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Main content

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Oakley Hall's classic literary Western, originally published in 1958, has been re-released as part of New York Review's Lost Treasure Series. The novel offers ample evidence of why, now in his mid-80s but still publishing, he is reverentially known as a writer's writer, including by the likes of Richard Ford, Amy Tan, and Thomas Pynchon (the last, in a review, termed Warlock "one of our best American novels"). Part of Hall's loose Legends West trilogy that also includes The Bad Lands (1978) and Apaches (1986), Warlock is most frequently considered his finest Western, if not his masterpiece.

Fellow novelist Robert Stone's short introduction of just over three pages is, in contrast to this sprawling novel, understated. Stone, renowned author of Dog Soldiers and Hall of Mirrors, among other books, sensibly avoids drawing his own work into the review, instead focusing on what he terms the novel's "good realism" and "[r]eally excellent prose ... the creation of sound, of songs, unheard...."

And readers of Warlock will find it a stylistic tour de force. Narrative and expository passages are done in bold brushstrokes. Dialogue is believable yet fresh, often containing vibrant and fresh turns...

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Warlock were a German heavy metal band, founded in 1982 by members of the underground bands Snakebite and Beast. The band gained popularity and some commercial success in Europe in the mid-1980s, due to the personality and stage presence of lead vocalist Doro Pesch. Warlock supported successful heavy metal bands on tour, such as W.A.S.P., Judas Priest, Dio and Megadeth. Warlocks
see only opportunity. Dominance is their aim, and they have found a path to it in the dark arts... In the face of demonic power, most heroes see death. Warlocks see only opportunity. Dominance is their aim, and they have found a path to it in the dark arts. These voracious spellcasters summon demonic minions to fight beside them. Warlock is the name for several artists. 1. A heavy metal band from Germany 2. An electronic musician from England 3. A rapper from England 4. A psychedelic band from the United States 5. A hardcore dj/producer active in the mid/late 90's. 6. A funk'n'roll, rap, hip hop band from Argentina. 1) A German heavy metal music band from Düsseldorf, originally assembled in late 1982. Warlock spent most of the year of 1983 playing in different German clubs, eventually building a steady fan base.