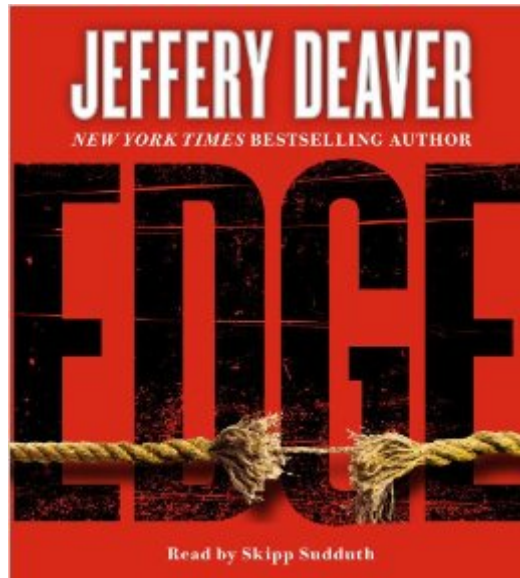


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Edge: A Novel



Synopsis

Acclaimed bestselling author Jeffery Deaver takes listeners on a brand-new adventure: a race to find and stop a professional criminal whose gruesome specialty lies in extracting information from his innocent victims by any means necessary. Washington, D.C. police detective Ryan Kessler is targeted by a "lifter" a hired criminal who uses any edge he can to get information his mysterious boss desperately needs, including torture, murder, and kidnapping. The job of keeping Kessler and his family alive long enough to find the ultimate perp falls to a seasoned federal protection officer known only as Corte, a man with mysteries of his own and an uncompromising devotion to keeping those in his care alive. Corte and the lifter engage in a deadly contest as the story races to a surprise conclusion that not even the most seasoned Deaver fans can predict.

Book Information

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Authors, A-Z > (D) > Deaver, Jeffery #4461 in Books > Books on CD > Mystery & Thrillers

#9725 in Books > Books on CD > Literature & Fiction > General

Customer Reviews

I wrote another review of this book, but malfunctioned and it disappeared. This time I'm not going to elaborate as much--a book this bad isn't worth wasting the time for detailed analysis. The good: Fairly interesting premise. The bad: Excessive needless detail (things like the narrator uses pre-packaged coffee). Clumsy details apparently intended to show how well-rounded the narrator is (such as his discussion of the use of commas around an appositive--who cares?). Factual errors. Example: the narrator states that private air charter companies have to file flight plans. Actually, they don't. They are required to maintain a comparable record of operations, but these records can take many forms and aren't filed with any federal agency. Example: a character discusses "the last emperor of Korea" in "the 1920s." Actually, Korea never had emperors, it had kings and queens. And in the 1920s,

Korea was part of Japan, having been occupied and then annexed in 1910. So in the 1920s there was no Korean emperor or king or ruler of any sort--Korea was totally controlled and administered by the Japanese from 1910 until 1945. This is the kind of nonsense that permeates the book. The really, really bad: Civilians and most minor characters are dysfunctional, obtuse, childish, substance abusers, etc. Generally irritating idiots. The plot and action depend on a series of dumb moves by various characters, which always give the bad guys another chance to succeed. Augmented by very poor tactical decisions and general dim-witted procedure by the supposedly super-talented anonymous agency of the good guys (see below). Too many convenient circumstances to keep the story moving.

Edge, by Jeffery Deaver, (2011). A standalone thriller by the Chicago-born New York Times bestselling author of THE BONE COLLECTOR and THE BURNING WIRE, best known for his Lincoln Rhyme and Kathryn Dance series. The author's BONE COLLECTOR was made into a feature release, starring Angelina Jolie and Denzel Washington as Lincoln Rhyme; his MAIDEN'S GRAVE was made into an HBO film retitled DEAD SILENCE, starring James Garner and Marlee Matlin. Deaver has also authored CARTE BLANCHE, a new James Bond novel. This novel focuses on a secret federal agency that exists behind the well-known U.S. security organizations, such as the FBI and CIA. This anonymous agency is dedicated to intelligence surveillance a highly specialized brand of citizen protection. The book opens as Washington, D.C., police detective Ryan Kessler suddenly, inexplicably becomes the target of Henry Loving, a seasoned, ruthless kidnapper/torturer/murderer, what the agency unofficially calls a "lifter." Loving is generally hired by interested parties to obtain information from his victims by whatever means necessary. Which in his case, although he's a deft torturer, usually means getting an "edge" on his victim "leverage" by kidnapping or threatening family until what the agency calls the "primary," the person the lifter is actually interested in, caves under pressure. The job of keeping the Kessler family alive falls to Corte, protagonist/narrator, a senior federal protection officer--a position the agency unofficially calls a "shepherd." Corte is uncompromising, devoted to protecting those in his care, a board game aficionado who applies gaming strategies to his work.

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