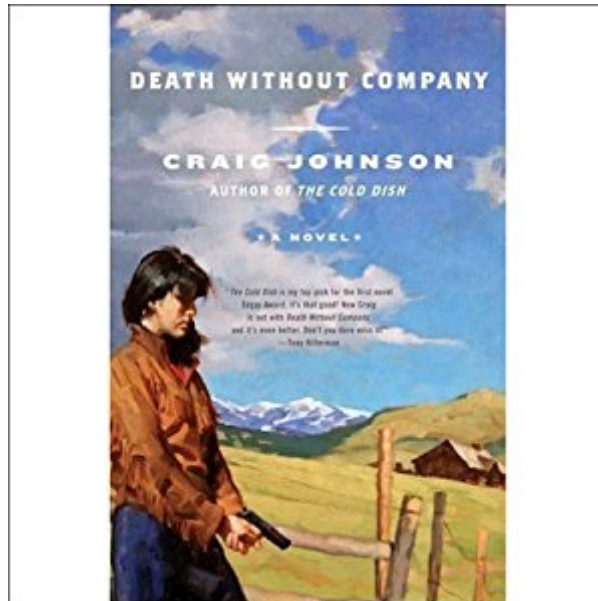




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# Death Without Company: A Walt Longmire Mystery



## Synopsis

Walt investigates a death by poison in this gripping novel from the New York Times bestselling author of *The Cold Dish* and *Dry Bones*, the second in the Longmire Mystery Series, the basis for *LONGMIRE*, the hit drama series now on Netflix. Craig Johnson's *The Highwayman* and *An Obvious Fact* are now available from Viking. Fans of Ace Atkins, Nevada Barr and Robert B. Parker will love Craig Johnson, New York Times bestselling author of *Hell Is Empty* and *As the Crow Flies*, who garnered both praise and an enthusiastic readership with his acclaimed debut novel featuring Sheriff Walt Longmire, *The Cold Dish*, the first in the Longmire Mystery Series, the basis for *LONGMIRE*, the hit drama series. Now Johnson takes us back to the rugged landscape of Absaroka County, Wyoming, for *Death Without Company*. When Mari Baroja is found poisoned at the Durant Home for Assisted Living, Sheriff Longmire is drawn into an investigation that reaches fifty years into the mysterious woman's dramatic Basque past. Aided by his friend Henry Standing Bear, Deputy Victoria Moretti, and newcomer Santiago Saizarbitoria, Sheriff Longmire must connect the specter of the past to the present to find the killer among them. --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

## Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

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## Customer Reviews

A good novel like the first. Anyone that reads it will enjoy it. Couple issues though. The author was a cop so he knows better so I guess he's having a bit of fun with his readers. He gives his daughter a detective special with the hammer down on an empty chamber thus depriving her of one live round.

Why? In the 1950's a company named Ivor Johnson (I believe) manufactured a revolver with a revolutionary internal safety. Their marketing slogan was "hammer the hammer" . That type of safety is on every revolver for sale in the US since those days. They are very safe. The second unlikely thing is shotgun pellets hitting the bad guy in the hand, side and foot. At a short distance the pellets just will not spread that much. But let's call one pellet a ricochet off something. Finally, dog should have been wearing an elizabethan collar. Without, he'd have those bandages and stitches out in a flash. When I caught my dog he was evaluating the surgery itself. He didn't like it.

I always liked the series, Longmire on TV, but never read any of Craig Johnson's books. I have become a big fan. I first listened to one on Audible and loved the characters and Longmire's dry sense of humor. Being from the American west as well (Utah), I can totally relate to the characters - they are familiar. This book is the same. Longmire's relationships with Vick, Cady and Henry are real and you feel his emotions and the struggle he has to solve the crimes. There are always touching moments, laugh out loud moments and suspenseful moments. I will be reading the entire series

Death Without Company (A Walt Longmire Mystery) by Craig Johnson This is the second volume in the Walt Longmire series by Craig Johnson, and it continues the reader's immersion into a very interesting Wyoming culture. This book mixes the Basque culture with the Native American culture. Then murder stirs to the mix of cultures and Walt, a Caucasian sheriff is tested beyond his limit. It's an interesting, but very complex plot with a large number of characters with lots of nicknames. In fact, I had a hard time keeping track of who's who in this story. In addition, I must agree with another reviewer about Walt having too many near-death experiences. Overall, I found Death Without Company to be a good read, but I was confused at times and doubtful that sheriff Longmire could have survived and continued to pursue the murderers.

I like the author's stories for the most part. His main character is interesting but mainly unbelievable. He is presented as both amazingly astute and good with weapons but also amazingly dense and lacking in the common sense to be expected of a law officer of his age and experience. He wanders off in his mind in a poetic manner in the midst of a dangerous situation. The author tells his stories with poor transitions that leave me wondering repeatedly 'what is he talking about?'. But looks like I might read another until I find a better author.

Yes, I liked it. But here's my problem. At times Mr. Johnson jumps action from one place to another abruptly, as if he's in a break-neck hurry to move the story on. Then, at other times he loiters around like he's forgotten where he was going, kind of padding the dialog or the descriptive passages until he works his way through the knot. I loved the TV series and was eager to read the source material. But having read two of the novels, I'm ready to move on to other writers.

Not even the Gospel of Matthew gets a 5 from me. I found this novel, the first Longmire that I have read to be much more interesting and richer in plot and characters than the video series I had watched. It also narrowed significantly the separation between the white world and that of the Crow and Cheyenne to the point that there were several times when I wondered which world we were in. A bit drawn out at times, but all in all a good read and a tale well told.

Walt Longmire is the best sheriff in the modern west. A renaissance man with a Stetson, the relationship between him and Henry Standing Bear is priceless. Add in Deputy Vic, Ruby and Ferguson and Craig Johnson has created such a rich set of characters that you swear you are standing their in the room with them. I can't wait to start the next book in the series!

Published in 2006, the book is second in a series about Sheriff Walt Longmire of Wyoming's fictitious Absaroka County. Walt has his hands full when an elderly woman, Mari Baroja, is found poisoned. Mari has lots of money from coal bed-methane fields on her property. She also has connections with Wyoming's Basque community. Deputy Victoria "Vic" Moretti and Henry Standing Bear are back along with a new character named Santiago Saizarbitoria. When Santiago breezes into town, displays fluency in the Basque language and is willing to help, he is swiftly deputized. Murder suspects abound and they include Mari's twin daughters who sweep into town smelling a rich inheritance. Other relatives are also on the scene along with characters who had a relationship with the deceased fifty years ago. It seems like it's always winter when Walt has to get out and about in rugged terrain and run down suspects. He has a tremendous amount of personal drive, wants justice for all wronged humans but especially Mari Baroja, and is reluctant to delegate dangerous tasks to his deputies. Luckily for Walt, his long-time friend, Henry Standing Bear, is always nearby. In this story, Henry takes full advantage of his tomahawk, one whose skills he honed as a soldier in Viet Nam. An attractive woman named Maggie Watson comes into down on state

business, looking through abandoned bank safe deposit boxes, and tries almost everything to coax Walt into a romantic adventure. But Walt is still mourning his wife Martha's death and doesn't take the delicious bait. Vic Moretti also has designs on Walt since her husband is not available but Walt isn't one to have an affair with someone who is directly below him in the chain of command. The book's ending is a classic buildup of tension and excitement as Walt finally solves this mystery.

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