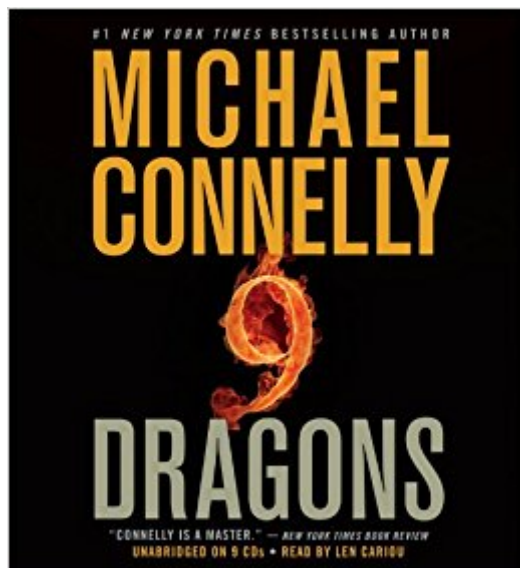


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Nine Dragons (A Harry Bosch Novel)



Synopsis

LAPD Detective Harry Bosch is off the chain in the fastest, fiercest, and highest-stakes case of his life. Fortune Liquors is a small shop in a tough South L.A. neighborhood, a store Bosch has known for years. The murder of John Li, the store's owner, hits Bosch hard, and he promises Li's family that he'll find the killer. The world Bosch steps into next is unknown territory. He brings in a detective from the Asian Gang Unit for help with translation--not just of languages but also of the cultural norms and expectations that guided Li's life. He uncovers a link to a Hong Kong triad, a lethal and far-reaching crime ring that follows many immigrants to their new lives in the U.S. And instantly his world explodes. The one good thing in Bosch's life, the person he holds most dear, is taken from him and Bosch travels to Hong Kong in an all-or-nothing bid to regain what he's lost. In a place known as Nine Dragons, as the city's Hungry Ghosts festival burns around him, Bosch puts aside everything he knows and risks everything he has in a desperate bid to outmatch the triad's ferocity.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Best of the Month, October 2009: An investigation into a cold-blooded murder introduces Detective Harry Bosch to a Chinese underworld lurking in the dark recesses of the City of Angels. Its tentacles are far reaching, yet it remains shrouded in secrecy due to time-honored cultural traditions that keep the exploited from speaking out. To the victim's family, Bosch promises revenge, but when his own daughter suddenly becomes a target, he promises blood. However, working a case with leads on

both sides of the Pacific provides little room (or time) for error. 9 Dragons is a gritty, coffee-and-cigarettes crime thriller full of smart twists and generous helpings of suspense. Fans of Michael Connelly can expect another exceptional thrill ride, while newcomers will be immediately engaged by the tortured and unrelenting Bosch. "He knew one day it would come to this, that the darkness would find [his daughter] and that she would be used to get him," writes Connelly. "That day was now." --Dave Callanan --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Starred Review. The murder of an elderly Chinese owner of a liquor store thrusts Bosch into the unfamiliar world of Chinese immigrants, Asian gangs, and the ruthless triad crime syndicate. Bosch works the case with his usual tenacity; threats warning him to drop the case only fuel his desire to find the old man's killer. Having narrated previous Bosch books, Carrou knows the character inside and out. His portrayal of the iconic L. A. detective conveys all his irascibility and world-weariness. This book gives us a closer look at Bosch, the father, and Carrou conveys this human side with emotional clarity and believability. A Little, Brown hardcover (Reviews, Sept. 21). (Oct.) Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

Excellent story again from Michael Connelly. Some reviewers did not like that this book took Harry Bosch to Hong Kong but I thought that was an excellent locale to round out this book. You saw a different side of Harry, but not too different, now that his is now on his natural beat of LA. He goes to Hong Kong to rescue his daughter who is kidnapped. The daughter, Maddie lives with her mother in Hong Kong and that in itself is it's own story line of Harry and his ex-wife who he still loves. Mr. Connelly certainly can paint an excellent picture in his books explaining the details of any foreign city. You feel as if you are there yourself, evening feeling the humidity of Hong Kong itself. No too much mention in previous books have thee been of Harry's daughter Maddie and I do like reading more about Harry the father and now after this book I hope more is written about Harry's daughter. Loved this book. But I did feel like some things were left hanging such as the funeral for Eleanor Wish. The funeral for Harry's partner Ferras was covered but not Eleanor. Maybe that will be explained in another books as well as Sun Yee did Harry make contact with him? It was left unsaid if Sun Yee was safe especially since he helped Harry and had feelings for Eleanor Wish. But all in all an excellent book.

Still one of my favorite characters. While many didn't seem to enjoy his sojourn to Hong Kong I found those 39 hours quite exciting and quite palpable, although he will always still belong in LA!

While I wish Eleanor hadn't been portrayed as such an angry bitter woman--Harry does have a way of bringing that out in women; I really felt she should have been a much stronger person in crisis than was written--MAMA BEARS ARE FIERCE over their baby cubs and Michael Connelly clearly forgot that. Nice contrived twist at the end proving like father like daughter. Setting up for some amazing roller coaster rides between the two in the future!

It's rather remarkable that the murder of a liquor store owner in south Los Angeles causes international repercussions. That is, unless the detective investigating the murder is Harry Bosch. Harry is told in no uncertain terms that he should back off or he'll face some serious personal consequences. Harry, of course, is not one to trifle with. But when his daughter Maddie is abducted he must put her safety as the top item on his list of priorities. Since Maddie has been living in Hong Kong with her mother, who is also Harry's ex-wife Eleanor Wish, an immediate trip is necessary. About one third of the book is devoted to Harry's time in Hong Kong while working with Eleanor and her personal security guard, a fellow named Sun Yee. I found this part uneven because Harry is battling with two competing instincts: his fear for Maddie's safety and his professional instincts to solve the original crime. The conflict is understandable but reading about it is often difficult. The best part of the book is the final 1/3 when Harry returns to Los Angeles to wrap up the murder investigation and get his life back in order. In spite of all the turmoil, it looks like his future will be a happy one.

First let me say that Mickey Heller is only in this book toward the end. It is really a Harry Bosch novel. And what a novel! What starts out as a pickup theft resulting in a murder, Harry is really put through the ringer. The murder seems to lead to a Chinese Triad connection. That seems to lead to a threat on his daughter in Hong Kong. So Harry rushes to Hong Kong to find his daughter. Tragedy results. I won't spoil anything here, but just say the action and emotional turmoil is outstanding. This is a very complex plot, but then Connelly is well known for that. The personal connections for Harry make this a must read. I cannot more highly recommend the Bosch series, but I do recommend that any reader read them in order to get the best out of the character development book to book. Read Connelly, Read Bosch!!! You won't regret it!

This is the fifteenth book about the fictional character Harry Bosch, a LAPD detective, a character that I like. The book is a fast, gripping read, in which Bosch's private life gets entangled in his work. I

find the series excellent vacation reading, though I note there is more darkness and violence than some might care for as they lounge on the beach.

The 5 star reviews are overly praiseworthy (are they even real opinions by actual readers?), while the 1 star reviews seem overly critical, in my opinion. This simply isn't Connelly's best Bosch novel, but it is an important one if you want to keep pace with Harry's life and career. Both are definitely in transition. The two things that make Harry vulnerable and can distract him from his "mission", namely his ex-wife Eleanor ("there is no end of things in the heart") and his daughter Madeline, are in this story. I think the author wanted to deal with them before moving on in the series. Maddie makes a rather startling revelation near the end of the book that isn't really dealt with. Could it be the set-up for a new leading character and future novels? Bosch isn't getting any younger. It's worth the read for Bosch fans.

This story starts with a simple murder of an old Chinese man who owns an old money losing liquor store. The story evolves into an international kidnapping, and Bosch's trip to Hong Kong where Bosch and his ex-wife are in a life or death fight to find their kidnapped daughter. This book just cannot be put down. What a great read!

The read was fair, it dragged on unlike most of Connelly's Bosch episodes. Of course I read most of the series out of order but, I don't think that affected my rating. We all know that Harry is good and lucky but, in this one he was too good and too lucky and in a foreign land. My truthful rating is a 2.5.

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