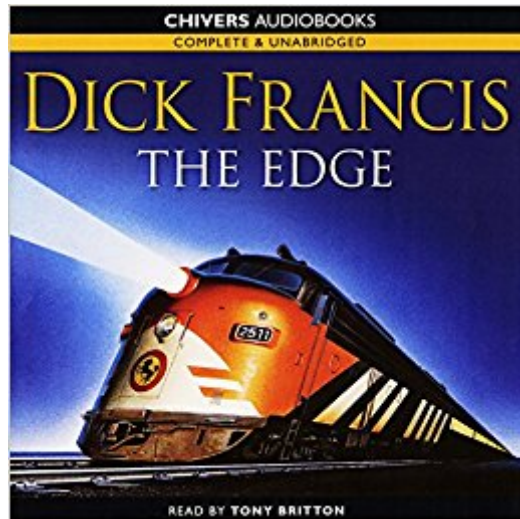


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Come To Grief: By Dick Francis (Unabridged Audiobook 10cDs)



Synopsis

Sid Halley, the ex-champion jockey turned investigator who appears in *Odds Against and Whip Hand*, is back and facing new dilemmas and dangers. The opening finds him having uncovered an obnoxious crime committed by a friend whom he, and everyone else, has held in affection bordering on love. On the morning set for the opening of the friend's trial, at which Sid is due to be called as a witness, other people's miseries explode and send him spinning into pulverizing days of hard, rational detection, and heart-searching torments. Troubled, courageous, and unwilling to admit defeat, for Sid Halley it is business as usual.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Sid Halley, the ex-champion jockey turned investigator who appears in *Odds Against and Whip Hand*, is back and facing new dilemmas and dangers. The opening finds him having uncovered an obnoxious crime committed by a friend whom he, and everyone else, has held in affection bordering on love. On the morning set for the opening of the friend's trial, at which Sid is due to be called as a witness, other people's miseries explode and send him spinning into pulverizing days of hard, rational detection, and heart-searching torments. Troubled, courageous, and unwilling to admit defeat, for Sid Halley it is business as usual.

I adore all of his books!! :) Wish I could get his earliest books on my Kindle. :(They are some of my favorites. :D

Sid Halley, former champion jockey, looks small, harmless and naive. He's so inconspicuous that you may not even notice he has a prosthetic hand. But in fact, Sid is a brilliant private investigator skilled at espionage, lock picking, computer hacking and judo - a man of action who never shows

fear. His good friend Ellis Quint, another ex-jockey, has retired from racing to become a TV chat show celebrity. He's utterly charming and inspires happiness everywhere he goes. Everybody loves him. But in fact Ellis is secretly indulging in sick acts of cruelty to animals. No one would believe it of him. Sid Halley is nearly destroyed trying to expose the truth. Dick Francis heroes almost always get badly battered in a fight or two. But Sid Halley's tribulations go far beyond that. Though totally without self-pity, he's never gotten reconciled to the loss of his hand. In this book, Sid must also bear the burden of betraying a friend. I find the Sid Halley books challenging because life is so very hard on the handicapped investigator. I don't want my heroes to suffer this much! But Dick Francis felt he had reached a higher level with these books. They delve into the nightmares that won't go away - without, however, losing the essential optimism that epitomizes Dick Francis.

An entertaining read, this book is fun just because it is full of horse racing background and our hero was once a champion jockey. His friendship with Rachel is truly heartwarming, giving another plot line that shows a very human and vulnerable side of Sid Halley. The ending, though leaving me with a "Whew!" regarding Halley's escapes from the grim reaper, left me cold because Rachel had become a very important part of the story and there were questions that should have been resolved for it to be a "feel-good" novel. Still, Dick Francis is a good author, tells a tidy tale, and keeps my interest throughout.

Sid Halley is one of my favorite of Francis' characters, and in COME TO GRIEF, the hero isn't beat up as much as he's been in the past (he is a bit, of course--this is a Francis book, after all), and I liked that change. If you love horses--which I do--some aspects of this story may be difficult to read. But this is a deftly plotted novel, and a true pleasure to read.

One of his best before he died. A grizzly topic, so be warned, Sid Haley gets more introspective, perhaps because Francis was reflecting on his own nearly-done life.

Loved it. Better than the last few Dick Francis novels I have read. The Sid Halley novels are very strong. This is the best.

Story is great but too many typos throughout the book - very distracting and NOT what I paid for. Fix the sloppy editing and redeem a great book.

You cannot beat Dick Francis for history and horses. Brings back memories of my trips to England and would love to see a race.

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