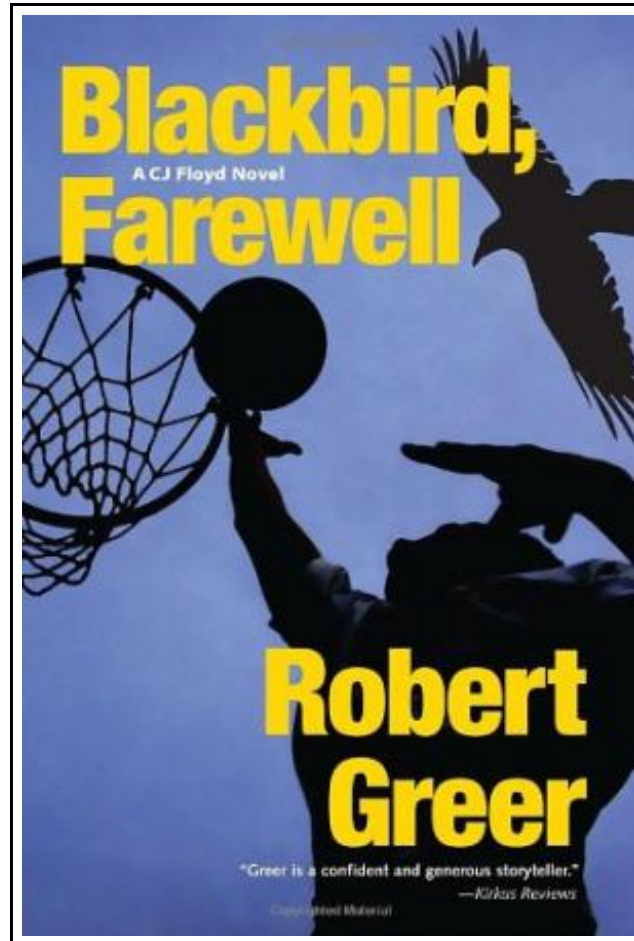


Blackbird, Farewell



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BLACKBIRD, FAREWELL

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North Atlantic Books,U.S. Hardback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, Blackbird, Farewell, Robert Greer, Shandell 'Blackbird' Bird has everything going for him, or so he thinks. Recently selected number two overall in the NBA draft, the 6'8", 250-pound prototype pro-basketball power forward and Colorado State University graduate has a gleaming new ride, a four-million-dollar basketball athletic shoe contract, and a 3.2-million-dollar rookie salary scale contract guarantee. What he doesn't have is the ability to bury secrets from his past. When Shandell ends up shot to death at mid-court on the very basketball court he spent most of his youth honing his skills on, his best friend and college teammate, Damion Madrid, who's forsaken a sure thing in the pros to instead attend medical school, is left to sort out what happened to his friend. Fortunately for Damion, his godfather, cheroot-smoking, streetwise, African American Denver bail bondsman CJ Floyd and his statuesque partner, one time marine intelligence operative Flora Jean Benson, are there for Damion to lean on. Damion's investigation, hampered by his neophyte status in the crime solving world, has him, with CJ and Flora Jean covering his back, following a trail that leads to Shandell's purported peddling of performance enhancing drugs and big game point shaving. It's not until Damion stumbles across the hidden world of his dead friend - and discovers a 'Blackbird' he never knew - that he is able to put a face on Shandell's killer. "Blackbird, Farewell" is a biting story about the role that money and mandated player conformity play in modern-day sports, and a portrait of the viciousness and hypocrisy that lie behind the facade of the pro-athlete good life. It's a haunting tale of a naive black man buying into a world that can toss you aside as fast as the sound bite of...



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