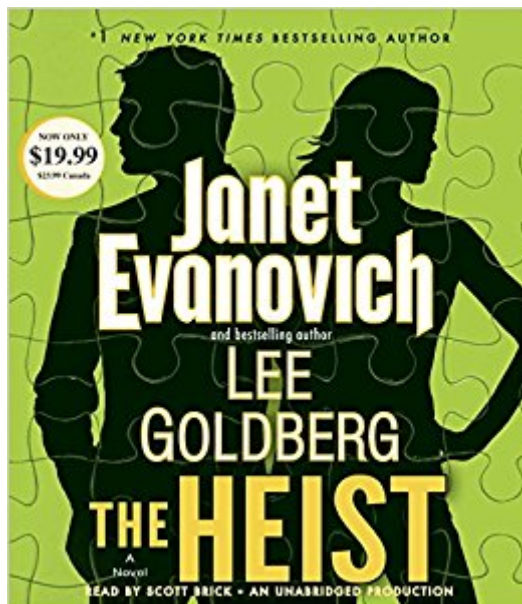


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The Heist: A Novel (Fox And O'Hare)



Synopsis

From Janet Evanovich, no. 1 internationally bestselling author of the Stephanie Plum novels, and Lee Goldberg, bestselling author and television writer for *Monk*, comes the first adventure in an electrifying series featuring an FBI agent who always gets her man, and a fearless con artist who lives for the chase. FBI Special Agent Kate O'Hare is known for her fierce dedication and discipline on the job, chasing down the world's most wanted criminals and putting them behind bars. Her boss thinks she is tenacious and ambitious; her friends think she is tough, stubborn, and maybe even a bit obsessed. And while Kate has made quite a name for herself for the past five years the only name she's cared about is Nicolas Fox—an international crook she wants in more ways than one. Audacious, handsome, and dangerously charming, Nicolas Fox is a natural con man, notorious for running elaborate scams on very high-profile people. At first he did it for the money. Now he does it for the thrill. He knows that the FBI has been hot on his trail—particularly Kate O'Hare, who has been watching his every move. For Nick, there's no greater rush than being pursued by a beautiful woman . . . even one who aims to lock him up. But just when it seems that Nicolas Fox has been captured for good, he pulls off his greatest con of all: he convinces the FBI to offer him a job, working side by side with Special Agent Kate O'Hare. Problem is, teaming up to stop a corrupt investment banker who's hiding on a private island in Indonesia is going to test O'Hare's patience and Fox's skill. Not to mention the skills of their ragtag team made up of flamboyant actors, wanted wheelmen, and Kate's dad. High-speed chases, pirates, and Toblerone bars are all in a day's work . . . if O'Hare and Fox don't kill each other first. Praise for *The Heist* “The Heist is the perfect title to carry on a trip to the beach. The laugh out loud humor that readers expect from Evanovich is in full force, and Goldberg's crafty and elaborate writing is prominent. . . . Everyone will be eager for the next book in the series.” —Associated Press “The action is fast-paced and the writing is first-rate, making *The Heist* an excellent choice for vacation reading.” —Huntington NewsFrom the Trade Paperback edition.

Book Information

Series: Fox and O'Hare

Audio CD

Publisher: Random House Audio; Unabridged edition (November 4, 2014)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0553545264

ISBN-13: 978-0553545265

Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 1.1 x 5.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 11.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars 2,432 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,046,336 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #43 in Books > Books on CD > Authors, A-Z > (E) > Evanovich, Janet #536 in Books > Books on CD > Romance #1159 in Books > Mystery, Thriller & Suspense > Thrillers & Suspense > Crime > Heist

Customer Reviews

Evanovich has top billing here, but she gets some solid support from screenwriter and crime novelist Goldberg, whose own take on comedy and crime, evident in the wacky TV crime series Monk and books like *My Gun Has Bullets* (1995), matches Evanovich's over-the-top style to a tee. Their first book in the new Fox and O'Hare series is a near-seamless demonstration of their talents. Readers will have no trouble recognizing hallmarks of Evanovich's hugely popular Stephanie Plum books: a tough-talking gal heroine with a soft side; a sexy male costar; a wacky bunch of supporting characters; and plenty of flirty banter. The setup is ludicrous fun that demands total suspension of disbelief (no surprise there). Straitlaced FBI agent Kate O'Hare has devoted most of her career to catching internationally known confidence man, tricky Nick Fox. When she actually does it, she's horrified to realize she doesn't know what to do next. She doesn't have long to think about it though, as Nick escapes, and when she finds him, he's working for the FBI! His job: catch another con man who has made off with millions. After all, who better to catch a crook than another crook? Kate's not quite sure, but she's game to work alongside Nick, whose charms she finds difficult to deny. Together with help from new friends, the pair mounts an elaborate con that takes them from the American desert to an Indonesian island. With lots of face punching, international travel, and a few set-tos with modern-day pirates, it's all good nonsense, which promises more of the same in future episodes. --Stephanie Zvirin --This text refers to the Mass Market Paperback edition.

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excellent choice for vacation reading. —Huntington News

In many ways, this book is an improvement on the past few Stephanie Plum books. However, in many other ways, DON'T bother. The plot was mostly predictable, I had most of it figured out way before its authors "surprised" me. The characters were flat. Why does every good-guy female have to be "hottie" and why does every good-guy male have to be a tall hunky beefcake? If Nick is going to be the main male character in future books, he needs more everything! Ranger and Morelli are characters! I feel like I would recognize them anywhere, but Nick...Meh. As for supporting characters, well I consider myself pretty average America but I'm pretty sure my dad couldn't lay his hands on a grenade launcher no matter who's life depended on it. My advice to the authors, if you're going to write true entertaining con artist books, well, hire yourselves a true con artist for cons your readers aren't going to be able to figure out half through the book. Or charge half as much for the book!!

Nicolas Fox has long been the bane of Kate O'Hare's life -- until she arranges to have him hit by a bus, leading to his arrest and -- at long last -- the end of his infamous career as a con man and thief. Post-Fox, she's forced to resign herself to a much less interesting (or challenging) professional career investigating the likes of serial copyright violations, until the unthinkable happens, and Fox escapes his FBI handlers en route to his arraignment. Although she's officially sidelined from rejoining the investigation by her boss, Kate can't let her nemesis go. She goes off the grid, determined to bring Fox to justice, only to be confronted with the most extraordinary offer of her career. Her bosses assign her to work as Nick's handler in a series of off-the-books operations, going after criminals the Bureau can't touch in an official capacity. Following his arrest by the persistent (and alluring) Kate O'Hare, Nick unspools the biggest con of his life, trading jail time for five years' probation as an off-the-books FBI asset. With Kate's grudging consent to their unorthodox partnership, the two are assigned to bring down Derek Griffin, a notoriously corrupt investment banker who absconded with millions from his clients. But in order to find Derek, he first has to assemble a crew of rookies to help sell his audacious plan, and convince Kate that maybe, just maybe, running a con could be just as much fun as chasing the con artist. When I stumbled upon this title a few weeks ago I couldn't resist the premise -- polar opposites on each side of the law working together to crack criminal cases in exotic locales around the world? I am SO IN. Fans of White Collar (may it rest in peace) will easily find a home within these pages, and Evanovich and Greenberg spin a breezy tale of audacious cons, exotic locales, and a dash of sizzling romantic

tension. The Heist isn't a deep or profound read by any stretch of the imagination, but it is just the type of breezy, over-the-top, ridiculously fun caper that my heat-fatigued brain craved (summer is not, and never has been, my friend). Kate is something of a walking cliché in that she is capable at her job but consumed by it, with zero work/life balance and completely oblivious to her appeal as a potential romantic partner. While in that respect she is a complete, one-note chick lit cliché, it's refreshing to see a female lead who is a capable professional with a great familial support system. In fact, Kate's father Jake, is a highlight of the novel, a retiree and former special ops veteran who gleefully serves as Kate's unofficial back-up while overseas performing unsanctioned extraordinary rendition missions. I love the fact that -- at least initially -- he's more excited and supportive of Kate's dangerous new line of work than she is herself. A concept novel like this something of a con itself, and it only works if the characters involved can sell the over-the-top storyline. Therein lies the book's greatest success, as -- led by Nick -- the motley crew that assembles to take down Derek Griffin is deliciously humorous and engaging, gleefully owning their less-than-legal behavior. Nick's new team is a band of modern day Robin Hoods, and while Kate is far from a damsel-in-distress, she fills the Marian slot nicely, particularly in how she comes to enjoy working alongside Nick instead of chasing him, embracing the dance of the con rather than seeking to live within the rules she's always sought to uphold. The Heist is a fun, breezy read, great for a few hours of summer escapism. I adore heist stories, everything from White Collar to Ally Carter's Heist Society novels. Nick and Kate's relationship and playful banter are reminiscent of other unlikely partners in crime, from Nick and Nora Charles to The Scarecrow and Mrs. King. This is the type of globe-trotting adventure I can't help but devour, and while it can be a little cheesy and very silly, I'll definitely read the subsequent installments in this series. If they live up to the precedent set in this volume, Fox and O'Hare's future adventures promise to be the perfect recipe for a bit of welcome escapism.

This proves that Janet Evanovich characters don't have to be bumbling idiots and still hold attention. While the premise sounds like a TV series plot, this is really good and fast moving through the story. Kate O'Hare is a first class FBI agent who almost gets scammed by her own bosses. She brings in a top ten criminal who unbelievably escapes on his way to the arraignment. When Kate hears about the escape she is astonished when she is refused the case of recapturing him. When she recaptures him, on her vacation, on her time, at her expense in Europe, she finds out his escape was actually planned and aided by her bosses and is now working as an FBI undercover operative. Kate is offered to work with him to create a scam to capture a top target, Derek Griffin, who is in hiding overseas. Thus begins a great tale with a team they put together for a master scam. Great

book.

The Heist is the 1st book in a new series by Janet Evanovich and Lee Goldberg. I am a huge Janet Evanovich fan, so when I heard about this book, I pre-ordered it and was waiting for it to come out. I really enjoyed this book. This book was very entertaining. It has a good mystery, humor, characters that are so well described that you feel like you know them by the end of the book. Kate O'Hare is an FBI agent who is always looking for Nick Fox (he's one of the most wanted men by the FBI) and he's always one step ahead of them. She has made it her mission to find him and she won't rest until she does. Unexpectedly, she meets up with Nick and the top people at the FBI want her and him to team up to crack cases. Only if anything goes wrong, they won't protect them. It was fun to read how they put together the team and cracked their case. Even Kate's family gets involved with the crime fighting. I couldn't wait for the 2nd book The Chase to come out so I could follow Kate O'Hare, Nick Fox, and the rest of their "team" and read about the next case that they have to solve. I have recommended this series to several people. You can't go wrong with this team-writing duo.

I started this series while waiting on the release of the 24th edition of the Stephanie Plum series. This is the first in the series and I love the characters, the story, and look forward to reading the others to see the path of Kate O'Hare's career, family, and love life. The story allows me time to fantasize about a career field that is of interest and if I was to start my life over would totally consider the same course. The love, mystery, imagination of the characters, the comedy provides me a time to escape reality.

Fans of Evanovich know what to expect: laughter, amusing characters, well-developed plot. I very much enjoyed reading this. For one thing, it is good to see that Evanovich can write about an adult woman who has grown and matured instead of staying constantly stuck in late adolescence the way Stephanie Plum is. A delightful fluffy read with enough mayhem to make it a page turner.

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