



Crooked Little Vein

By Warren Ellis

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Burned-out private dick Michael McGill needs to jump-start his career. What he gets instead is a cattle prod to the crotch. The president's heroin-addicted chief of staff wants McGill to find the Constitution—the *real* one the Founding Fathers secretly devised for the time of gravest crisis. And with God, civility, and Mom's homemade apple pie already dead or dying, that time is now. But McGill has a talent for stumbling into every imaginable depravity—and this case is driving him even deeper into America's darkest, dankest underbelly, toward obscenities that boggle even his mind.

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Crooked Little Vein By Warren Ellis Bibliography

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

Michael McGill is a burned-out private detective who suddenly becomes enlisted by an army of presidential goons to retrieve the Constitution of the United States, but not the one we all know about. This would be the real Constitution (the one with invisible amendments) created by some of the Founding Fathers as a fallback for their great experiment. Along the way, McGill gains a polyamorous sidekick named Trix, gets scared to death by what men do with warm salty water, and descends into a world where crime, sex, and madness all seem to be the same thing.

Full of mind-bending style and packed with a wild cast of characters, *Crooked Little Vein* infuses Robert B. Parker with Kurt Vonnegut and the madness of the graphic-novel world. A surprisingly surreal treat, it will appeal to hardcore comic fans, mystery aficionados, and all readers looking for a riotous summer reading adventure.

Sample Chapter One of *Crooked Little Vein*

"Chapter One. I opened my eyes to see the rat taking a piss in my coffee mug. It was a huge brown bastard; had a body like a turd with legs and beady black eyes full of secret rat knowledge."

Crooked Little Vein puts you right in the gutter from the first sentence and doesn't let up. Sample the goods with a look at the complete first chapter, and see if you don't get hooked.

From Publishers Weekly

Starred Review. Skillful investigator Mike McGill has just been hired by the heroin-injecting chief of staff to reclaim a secret constitution, and his adventures lead him into a level of hell even Dante couldn't imagine. Eloquent and charming serial killers, genital-modifying policemen and reptilian porn fans challenge McGill's sanity as he seeks to retrieve the precious document. Ellis both mocks and pays tribute to the detective genre with this deliciously perverse tale of American fetishism. McLaren embodies McGill with all the investigator's wit and cynicism. His reading makes McGill's resigned disposition toward these events even more prescient through timing, tone and emphasis. Listeners can hear in McLaren's voice resistance clash against acquiescence as McGill contends with the more surreal aspects of life. Even the more exotic characters of the novel aren't turned into vocal caricatures but provided a quality and realistic voice that adds a deeper level of insanity to the individuals and the novel.

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From [Bookmarks Magazine](#)

Warren Ellis is best known for his many comic books and graphic novels (among them, *Transmetropolitan*, *The Authority*, *Fell*, and *Desolation Jones*), as well as television and video game scripts. While some of the plots in his graphic novels can be unceasingly dark, *Crooked Little Vein*, Ellis's first prose novel, comes across as an absurdist catalog of fetish porn and depravity and a tongue-in-cheek examination of morality and hypocrisy in an Internet culture. Fans of Ellis's previous work will warm to the subject immediately, recognizing both the author's own peculiar genius and his debt to Raymond Chandler, Chuck Palahniuk, and William S. Burroughs. This book's not for everyone, though, and few readers will be ambivalent about it when they've finished.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Jenny Dill:

Nowadays reading books be than want or need but also turn into a life style. This reading behavior give you lot of advantages. Associate programs you got of course the knowledge the actual information inside the book that improve your knowledge and information. The details you get based on what kind of publication you read, if you want drive more knowledge just go with education books but if you want sense happy read one together with theme for entertaining for instance comic or novel. The particular Crooked Little Vein is kind of e-book which is giving the reader erratic experience.

Ruby Freeman:

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Myrtle McDonald:

Is it you actually who having spare time in that case spend it whole day by simply watching television programs or just resting on the bed? Do you need something totally new? This Crooked Little Vein can be the respond to, oh how comes? A book you know. You are therefore out of date, spending your spare time by reading in this brand-new era is common not a geek activity. So what these publications have than the others?

Ernestine Biggs:

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