie Sullivan, an awkward but intelligent loner who begins to suspect that someone in their party is dangerous. In a fatal cat-and-mouse game, where it becomes apparent the murderer is somehow aware of Cody's every move, Cody treks into the wilderness to stop a killer hell bent on ruining the only thing in his life he cares about.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

5+ Stars Compelling. CJ Box is a must read, must buy author. His new series with character Cody

Hoyt is a page-turner. Easy to follow stand-alone with no graphic violence or drag-you-down drama. Interesting storyline with realistic setting, actions and reactions. Believable characters with distinct personalities. Informative, thought-provoking and occasionally snarky dialogue. 'They said you were crazy, violent, and unpredictable. They said you were a loose cannon and you were all over the place like a fart on a hot skillet. But they also said you were a f'ing fantastic cop and you went at every case like a bulldog on steroids who wouldn't let go' The long flashlights had been banned from most police departments, which Cody saw as a further sign of official wimpification. 'Because if there was a body and it belonged to whom he thought and if the evidence pointed to a homicide, he'd personally go after who did it like a rabid dog until he took that person down. And he wasn't thinking Deer Lodge, Montana, where the state penitentiary was located. He was thinking Dirt Nap, Montana. Which was just about anywhere he wanted it to be.' I will re-read this story and look forward to more in this series.

Better than I expected. I was "in between books", looking for "something to read" and stumbled upon "Back Of Beyond". Great places, Great narrative that really took me to Montana and Yellowstone. I could see the eagles and bears. And the horses - a truly funny and fitting description of horses, C.J. Box is a rider for sure. Anyway, that's all fine, but how about the THRILLER? Yep. There. Ok. I loved the Cody Hoyt character. Great guy, complex and dark but also able to not paint himself as victim. - He's good for many more adventures. Some characters were a tad too cliché, namely one bad character (no spoilers) and one teenage character... But all others fit their roles, surprised still and were fun to read. In total I'd say I'm very much looking forward to more Cody Hoyt! Good one. - Why "only" four stars? I thought the author could have taken himself and us deeper into the souls of a family-burdened drinker, an insufferable teenage girl or a nature guy who seems to gamble for something he wouldn't even like.

This is a well-written book overall. Some plot gaps, but generally story ties together at the end, keeping in mind this is fiction, which does ask our forgiveness. I specially like the character development of Cody, the very flawed hero. His struggle with alcoholism rings true. And the character development of the girls and the guides is excellent. Without that character development, the story would run flat. Overall, a good read. Note that the title, Back of Beyond is also the name of a guide service operated by Seldom Smith, a key character in Edward Abbey's classic anti-establishment, "environmental terrorism" novel, The Monkey Wrench Gang, an excellent read.

Cody Hoyt has got to be the WORST main character ever invented. He is despicable with barely a single redeeming feature. Having said that, the book itself was OK. One of the reasons I really like Box's work is because he really gets the landscape of Wyoming. You won't find another current writer out there who can describe it the way he does. also, I really like Joe Pickett. He has a strong moral center even though he is pig headed about it. And Nate Romanowski is wonderful as Joe's darker side(kick). The stories have mostly all be engrossing and entertaining. Although the violence sometimes makes me wince. BoB takes the violence to a whole other level and I did NOT like it one bit. Contributing to the national thirst for more and more blood and violence is not a good way to go. I sure hope this doesn't herald a trend for Box.

I have read many books by Box and I love his work. He makes you last attention to detail, and I have to admit, sometimes I may read one page several times to make sure I know where this story is going. But, I can tell you readers this, he doesn't make it easy. He takes you in so many different directions you lose track. Even though you pat attention, he will throw you a curve and you are doubting your own thoughts. Way to go C.J.Box. I loved this book. Cody was one more crAzy but smart cop. But you didn't know that until the very end.

This book makes for an enjoyable weekend read. The story centers around a preposterous series of murders, but the main character is interesting and the wilderness setting is well depicted. The central mystery is over hyped, with implausible complications. But overall it still provides some entertainment. If you can pick this book up at a discount price it's worth spending the time to read if you don't have anything better to do.

C.J. Box is an awesome writer. I've read every book, and always anxiously await the next. I liked his earlier series better (I really love the characters), but this is another excellent story. His characters are fully developed and interesting, never dull or predictable, and the stories have enough complexity and suspense, and nuance, to keep you turning page after page. I will never hesitate to pick up a book by this author.

I enjoyed C. J. Box's Joe Pickett series and thought I would try another series by the same author. I am glad I did. Cody Hoyt is nothing, [nothing] like Joe, but is very interesting to get to know. One of the reasons I enjoyed the Pickett books is the very graphic way Box describes the geographical settings, other characters, the weather that impacts the mountain locations, the wildlife that inhabits

the area, and the general thinking and culture of other parts of the country. In the Hoyt novels I have not been disappointed. If you enjoyed Joe Pickett's adventures, I believe you will add a new series of books to your reading list.

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