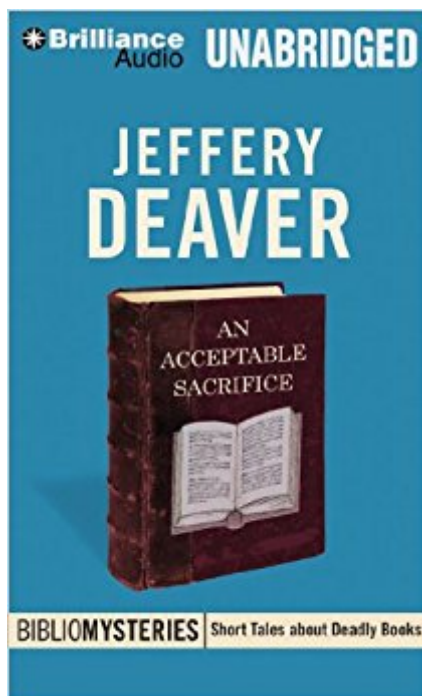


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# An Acceptable Sacrifice (Bibliomysteries)



## Synopsis

Short tales about deadly books, by top mystery authors. A pair of federal agents from either side of the US-Mexico border target a cartel kingpin. They call him "Cuchillo", the Knife. Not because he kills with a blade - he has plenty of men to do that kind of work for him - but because his mind is so sharp. As Mexico's government wages war on the drug cartels, it takes brains to survive, and Cuchillo has not just survived - he has prospered. But when Cuchillo begins to cut too deeply, the federal police of both the United States and Mexico step in to dull his blade. P. Z. Evans and Alejo Daz know the Hermosillo cartel is planning an attack on a tourist bus in Sonora, and they know they will have to capture or kill Cuchillo to stop it. The cartel leader has one weakness: rare, old books. To destroy the intellectual's evil empire, this unlikely pair of international police will have to appeal to his inner bibliophile.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

A former journalist, folksinger and attorney, Jeffery Deaver has appeared on bestseller lists around the world. His books are sold in 150 countries and translated into 25 languages.

The story moved quickly and maintained my interest. Definitely kept me wondering if who that thought was the bad guy really was, and how the plan would work - although the book in the shelf issue was obvious - maybe intentionally so.

This short story held me with a tightly-constructed plot that moved right along --- no wasted motion in this one. And yet the characters were sufficiently developed so they and their motives could be understood and appreciated. This is the first Bibliomystery I've read and, being a book junkie (yes even in Kindle), I enjoyed the different approach. My concern is that other Bibliomystery stories may wear out the same premise --- that somehow the obsession with books defines the mystery. At any rate, this one was very well-done. And most importantly, this short story by a recognized author of numerous excellent novels is not a customer-paid-for promotion for his next novel. So many other good authors are now cranking out short stories (often poorly written) that are nothing more than a platform for a long-ish preview of their next novel. As a consumer I feel duped and ripped off by this practice so have stopped buying them. HOWEVER, this story by Deaver is free-standing, had no promo/hype for some other book, and is worthy of his style and writing skill. Those kinds of Shorts I'll buy!

I really enjoyed this short story. It helps that Jeffery Deaver is my favorite author, but on top of that, Deaver is on of those authors that can write very in depth and likable characters. I think Short stories are difficult to write, you have to develop characters and get to the action very quickly and sometimes characters can feel flat. This is not the case in this book. This story is all about the main three Characters and each one is written so well that I felt I already knew these characters and we were just catching up on lost time. There is not a lot of action in this short story but these characters make up for that easily. Jeffery Deaver is the mast of twists and turns in his suspense novels and this is clearly evident in this story. The only reason I am giving this 4 stars instead if 5 is the fact that I wanted it to be longer. This was an amazing short story, but having read Deaver's other works I felt this could have been an amazing novel and wished there was more. If you like interesting characters and a good twist, then this short story is a must read.

A good read by a great author. I have read most of the books that has been written by the author. This is one of the best.

This fast paced intricate story will appeal to book lovers as well as mystery fans. The intimate look at a drug cartel and it's leader is a chilling eye opener.

Jeffery Deaver is one of my top all-time authors. I don't think short stories ever really have time to take a foothold so rating them needs to be relative to it being a short story. This one was good and it

kept my interest until the end. His books are usually twist gems but this one was, as the title indicates, acceptable.

Jeffrey Deaver has some excellent short stories (see *Twisted* or *More Twisted*). *An Acceptable Sacrifice* shows flavors of what makes him such a fun read (twists, plot details disguised to fool the reader) but I would call this "Deaver-lite." The payoff isn't that big of a wallop, like some of his other short stories, and without giving things away hinges on a very underwhelming clue. I enjoyed the set up and the characters and felt like this could have been developed into a longer work, if it had not been written solely for the Bibliomystery series.

I start to live Deaver.

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