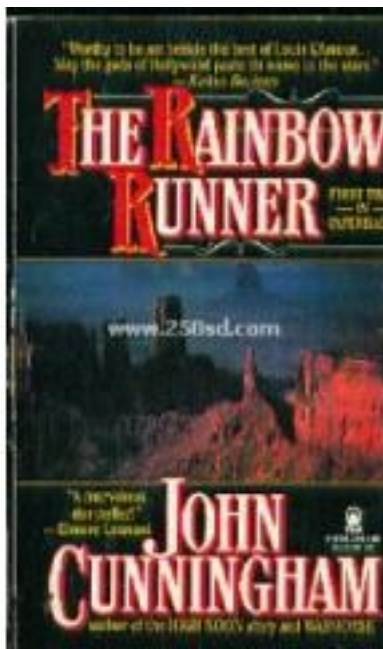


# The Rainbow Runner



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From Publishers Weekly The first novel in three decades by the author of Warhorse has some of B. Traven's bleakness in its portrayal of a brooding hero. In L.A. in 1913, Jacko O'Donohue and his wife May are locked in a fierce siege: he waiting for her eventual adultery or desertion, she for him to inherit his family's orange groves. Jacko's detective agency is going broke, though his blackmailing partner Mike has lots of money. Lured by a \$60,000 reward promised by the Mexican consul, Jacko and Mike set out to recover a jeweled monstrance that Pancho Villa's rebels have stolen from a church in Mexico City. But things go awry: the consul is killed and the detectives must flee the consul's murderous half-brother Herculano. Mike runs off with May, his wife Becky's bearer bonds, and--he thinks--the monstrance. Jacko and Becky set out in pursuit, enduring harrowing dangers, and reach Guaymas in time

for a violent encounter with Herculano. Cunningham adroitly manipulates a series of dizzying plot twists and offers vivid background detail about the Mexican revolution. A distinctive touch is the characters' elaborate Mexican politesse (Jacko's grandfather was born O'Donohue y Quinones). Jacko is not an entirely successful protagonist, however. His ruminations are labored, and his and Becky's transformation into lovers does not ring true. Copyright 1992 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title. From Library Journal Jacko O'Donohue, Spanish-American War veteran and a private detective in Los Angeles circa 1913, is hired to escort a stolen, jewel-encrusted monstrance back to its proper place in war-torn Mexico. Double-cross compounds double-cross as the financially straitened Jacko struggles to maintain some semblance of honor in his effort to reunite the artifact with its church. Cunningham, best known for the short story "The Tin Star" (basis for the movie High Noon) and for the classic Western novel Warhorse (1956), gets things off to a slow start with an introspective opening section reminiscent of Graham Greene's style. But when the action finally kicks in a third of the way through, it's as fast and gritty as any contemporary detective story. The Rainbow Runner is recommended for all public libraries.- Robert Jordan, Univ. of Iowa, Iowa City Copyright 1992 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title. See all Editorial Reviews

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