

Looking for Przybylski

K.C. Frederick

A man in the twilight of his life goes on a road trip to reconcile his past in the latest from Detroit-born Frederick (*After Lyletown*). Back in the 1950s, Ziggy Czarnecki was a major player in the Motor City underworld: running numbers, trading favors, throwing parties even the mayor knew about. But now it's the mid-1970s, Detroit is a washed-up shell of itself, and so is Ziggy. His illegal racket is long since broken up, and he thinks an undertaker named Przybylski is to blame. When Ziggy learns his nemesis now lives in California, he decides to find out whether he did indeed rat him out all those years ago. Along the way, Ziggy meets an aspiring comedian, catches up with a former priest and his earthy girlfriend, and tries to mend fences with his daughter-in-law, all of whom help him on his quixotic quest to find Przybylski. VERDICT Filled with poignant humor and a memorable set of characters, Frederick's autumnal novel will remind readers of John Updike's Rabbit Angstrom quartet.

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