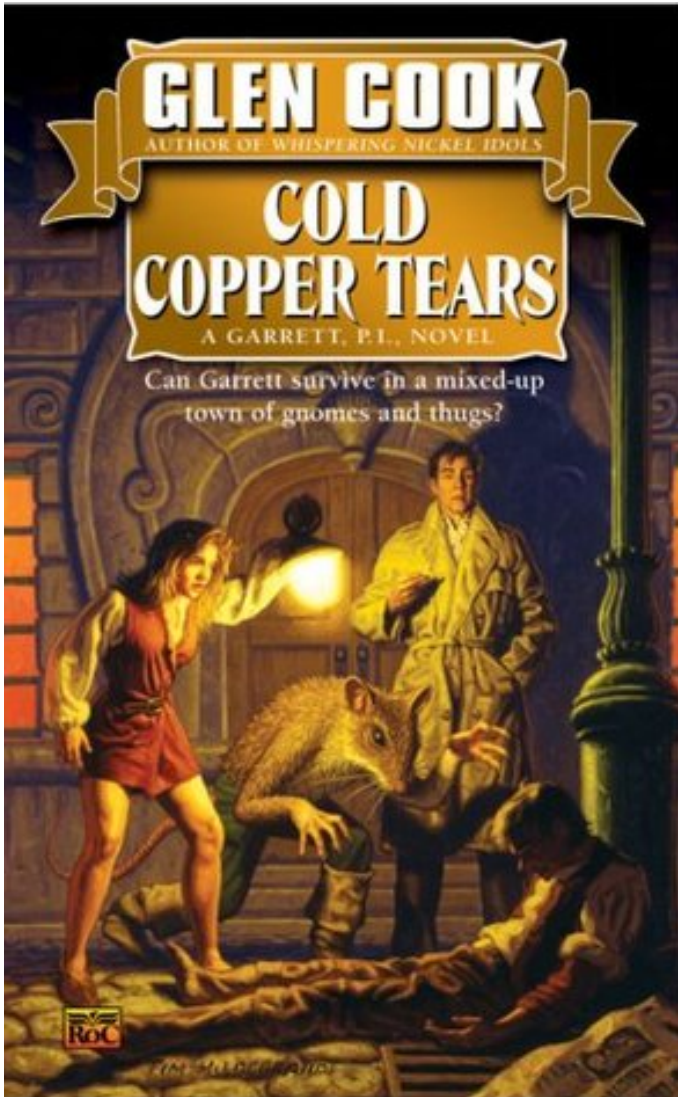

Glen Cook

Cold Copper Tears (Garrett Files #3)



Title: Cold Copper Tears (Garrett Files #3)

Author: Glen Cook

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Description

Slaying Beauty

She was tall, blonde, and offering Garrett a fee that was irresistible to take a case that seemed open and shut. But in a town of elves and humans, thugs and swindlers -- a place where magic and religion could prove an all-too-potent mix -- Garrett had learned to take a long, hard look before nodding yes.

And when, soon after this damsel in distress had departed, the Grand Inquisitor came looking for Garrett's help, he knew it was time to throw some business his competitors' way. But even for a hard-boiled detective like Garrett, who had the Dead Man for an ally and the toughest half-elf in town guarding his back, it was already too late to say no. For Garrett had been fingered as the latest sacrifice to a long-dead god, and his only chance to save his neck was to solve his newest cases right now!

Insightful reviews

Bookwraiths: Originally reviewed at [Bookwraiths Reviews](#)

This is the third novel in Glen Cook's Garrett P.I. series, where our hero doesn't have to go looking for trouble for it to find him. While this wasn't the best of the series, *Cold Cooper Tears* was still a solid novel with enough humor, surprises, and interesting plot lines to keep you turning the pages.

Basically, this story begins when our favorite fantasy P.I. Garrett gets approached by a beautiful damsel in distress named Jill Craight. (Garrett getting hired by a cute chic what are the odds?) Naturally she needs Garrett help for a routine job: find out who has been breaking into her apartment and why.

Sounds pretty easy doesn't it? That is exactly what Garrett believes.

Unfortunately, things immediately get complicated when a Magister Peridont comes by, wanting to hire Garrett to locate some religious relics which have walked away. Since Garrett isn't a religious sort of guy - and he is naturally lazy never forget - he respectfully declines. Of course that doesn't keep things from spiraling downward, and Garrett finds himself being attacked by a gang called the Vampires. This leads our investigator to contact an old friend Maya, who is the leader of a gang called Doom, for advice. From Maya, Garrett learns that his client, Jill, was a former member of Doom and that she is a chronic liar. With Maya in tow and Garrett suitable confused as usual, the story begins in earnest.

What happens next is classic Garrett. He bumbles around without the first clue as to what is going on or who to investigate. He will find a clue here, a dead body there, stumble upon long forgotten bad guys out to murder him, and then spend most of his time drinking beer and attempting not to go home alone. Along the way, a reader is peppered with Garrett's wit and wisdom about people and life without you even realize he is doing it.

Almost anything Glen Cook writes to me is worth reading, and *Cold Copper Tears* is no exception. Now, it won't give you an epiphany about life, but it will entertain you for more than a few hours. And really isn't that what P.I. books are all about: entertainment.

Heather: So, I like Glen Cook's style of writing and I enjoyed reading the book..... however.....

I find it kind of interesting (and not necessarily in a good way) that Mr. Garrett always gets the girl. Sort of. There has been one girl per book so far that has been all over him. He has Tinny in the background as his sort of on-again off-again thing. I mean it seems like they're enough of a couple, but still he goes around and sleeps with these women that come to him. And he wonders why she's always pissed at him. I think he just attributes it to "She's a woman and just not particularly sane because of it."

At least that's how it reads to me.

The story is this:

Garrett doesn't necessarily have to work anymore after doing a couple of jobs that have left him with some money. Well at least he doesn't have to do the jobs himself. He sort of outsources for a fee.

Blonde Bombshell walks through the door, pouring on the sweet sauce for his man servant, but Garrett's no fool. He sees through the gimmick. She slathers on some half-truth about having known him in the past. He doesn't necessarily recall her and it certainly doesn't endear her to him. She has a job she wants done and so he takes the case, outsourcing it to his lanky friend.

His lanky friend ends up dead on the job, so Garrett takes the case personally to get back at whomever is responsible. He looks for a bit of help from the local women ruffians, the leader of whom is rather sweet on him.

You can see where this goes, eventually: She cleans up nice and the two bump uglies. Her interactions with Garrett get her in trouble with her gang and she's eventually negotiated out.

As far as the mystery goes, it's pretty simple. Cook lays it out so that it's pretty easy to follow. There might have been one or two details that I wasn't able to pick up on immediately, but overall I had a good idea of what was going on and why.

In the end, Garrett helps to orchestrate saving the day.

It was a decent read. It wasn't very enlightening and didn't always keep me on my toes, but as far as reading things in continuity is concerned, I enjoyed my little delve into Garrett's world.

Larry Wentzel: *Cold Copper Tears* leaves me feeling torn. On one hand, it's a muddled detective story. A blast from Garrett's past visits him, involuntarily getting Garrett involved on a badly defined mystery. From the point of that interaction, multiple people claim considerable stakes in Garrett's life and death, watching him like a hawk, fighting increasingly impressive

battles over his continued state of being. Meanwhile, Garrett himself is completely unaware why he's even involved and over what, much to his (and my) frustration. The only thing that Garrett seems able to grasp chasing after the Blast From His Past and why they involved him at all: who they are, who they once were, and where they've hidden themselves currently.

In the end, whodunnit and whytheydunit become vastly unimportant to where the story ends up, the unmasking of the True Villain, and the rather unsatisfactory resolution. The story gets quite big for its pants, and Garrett ends up standing off to the side and watches the resolution happen elsewhere. At least he doesn't become the One True Savior, but remains true to who he is and the scale of work that is his province. He merely points the powerful at the equally powerful and lets them sort it out. Some truly impressive magics get thrown around for the first time in the series.

On the other hand, *Cold Copper Tears* is an excellent exploration of the seamy undersides of TunFaire and those who inhabit the seams. We get to see more of the kingpin's influence, life among street gangs, call girls, sex workers, and TunFaire's vast clergy. There's also a fair amount of myth building and eulogizing on the nature of gods, man, religion, faith, doctrine, virtues and vice, and the nature of those who are willing to sacrifice many to have their own way.

I also appreciated that the Dead Man isn't always there to help Garrett out; he's far too powerful a resource to have on call, at whim. Cook expands on the Dead Man's abilities, but reveals limitations to his use as well. Maybe one day, we'll find out his name.

I'm unsure what will become of Maya later on. Her attachment to Garrett was amusing, her transformation was nothing short of miraculous, but then her story was left hanging with no indication of where it would go.

Brandt: "I'm Garrett - low thirties, six ft two, 200 pounds, ginger hair, ex-marine, all-around enjoyable guy. For a cost i'm going to locate issues or get the boogeys off your back. i am no genius. i am getting the activity performed via being too obdurate to quit. My favourite game is woman and my favourite foodstuff is beer."Garrett for the win !

***Dave Hill: extra myth detective noir fun, although now not fairly as a lot of a romp because the prior volume. The addition of TunFaire church politics, and a few dire supernatural threats, made the myth epic aspect of the ebook weigh down the detective secret side. nonetheless strong stuff, nonetheless worthy examining ... yet i am taking a holiday sooner than relocating directly to the following installment.

HBalikov: between my favourite issues - mysteries, movie noir, and myth fiction (from J.R.R. Tolkien, to Lev Grossman and beyond). Glen prepare dinner has performed a superb task of packaging them including a feeling of humor in Garrett (his P.I.) that typically appears like Parker's Spenser and different occasions appears like Keillor's man Noir (but if you recognize he's Archie to his personal Nero). i discovered four famous person copper, and absence any

regrets that it isn't gold. Don't search for whatever yet a moment's entertainment. Here is a sample: "...Here we cross again." I knew the signs. Out comes the squeaky previous armor and the rusty outdated sword. Garrett was once going to get all noble. At least this time someone may pay me for my difficulty --- although I wouldn't precisely be doing what they paid me to do. yet I by no means relatively do what they need done. I do what i feel wishes doing. That's why now not all of my former consumers supply me favorable references."Not having a greater inspiration of what to do, I headed for the previous Shipway theater district. Who knew? i'd stumble onto anything blonde."My convoy went with me. The faces replaced periodically yet there have been by no means fewer than 4 males soaring around. It's great to grasp that you're loved."...I'm a man who doesn't comprehend intangible stakes. i do know a few may argue that i've got a collection of values that I take lovely seriously, but when I can't consume it or spend it or make it pass purr within the dark, I don't be aware of what to do with it. It's a weakness, a blind spot. occasionally I put out of your mind that there are men keen to get killed over ideas. I simply move bulling ahead, searching for the pot of gold."

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