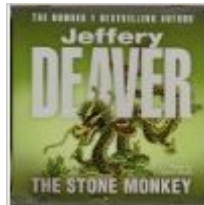


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# The Stone Monkey



## Synopsis

A famed criminologist, paralyzed from the neck down, Rhyme compensates for his physical disability with his brains -- and the arms and legs of his brilliant and beautiful protégé, Amelia Sachs. The awe-inspiring duo returns in *The Stone Monkey*. Recruited to help the FBI and the Immigration and Naturalization Service perform the nearly impossible, Lincoln and Amelia track down a cargo ship headed for New York city carrying two dozen illegal chinese immigrants, as well as the notorious human smuggler and killer known as "the Ghost." But when the Ghost's capture goes disastrously wrong, Lincoln and Amelia find themselves in a race against time. They must stop him before he can track down and murder the two surviving families who have escaped from the ship and vanished deep into the labyrinthine world of New York City's chinatown. Over the next harrowing forty-eight hours, the Ghost ruthlessly hunts for the families, while Rhyme struggles to find them before they die. Amelia pursues a very different kind of police work -- forming a connection with one of the immigrants that may have consequences going to the core of her relationship with her partner and lover, Lincoln Rhyme. *The Stone Monkey* abounds with Deaver's famous trademarks: wholly unexpected plot twists, and breakneck pacing, reminding us once again why People hailed him as the "master of ticking-bomb suspense" and Publishers Weekly called him the "most clever plotter on the planet." --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

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## Customer Reviews

When a vicious smuggler known as the Ghost scuttles a ship filled with undocumented Chinese

immigrants less than a mile from New York harbor, only a handful of survivors--and the Ghost himself--manage to escape the burning vessel. Lincoln Rhyme, the quadriplegic NYPD forensic detective first introduced in 1997's *The Bone Collector*, and Amelia Sachs, his partner and lover, must stop the Ghost before he murders the two families who made it to shore. The families have gone to ground in the all but impenetrable world of Manhattan's Chinatown, a fact that makes the pair's two allies--Sonny Li, a Chinese cop, and Dr. John Sung-- invaluable partners. The group's race against time showcases Jeffery Deaver's many talents, particularly intricate plotting, plenty of surprising twists, and breakneck pacing. This is a real standout from a writer whose previous thrillers have earned him a solid following among mystery fans. --Jane Adams --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

This title got pushed up from May to March, moving readers that much closer to Deaver's harrowing tale of a smuggler whose cargo is human. Copyright 2002 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

This being the third book in the Lincoln Rhyme series (having read the first two), and been caught up in the thrill of distinctly American characters playing out one scene after another in distinctly (white) American locales, I wasn't sure I would enjoy this book as much as the others. However I found myself not only being taken into the usual suspense of the story but really enjoying a deep foray into both Chinese and Chinese American culture. *The Stone Monkey* seems very well researched, and it is clear that the author himself enjoyed the same trip.

I believe Jeffrey Deaver is the best crime-thriller author of our time. I've been reading his Lincoln Rhyme novels in order and have not been disappointed. In fact I have ordered two more in the series and I plan to collect them all. You can't go wrong with Jeffrey Deaver.

This book is extremely fast paced. Once again, Jeffrey Deaver has proven himself. I didn't doubt him for one minute. The characters in the story, *Stone Monkey* were well developed and believable. This fast paced, action packed, suspenseful crime fiction story sent me on an exciting mental roller coaster ride that I will never forget. I always try to solve the crime before I finish the story. I thought, "Darn, why did he tell me who the killer was? I could have figured it out." In this book, Jeffrey Deaver solved the puzzle for me, but I was still confused, go figure. Every time I think I have all of the answers Jeffrey Deaver changes the questions. The book

kept me guessing and that's one of the things I liked about the book. I do see a slight pattern in the series because the police unknowingly confides in the killer as in one of the previous books in the Lincoln Rhyme series. I say, slight because I have only seen this in one other book in the series. Of course, the murderer is able to stay ahead of the police because he has inside information. But, Lincoln Rhyme out thinks the killer once again. Lincoln Rhyme is a brilliant quadriplegic criminalist that plays a significant part in keeping the story moving. Lincoln Rhyme is the main character in the series. His clever, precise, detailed investigation is what solves the crime and brings the villain, The Ghost to justice. The gorgeous Amelia Sachs is his girlfriend and she does all of the legwork. Poor Amelia Sachs suffers from endometriosis. Amelia Sachs performs a dangerous stunt while investigating the crime when she thinks of saving a child. She'd do just about anything for a child. She wants children of her own badly. A child is part of her motivation for going after the Ghost. I especially remember the climax of the story when the killer was about to be caught. I laughed out loud as it seemed my insides would explode from the suspenseful anticipation. I did have a problem with the pronunciation of some of the Chinese words and names, but they were relevant to the story. The story was about a shipload of Chinese immigrants being smuggled into America by The Ghost. I wondered why the immigrants were being hunted throughout the story. Lincoln Rhyme explained it toward the end. I really cared about the characters. I was a little upset when I thought, Fred Dellray was murdered. Fred Dellray is an FBI agent that helps Lincoln Rhyme solve cases. One of the main characters actually did die and it was a heartbreaking scene. I got a little upset when it seemed like the ghost was going to be set free after Lincoln Rhyme and his team's effort to capture him. The Ghost had an interesting back story that the author reveals in the middle of the story. The Ghost had been a hunter since childhood when he hunted rats and vicious dogs for food after his family was murdered in China. I was left with several unanswered questions. I didn't think The Ghost was very smart because he drove stolen cars. In this story, The Ghost has a lot of Guanxi, connections, so why didn't he have a legitimate car? I wondered how the pray got the map to find the hunter. I don't think the scene where the Chinese cop died was explained well at all. I couldn't tell if The Ghost got the gun that he killed a cop with from a shopping bag or an ankle holster. Why didn't the murdered cop have handcuffs? Would a cop really apprehend someone as dangerous as The Ghost single handedly? One of the characters was given \$500 to buy a gun that cost \$300, but he gave his father back the remaining \$100, did I miss something? Amelia Sachs was given a nickname in the middle of the story, why? It wasn't necessary, it only confuses the reader. I'm advising you to fasten your seatbelt before reading this book.

The movie still interferes with some of the enjoyment of the text flowing before the reader's eyes, but we are getting closer to the movie's end of influence. Rhyme and Sachs are together as man and woman, but not yet husband and wife. Some more humanity is given to both and they are given more humanity in their world than merely a figment of an author's concept. The crime and perpetrator are in a room full of mirrors slowly circling like a carousel. But the best emotions are found in a woman, a crudely made kitty doll, and a child with a beautiful name. This one pulls the reader in.

At first I wasn't sure about this book but Deaver caught me up in it and I couldn't put it down. Reading it was a satisfying experience.

From smuggling Chinese dissidents to deaths sanctioned by the Chinese government; from decisions about upcoming surgery and the further development of the relationship of Lincoln and Amelia; and the corruption in both the U. S. and Chinese governments this book keeps you getting out of bed to continue reading. Find out for yourself.

Once I read one of Jeffery Seaver's books, I had to get more. A great read and many twists...His mind must be everywhere!!

Compared to the previous books, this one was just flat. I love things having to do with Asian culture, but the first half of this book felt like the same scenes over and over. The ships were interesting, and the conclusion okay, but I honestly just didn't feel the tension in this one.

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