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# Hit Lit Cracking The Code Of Twentieth Centurys Biggest Bestsellers James W Hall

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## WestBow Press Blog

James Hall's book *Hit Lit: Cracking the Code of the 20th Century's Biggest Bestsellers* attempts to do what publishers and authors have failed to do since Gutenberg: identify what determines whether or not a book will become a bestseller. While *Hit Lit* focuses on novels, much of what he attempts to do should go...

*Hit Lit: Cracking the Code of the...* book by James W. Hall  
HIT LIT examines twelve mega-bestsellers of the twentieth century, showing what they have in

common, and why they sold millions of copies. These are books that broke out on their own: not because of the author's name (many were first novels) and not because of the movies made from them (the movies all came later).

[Hit Lit: Cracking the Code of the Twentieth Century's ...](#)

The Paperback of the *Hit Lit: Cracking the Code of the Twentieth Century's Biggest Bestsellers* by James W. Hall at Barnes & Noble. FREE Shipping on \$35

On Writing A Best-Seller (Shhh, There's a Formula) : NPR  
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Bestsellers by James W. Hall book review. Click to read the full review of Hit Lit: Cracking the Code of the Twentieth Century 's Biggest Bestsellers in New York Journal of Books. Review written by Stevie Godson.

On Writing A Best-Seller (Shhh, There's a Formula) To Kill a Mockingbird and Valley of the Dolls have more in common than you think. In his new book Hit Lit, mystery writer James Hall argues that ...

Hit Lit: Cracking the Code of the Twentieth Century's ... Excerpt: Hit Lit. Hollywood filmmakers can teach us a thing or two about speed, for moviemakers have turned storytelling into a science, using certain formulaic devices that consistently accelerate the forward movement of the narrative. Download Hit Lit: Cracking the Code of the Twentieth ... Best Non-Fiction Books

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Subtitled “ Cracking the

Code of the Twentieth

James W. Hall wrote poetry and

taught literature before

he ever wrote best-selling Florida-based crime fiction. Reading Hit Lit

suggests that signing up

for his class in popular

fiction would be as big a

hoot as finding out what

Thorn, his recurring

protagonist, is up to.

Hit Lit by James W.

Hall: 9780812970951

...

While that experiment

was a winsomely

subversive effort at

forward-engineering,

James W. Hall ' s Hit Lit:

Cracking the Code of

the Twentieth

Century ' s Biggest

Bestsellers is a far less

imaginatively

provocative act of

reverse-engineering.

The author, himself an

Edgar-winning noirish

mystery writer,

chooses twelve

bestsellers — and not

just any “ run-of-the-

mill ” royalty machines

but culture-dominating

successes — and puts

them on his

pathologist ' s slide.

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Cracking the Code of the Twentieth ...

Hit Lit Cracking the Code of the Twentieth Century ' s Biggest Bestsellers

Cracking the Code of the Twentieth Century ' s Biggest Bestsellers By James W. Hall By James W. Hall By James W. Hall By James W. Hall

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Stevie Godson: Hit Lit: Cracking the Code ...

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while you read Hit Lit: Cracking the Code of the Twentieth Century's Biggest Bestsellers. Hit Lit: Cracking the Code of the Twentieth Century's ... Cracking the Code Page 2 Sally Bosco The main characters should be the embodiment of people of their era. Address the ways in which men and women work out their destinies within large groups and communities rather than alone. (Grapes of

Wrath, The Great Gatsby, The Invisible Man.) A small story told against a sweeping backdrop. Hit Lit: Cracking the Code of the Twentieth Century's ... Hit Lit Cracking the Code of the Twentieth Century's Biggest Bestsellers. ... and Opus Dei in The Da Vinci Code, to vivid representations of the American Dream and its opposite—the American Nightmare—in novels like The Firm and The ... Hit Lit is a must-read for fiction lovers and aspiring writers

alike, and makes us think anew about why we ... Hit Lit : Cracking the Code of the Twentieth Century's ... James W. Hall (born 1947) is an American author and professor from Florida. He has written eighteen novels, four books of poetry, a collection of short stories, and a collection of essays. A longtime professor of literature and creative writing at Florida International

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University, Hall is perhaps best known for a series of crime/mystery novels starring the character Thorn.