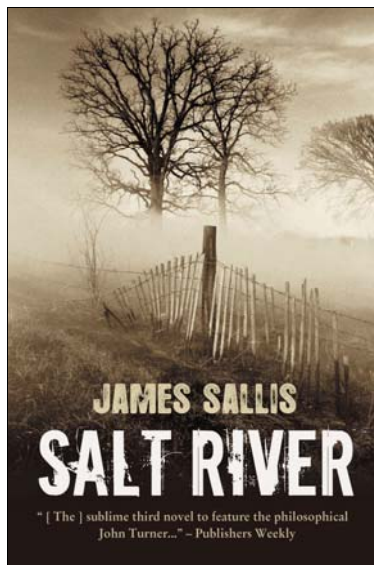


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SALT RIVER

JAMES SALLIS

NEW TITLE

SALES POINTS:

- **First 500 copies Signed and Numbered**
- **Review coverage in the national press expected**
- **Nominee for the CWA Gold Dagger Award**
- **Previous work, *Drive*, now being made into a high-profile film**



DESCRIPTION:

In *Cypress Grove* and *Cripple Creek* Sallis has conjured a small town somewhere near Memphis, where John Turner, ex-policeman, ex-con, war veteran and former therapist, has come to escape his past. But the past proved inescapable; thrust into the role of Deputy Sheriff, Turner finds himself at the centre of his new community, one that, like so many others, is drying up, disappearing before his eyes.

As *Salt River* begins, two years have passed since Turner's love, Val Bjorn, was shot as they sat together on the porch of his cabin. 'Sometimes you just have to see how much music you can make with what you have left', Val had told him, a mantra for picking up the pieces around her death, not sure how much he or the town has left. Then the sheriff's long-lost son comes ploughing down Main Street into City Hall in what appears to be a stolen car. And waiting at Turner's cabin is his good friend, Eldon Brown, Val's banjo on the back of his motorcycle so that it looks as though he has two heads. 'They think I killed someone,' he says. Turner asks: 'Did you?' And Eldon responds: 'I don't know.' Haunted by his own ghosts, Turner nonetheless goes in search of a truth he's not sure he can live with.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM:

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Sallis is an unsung genius of crime writing' - *The Independent*

Sallis creates vivid images in very few words and his taut, pared-down prose is distinctive and powerful' - *The Sunday Telegraph*

BIOGRAPHY:

James Sallis is a renowned poet, critic, essayist, editor, translator, musicologist, biographer and novelist. He lives in Arizona with his wife Karyn.