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Praise for Blood, Bone and Marrow

“Now we have Mr. Geltner’s biography to authoritatively fill in the gaps, and to trace the many stories behind the Crews legend...a lean and pleasingly consumable book by sticking to essentials. He’s delivered what Vladimir Nabokov said a biographer should: ‘plain facts, no symbol-searching, no jumping at attractive but preposterous conclusions, no Marxist bunkum, no Freudian rot.’” — *The New York Times*

“Geltner’s clear-sighted reportage, combined with a vivid, novelistic approach, is the perfect vehicle for Crews’ shot-from-a-cannon persona and a life that sometimes defies belief. — *The Atlanta Journal Constitution*

“With the power of a spellbinding storyteller, Geltner splendidly captures Crews’ blood, bone and marrow by leading us on a journey through all we need of Crews’ hell, recognizing that without passing through this hellacious suffering, we can never truly understand him.” — *Bookpage*

“Geltner brilliantly renders the life of the late writer Harry Crews in this well-researched and vivid biography.”
— *Publisher’s Weekly (starred review)*

BLOOD, BONE AND MARROW

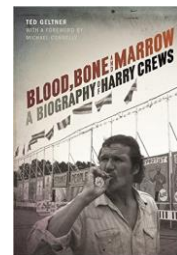
A Biography of Harry Crews

University of Georgia Press is proud to announce the May 15, 2016 release of *Blood, Bone and Marrow: A Biography of Harry Crews*, by Ted Geltner, with a foreword by Michael Connelly (978-0-8203-4923-7, \$32.95 hardcover).

In 2010, Ted Geltner drove to Gainesville, Florida, to pay a visit to Harry Crews and ask the legendary author if he would be willing to be the subject of a literary biography. His health rapidly deteriorating, Crews told Geltner he was on board and would even sit for interviews and tell his stories one last time. “Ask me anything you want, bud,” Crews said. “But you’d better do it quick.”

The result is Blood, Bone, and Marrow, the first full-length biography of one of the most unlikely figures in twentieth-century American literature, a writer who emerged from a dirt-poor South Georgia tenant farm and went on to create a singularly unique voice of fiction.

With books such as The Gypsy’s Curse, Body, and Naked in Garden Hills, Crews opened a new window into southern life, focusing his lens on the poor and disenfranchised, the people who skinned the hogs and tended the fields, the “grits,” as Crews affectionately called his characters and himself. He lived by a code of his own design, flouting authority and baring his soul, and the stories of his whiskey-and-blood-soaked lifestyle created a myth to match any of his fictional creations. His outlaw life, his distinctive voice, and the context in which he lived combine to form the elements of a singularly compelling narrative about an underappreciated literary treasure.





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More praise for *Blood, Bone and Marrow*:

A deeply researched, fascinating and even-handed biography of an enormously complex figure.” — *Tampa Bay Times*

Geltner has wrought a seamless, briskly paced book that is panoramic in its scope on its outsize subject, putting him in the proper context of the tumultuous times.” — *ArtsATL.com*

Geltner’s biography, the first of any kind on Crews, manages to unearth the writer from the accumulated crust of legend and rumor. — *The New Republic*

"Crews can rest assured that his biographer, Geltner, has done his job right, splendidly and powerfully bringing Crews back to hellacious, pugnacious, hard-driven life, and living up to Crews' own dictum: "I want my work to turn them back upon themselves and force them to look into their own hearts." — *No Depression*

About the author:

Ted Geltner is an award-winning writer, editor and a journalism professor who specializes in history of journalism, sports and American literature. His first book was *Last King of the Sports Page: The Life and Career of Jim Murray* (University of Missouri Press, 2012). *Last King* was selected as a finalist in the Georgia Author of the Year Awards in 2013. Geltner was a full-time writer, editor and columnist for 17 years at a number of publications, including the *Ocala Star-Banner*, the *Scranton Times-Tribune*, and the *Gainesville Sun*. His work has been published in the *Washington Post*, the *New York Times*, *Washington Monthly*, and many others. He has covered the horse-racing industry in Florida for *The Bloodhorse*. Geltner is currently an associate professor of journalism at Valdosta State University in Georgia.

About University of Georgia Press:

Since its founding in 1938, the primary mission of the University of Georgia Press has been to support and enhance the University’s place as a major research institution by publishing outstanding works of scholarship and literature by scholars and writers throughout the world. The UGA Press is the oldest and largest book publisher in the state, currently publishes 60–70 new books a year, and has a long history of publishing significant scholarship, creative and literary works, and books about the state and the region for general readers. To learn more about the University of Georgia Press and its publications, authors, and events, visit www.ugapress.org.