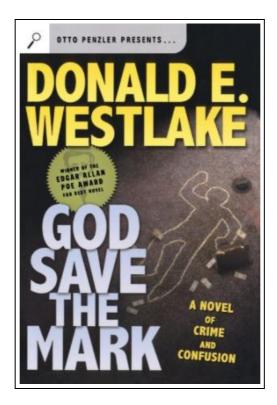
# God Save the Mark



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(Dr. Jillian Champlin IV)

## **GOD SAVE THE MARK**



St. Martins Press-3pl. Paperback. Condition: New. 272 pages. Dimensions: 8.3in. x 5.5in. x 0.7in. mark n. An easy victim; a ready subject for the practices of a confidence man, thief, beggar, etc.; a sucker. -Dictionary of American Slang, Thomas Y. Crowell Co., 1960Thats the long definition of a mark. But theres a shorter one. It goes: mark n. Fred FitchWhat, you ask, is a Fred Fitch Well, for one thing, Fred Fitch is the man with the most extensive collection of fake receipts, phony bills of sale, and counterfeit sweepstakes tickets in the Western Hemisphere, and possibly in the entire world. For another thing, Fred Fitch may be the only New York City resident in the twentieth century to buy a money machine. When Barnum said, Theres one born every minute, and two to take him, he didnt know about Fred Fitch; when Fred Fitch was born, there were two million to take him. Every itinerant grifter, hypester, bunk artist, short-conner, amuser, shearer, short-changer, green-goods worker, pennyweighter, ring dropper, and yentzer to hit New York City considers his trip incomplete until hes also hit Fred Fitch. Hes sort of the con-mans version of Go: Pass Fred Fitch, collect two hundred dollars, and move on. What happens to Fred Fitch when his long-lost Uncle Matt dies and leaves Fred three hundred thousand dollars shouldnt happen to the ball in a pinball machine. Fred Fitch with three hundred thousand dollars is like a mouse with a sack of catnip: Hes likely to attract the wrong kind of attention. Add to this the fact that Uncle Matt was murdered, by person or persons unknown, and that someone now seems determined to murder Fred as well, mix in two daffily charming beauties of totally different types, and you have a perfect setup...



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