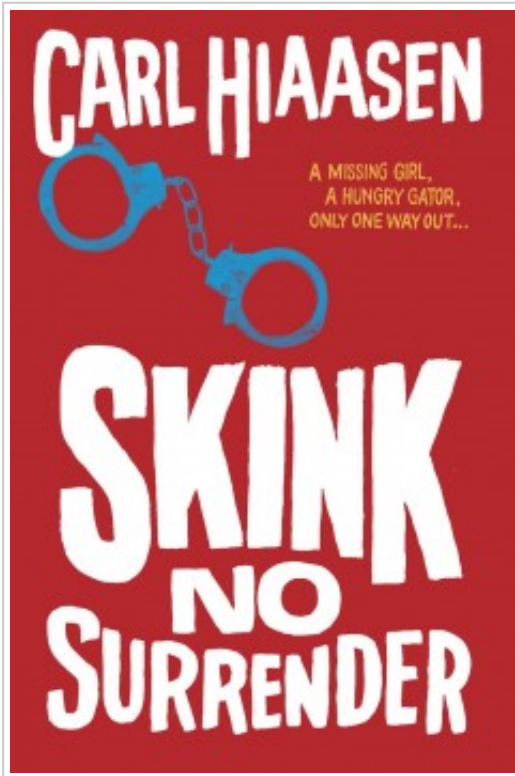


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Skink-No Surrender

by Carl Hiaasen

Price: \$21.99(Hardcover)

Published: September 23, 2014

Rating: 0.0/5 (0 votes cast)

From the Publisher: Carl Hiaasen serves up his unique brand of swamp justice in the New York Times bestseller Skink—No Surrender.

A National Book Award Longlist Selection

When your cousin goes missing under suspicious circumstances, who do you call? There's only one man for the job: a half-crazed, half-feral, one-eyed ex-governor named Skink. Skink joins 14-year-old Richard on a breakneck chase across Florida, undaunted by lightning storms, poisonous snakes, flying bullets, and giant gators. There are a million places cousin Malley could be, a million unpleasant fates that might have befallen her, but one thing is certain: in the Florida swamp, justice is best served wild.

From the Hardcover edition.

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What We Say

Call it what you will -- a mystery, a comic crime novel, a young adult novel, a book for teens, whatever. Essentially, it's another Carl Hiaasen romp and fans of any age will enjoy it. They'll especially enjoy it because Skink, the one-time governor of Florida and now avenging angel for nature and all-around nutty old coot is back. Just in time, too, because teenager Richard is in over his head. Richard's cousin has run off with a guy she met on the internet and it doesn't take a crime reporter to know that's not a bright idea. Richard and Skink run away on their own to track down his cousin and rescue her from a no-good skunk who's in more danger than the roadkill the gov scoops up and dines on every day. This is indeed a book that hits the right note for teens -- it's a little more adult than "Hoot," not so adult that parents will frown, but never juvenile or talking down to its readers. Hiaasen also hits a few unexpected notes that ring true, like a teenager that is furious with rage over what a bad guy might have done to his cousin and best friend but really, when it comes down to it, not ready to swing a golf club and pummel someone to death. Thank God Skink is nearby to take care of the rough stuff. It's fun, it's silly, it's got some really good music (here's hoping kids make a mixtape of "Subterranean Homesick Blues," Jimi Hendrix, Creedence and more) and Hiaasen satisfies fans and probably will win a few new ones. Really, that's the most impressive achievement here -- how Hiaasen adapts to the conventions of a new audience without for a moment betraying his funky, idiosyncratic voice. -- Michael Giltz

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What Others Say

"The book itself is just a wonder, part love poem about the Florida wilds, part road-trip novel, and part thriller. The second half of the book is a nail-biter to rival Cape Fear. I love Hiaasen for adults. I love Hiaasen for kids. But most of all, I love this Hiaasen, which brings the two writers together in one book." --Cory Doctorow

"Skink and Richard make quite a dangerous and entertaining duo in a story that careens perfectly from one crazy situation to the next. Reluctant readers (especially guys) will surrender themselves to this page turner. Cross your fingers that we haven't seen the last of Skink!" -- Booklist, starred

"If you were pursuing your cousin's kidnapper across Florida, you would want a man like Skink at your side. Maybe." -- Kirkus Reviews

"Skink is larger than life.... A presence to be reckoned with." -- The Horn Book

"A high stakes, action-packed comedy with a lot of heart." -- VOYA

From the Hardcover edition.

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