All Cry Chaos (Henri Poincare) by Leonard Rosen

A Brainy Read

2011 Editors Choice for Fiction, Foreword Book of the Year Awards

2012 Finalist for Best First Novel at the Edgar Awards, Mystery Writers of America

2012 Finalist for Best First Novel, Macavity Awards, to be announced at Bouchercon

2012 Finalist for Best First Novel, Anthony Awards, to be announced at Bouchercon

2012 Finalist: Chautauqua Prize for a richly rewarding reading experience and... a significant contribution to the literary arts

2012 Selection: Chautauqua Literary and Scientific Circle, the oldest continuous book club in America

All Cry Chaos, a debut thriller by the immensely gifted Leonard Rosen, is a masterful and gripping tale that literally reaches for the heavens. The action begins when mathematician James Fenster is assassinated on the eve of a long-scheduled speech at a World Trade Organization meeting. The hit is as elegant as it is bizarre. Fensters Amsterdam hotel room is incinerated, yet the rest of the building remains intact. The murder trail leads veteran Interpol agent Henri Poincare on a high-stakes, world-crossing quest for answers. Together with his chain-smoking, bon vivant colleague Serge Laurent, Poincare pursues a long list of suspects: the Peruvian leader of the Indigenous Liberation Front, Rapture-crazed militants, a hedge fund director, Fensters elusive ex-fiance, and a graduate student in mathematics. Poincare begins to make progress in America, but there is a prodigious hatred trained on him --some unfinished business
from a terrifying former genocide case-- and he is called back to Europe to face the unfathomable. Stripped down and in despair, tested like Job, he realizes the two cases might be connected and he might be the link. This first installment in the Henri Poincare series marries a sharp, smart mystery to deep religious themes that will keep both agnostics and believers turning pages until the shattering, revelatory end. Anyone who enjoys the work of John Le Carre, Scott Turow, Dan Brown, and Stieg Larsson will relish Rosens story telling and his resourceful, haunted protagonist. Others will appreciate his dazzling prose. Still others, the way he bends the thriller form in unconventional ways toward a higher cause, in the vein of Henning Mankell in The Man From Beijing. In short, All Cry Chaos promises to become a critical success that garners a broad readership throughout the nation and across the globe.

My Personal Review:
Born in 1852, Jules Henri Poincaré was a French mathematician and physicist, considered to be one of the founders of modern topology, and a significant contributor to Einsteins theory of relativity. More importantly for this novel, Poincaré worked on chaos theory and fractals, developing a deep understanding of how the whole can so precisely mirror the part.

The protagonist of Leonard Rosens taut thriller, All Cry Chaos, is another Henri Poincaré, but this man, now nearing retirement, has devoted his life to criminal investigation rather than math. As Interpols Poincaré studies the murder of a famous mathematician, hes frequently greeted with Are you related..., and has to say yes, a simple relationship reflected in the parallels of mysterious photographs and exploded images, fractured families and ruined lives.

Tested like Job in Biblical pre-history, threatened with the end of his world and Revelations rapture, Poincaré travels from Europe to America and back, finding in each tiny clue a reflection of greater truth. Nobodys quite who they seem; singularities pose choices, and choices determine futures yet unseen; and the branching veins of a broken hand still look like a mountain range viewed from above.

Tragic, resolute, refusing to yield under threat, or after disaster, Poincaré follows the trail to its conclusion while all hes loved seems to fail. A beautifully detailed novel, with satisfying breadth and depth, intricately woven patterns, and well-chosen illustrations from a range of books and journals, All Cry Chaos is mathematically, artistically, and even historically satisfying; a truly enjoyable first in what promises to be a fine series.

Disclosure: I was given an advanced reading copy of this book by the publisher, the Permanent Press, in exchange for an honest review.

For More 5 Star Customer Reviews and Lowest Price:
All Cry Chaos (Henri Poincare) by Leonard Rosen - 5 Star Customer Reviews and Lowest Price!