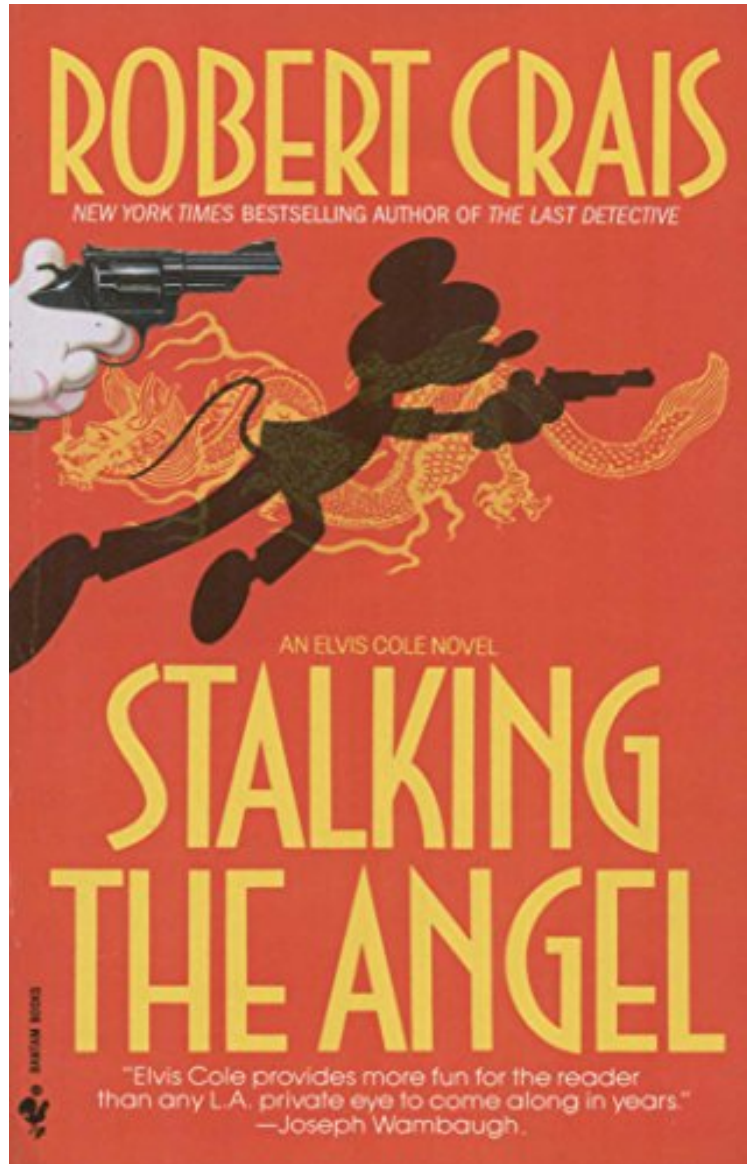


[FREE] Stalking the Angel (An Elvis Cole Novel)

Stalking the Angel (An Elvis Cole Novel)

Von Robert Crais

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Von Robert Crais : Stalking the Angel (An Elvis Cole Novel) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Stalking the Angel (An Elvis Cole Novel):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen4 von 4 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. The return of Elvis Cole - what a ride!Von PJ Nunn (RebelsSong@aol.com)Now, if you're wondering how a hardboiled mystery could ever make you laugh, you obviously haven't met Elvis Cole. This is a series I resisted at first - I guess I was put off by the thought of a detective named Elvis. But I'm hooked and I think you will be too! Stalking the Angel

hits the ground running on page one and I didn't put it down until the last page was read. Wise cracking Cole adheres to no one's standards and doesn't much seem to care who hires him. When he's approached by Bradley Warren, a pompous executive, to investigate the theft of a priceless manuscript, he takes the job even though the two clash from the first word. Meeting Warren's exhibitionistic wife and troubled daughter dampens what little enthusiasm he has for the case, but when the daughter is kidnapped after Cole promised her he'd watch out for her, it becomes personal. When suspects start dying torturous, violent deaths, Cole enlists the aid of partner Joe Pike and the two leave no stone unturned in bringing the case to a climactic end. Robert Crais presents us with a lovable hero with a smart mouth and eyes that don't miss much. But don't be deceived - this is no cozy. Violence is real, but not unjustified. Ethical lines are understandably blurred and happily ever after isn't part of the deal. Still, it's a highly enjoyable read and we can all look forward to Elvis' latest adventure - LA Requiem, due out in June.

0 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. One of the best author of detective novels Von Danny Robert Crais is one of the rare authors of private detective novels to succeed in making me laugh as well as making me biting my nails. The plot is intense. Pike is at the same time hard and tender, and Cole is as much funny as eager to solve the mystery. Always a good reading. You are lucky, you who have not still read any the novels of Crais!

1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A Hard-Boiled Walk on the Seamy Side with Wisecracking Humor Von Donald Mitchell If you have yet to begin the marvelous Elvis Cole series by Robert Crais, you've got a great treat ahead of you! Few series get off to a stronger start than Mr. Crais did with *The Monkey's Raincoat*, which won both the Anthony and Macavity awards for best novel while being nominated for the Edgar and Shamus awards as well. And the books just keep getting better from there in their characterizations, action, story-telling and excitement. Elvis Cole is the star attraction, the co-owner of The Elvis Cole Detective Agency. He's 35ish, ex-Army, served in Vietnam, ex-security guard, has two years of college, learned to be a detective by working under George Feider, a licensed P.I. for over 40 years, does martial arts as enthusiastically as most people do lunch, and is fearless but not foolish. He's out to right the wrongs of the world as much as he is to earn a living. Elvis has a thing for Disney characters (including a Pinocchio clock), kids, cats, scared clients and rapid fire repartee. He drives a Jamaica yellow 1966 Corvette Stingray convertible, and usually carries a .38 Special Dan Wesson. His main foil is partner, Joe Pike, an ex-Marine, ex-cop who moves quietly and mysteriously wearing shades even in the dark . . . when he's not scaring the bad guys with the red arrows tattooed on his deltoids, which are usually bare in sleeveless shirts. Although he's got an office with Elvis, Pike spends all of his time at his gun shop when not routing the bad guys with martial arts while carrying and often using enough firepower to stop a tank. Pike rarely speaks . . . and never smiles. A standing gag is trying to catch Pike with a little twitch of his lips indicating he might possibly be amused. But he's there when you need him. He drives a red Jeep. Robert Parker's Spenser is the obvious character parallel for Elvis, but Spenser and Elvis are different in some ways. Cole is more solitary, usually being alone when he's not working. Cole is very much L.A. and Spenser is ultra blue collar Boston. Cole is martial arts while Spenser boxes and jogs. What they have in common is that they're both out to do the right thing, with money being unimportant. They both love to crack wise as they take on the bad guys. The bad guys hate the "humor" in both cases, and can't do much about it. The dialogue written for each is intensely rich. Mr. Crais has a special talent for making you care about his characters, especially the clients and their kids. You'll want to know what happens to them. With a lot of experience in script writing, Mr. Crais also knows how to set the scene physically and make you feel it. He may be out finest fiction writer about physical movement. He gives you all the clues to picture what's going on . . . but draws back from giving so much detail that you can't use your own imagination to make things better. I grew up near Los Angeles, and get a special pleasure out of reading his descriptions of the differences in cities, neighborhoods, and buildings in the area. He gets in right . . . and in detail. It's a nice touch!

On to *Stalking the Angel*, the second book in the series: "I love to hear the story which angel voices tell." --The Little Corporal Emily Miller "When the truth is found to be lies, and all the joy within you dies, don't you want somebody to love?" --Jefferson Airplane When Jillian Becker walks into his office, Elvis Cole thinks she's "the best looking woman I'd seen in three weeks" despite being dressed as a "Serious Businesswoman." She introduces her boss, Bradley Warren, and within three pages Elvis is being asked to find the Hagakure, an 18th century manuscript outlining all proper forms of samurai behavior. The Hagakure has disappeared from Warren's home safe, where it was being stored temporarily while on loan from the influential Tashiro family in Kyoto, before a planned exhibition in Warren's new hotel located in L.A.'s Little Tokyo district. Although the manuscript is insured for three million dollars, the insurance won't begin to cover the losses that Warren will suffer from the Tashiro family taking their business elsewhere. As the predicament is being explained, Elvis is wisecracking away. Warren doesn't like his attitude and tells him so. Elvis recommends Pinkerton's. Elvis tells Warren that he won't take the case, and that he doesn't like Warren. Warren tells Jillian to leave a blank check. Jillian calms both men down and Elvis has a new client. The trail of the Hagakure brings Elvis and Joe into some of the most unappetizing situations I remember reading about in hard-boiled fiction. There are Japanese gangsters (the infamous Yakuza), vicious killings, gruesome family secrets, horrible betrayals and dangerous sexual obsessions to deal with. The story develops in small segments from quite different perspectives, usually in chapters of 4-5 pages in length, like a scene in a drama. Each change adds to a mosaic portrait of the characters and the overall situation. So the story moves fast . . . but without leaving you behind. There is enough material in this book to make three or four novels. Pay

particular attention to the evolution of your perceptions of Jillian and Mimi. Mr. Crais does a nice job of helping you realize all sides of their characters. That's one quality that takes this book above the best of the Spenser books. After you finish the book, you might find it interesting to think about the dangers that can come from reaching for more than we can handle. What can you do to resist harmful temptation?

Kurzbeschreibung Meet Elvis Cole, L.A. private eye . . . he quotes Jiminy Cricket and carries a .38. Hes a literate, wisecracking Vietnam vet who is determined never to grow up. The blonde who walked into Coles office was the bestlooking woman hed seen in weeks. The only thing that kept her from rating a perfect 10 was the briefcase on one arm and the uptight hotel magnate on the other. Bradley Warren had lost something very valuable something that belonged to someone else: a rare thirteenth-century Japanese manuscript called the Hagakure. Just about all Cole knew about Japanese culture hed learned from reading Shogun, but he knew a lot about crooks and what he didnt know his sociopathic sidekick, Joe Pike, did. Together their search begins in L.A.s Little Tokyo and the nest of notorious Japanese mafia, the yakuza, and leads to a white-knuckled adventure filled with madness, murder, sexual obsession, and a stunning double-whammy ending. For Elvis Cole, its just another days work. Praise for Stalking the Angel Stalking the Angel is a righteous California book: intelligent, perceptive, hard, clean. James Ellroy Out on the West Coast, where private eyes thrive like avocado trees, Robert Crais has created an interesting and amusing hero in Elvis Cole. The Wall Street Journal Devotees of the rock em, sock em school should find [Stalking the Angel] tasty. The San Diego Union From Publishers Weekly Undoubtedly prompted by the success of recent Crais bestsellers (Demolition Angel; Hostage), his audio publishers have gone back to the second book in his increasingly popular Elvis Cole series, originally published in 1989, for a lively and colorful outing that manages to capture much of the author's early innocence and freshness. Stuart brings the quirky Cole to life quickly, combining his strengths (tenacity, incorruptibility, frequent flashes of humor) with his oddities (his love of the Disney artifacts that litter his office) to make a credible whole person. Other characters emerge with equal vocal skill: the enigmatic Joe Pike, Cole's muscular sidekick; a glowering Los Angeles property developer, his alcohol-impaired wife and their fragile adolescent daughter, who winds up being kidnapped by Japanese gangsters. Cole, hired to find a rare Japanese manuscript, discovers that the teenager's fate is very important to him personally forging a bond between the detective and children in peril that has become a hallmark of the series. For those who have been fans of Elvis since book one, The Monkey's Raincoat, it's good to have his early adventures around to listen to. For more recent Crais converts, this could prove an eye-opening revelation of how Cole got to be who he is. Based on the Bantam mass market. Copyright 2001 Cahners Business Information, Inc. From Library Journal Hard-nosed private detective Elvis Cole returns (The Monkey's Raincoat) to do battle for a teenaged girl kidnapped as part of a scheme involving the theft of a priceless Japanese manuscript outlining samurai behavior. While Cole's wry sarcasm and attempts at "cute" often fall flat, his humanity and integrity carry him through an apparently convoluted but mostly transparent plot. Los Angeles settings, Japanese heavies, wild action, and businesslike prose, however, make this better than many. Copyright 1989 Reed Business Information, Inc.