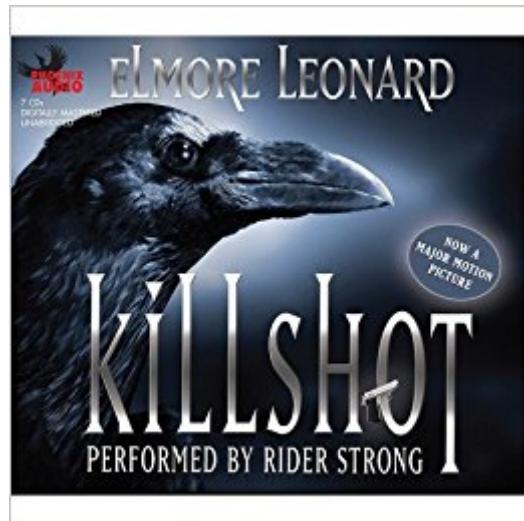


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# Killshot



## **Synopsis**

Ironworker Wayne Colson and his spirited wife Carmen are witnesses to a shakedown scam--witnesses who must be eliminated--in one of Elmore Leonard's all-time great novels. Unabridged. 8 CDs.

## **Book Information**

Audio CD

Publisher: Phoenix Audio; Unabridged edition (June 1, 2006)

Language: English

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Product Dimensions: 5.8 x 1 x 5.2 inches

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Average Customer Review: 3.9 out of 5 stars 56 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #3,375,463 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #14 in Books > Books on CD > Authors, A-Z > ( L ) > Leonard, Elmore #6251 in Books > Books on CD > Mystery & Thrillers #8908 in Books > Books on CD > Literature & Fiction > Unabridged

## **Customer Reviews**

Crime fiction doesn't get any better than Leonard's new thriller, which, while it breaks no new ground, is a welcome retreat to his more direct style of classics such as 52 Pickup and Unknown Man #89. When Carmen Colson and her ironworker husband Wayne stumble onto an extortion scheme run by Armand Degas, half Ojibway Indian, half French Canadian hit man, and his temporary partner Richie Nix, a talkative sociopath, the two killers set out to eliminate them, hiding out with Nix's girlfriend Donna, a former prison guard who collects stuffed animals and believes that Elvis is alive. In detailing the killers' relentless pursuit of the terrified couple, Leonard builds suspense with a deft, master hand, inducing an instant--and sustained--response of sweating hands and a racing heart. Even the most jaded reader will be swept along on the roller coaster of impending violence punctuated by heart-stopping crises. As always, Leonard writes with a natural ear for offbeat speech and a terrific sense of locale, moving the action from Toronto to Detroit and into Michigan and Ohio, telling the story almost totally through the thoughts and dialogue of the characters. In the Colsons, Leonard presents a more mature and realistic portrayal of a relationship than he has in the past, and he stirs up an uncomfortable fondness for the cruel but mellowing hit man Degas, all the while drawing the reader deeply into these ordinary lives. A bravura

performance. Literary Guild dual main selection. Copyright 1989 Reed Business Information, Inc.

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In this fine adaptation of Leonard's best-selling novel, Wayne and Carmen Colson's quiet life shatters following their involvement in a failed extortion scheme. To escape from hit man Arman "Blackbird" Degas and his sidekick Richie Nix, the Colsons enter the Federal Witness Protection Program. They soon find out the program contains as many predators as does the underworld. As with all of Leonard's (Cuba Libre, Audio Reviews, LJ 6/15/98) works, it is his character development and dialog that propel the simple plot toward its chilling conclusion. Bruce Boxleitner's reading adds a special effect to the story, and the adaptation captures all the power of the original novel. Highly recommended for all collections containing Leonard's past works. Stephen L. Hupp, Urbana Univ. Lib, OH

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KILLSHOT is Elmore Leonard at his very best. The story of a married couple being stalked by two would be killers -- a veteran hit man and an out-of-control punk -- is, like all of Leonard's books, not as interesting for the story as in the way he executes it. Like Hammett and Chandler, Leonard is less concerned with plot than setting, character, detail, texture, and conversation. The typical Leonard book leaves you with multiple unforgettable scenes, dialogue that won't leave your imagination, and images that you can't let go of. I always find myself reading Leonard on two levels. On one level there is the story at hand. On the other level I find myself marveling at the host of wonderful tricks he employs in telling that story. His prose moves along effortlessly. For instance, at one point the two bad guys are traveling to the house of the people they want to kill. Instead of a long, mildly involved sentence or set of sentences to get them to it, Leonard merely writes, "And there is was." It is a breathtakingly effective means to get from Point A to Point B. In his famous Ten Rules for writing Leonard states that one of the keys to good writing is to cut out all the boring parts. That simple sentence illustrates it as well as anyone. Leonard's books are, in addition to being great yarns, instruction manuals on how to write effective stories. In talking to people about Leonard, I find that many tend to read books like the paired books GET SHORTY and BE COOL. These are fine, but they are far from his best. For that, I would recommend KILLSHOT, SWAG, and LaBRAVA, along with the Western HOMBRE. There are other books that are probably their equal, but you won't find any better.

I'm a big E.L. fan. This was good, fun to read. He gets into the characters and knows how to develop suspense. This won't be the last of his books I read.

Another enjoyable and entertaining book by Elmore Leonard. Unlike some of his contemporaries, he has maintained his exceptionally high standard for writing fiction.

The novel is excellent but I am writing this review to mention the cheap quality of printing in the paperback copy I received. The letters are not sharp, rather, almost pixelated. I have never read a book before where the print was so fuzzy. Seems like it must have been printed on the cheap.

Not as described and expected, poor condition.

This is a required book for Crime Writing a three credit course at Lake Superior State University., Professor Eric Gadinski.

Leonard gives the characters the power to be unexpected people. Shows his understanding of the complexity of the sexes. Dangerous, funny and suspenseful.

This has to be a superior experience, even from Elmore Leonard, whose plots and tales are always mesmerizing. I was so enthusiastic I bought copies for my entire writing class. A joy to read.

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