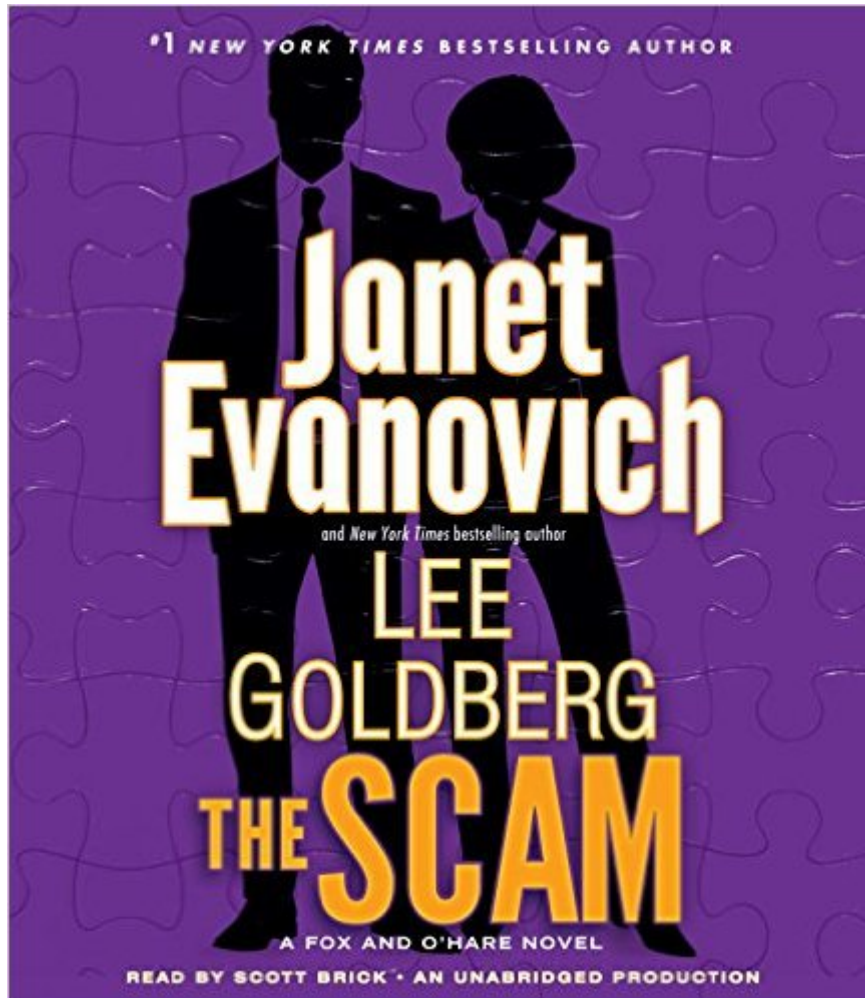


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The Scam: A Fox And O'Hare Novel



Synopsis

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER
Nicolas Fox is a charming con man and master thief on the run. Kate O'Hare is the FBI agent who is hot on his trail. At least that's what everyone thinks. In reality, Fox and O'Hare are secretly working together to bring down super-criminals the law can't touch. Criminals like brutal casino magnate Evan Trace. Evan Trace is running a money-laundering operation through his casino in Macau. Some of his best customers are mobsters, dictators, and global terrorists. Nick and Kate will have to go deep undercover as high-stakes gamblers, wagering millions of dollars—and their lives—in an attempt to topple Trace's empire. It's a scam that will take Fox and O'Hare from the Las Vegas strip, to the sun-soaked beaches of Oahu's North Shore, and into the dark back alleys of Macau. Their only backup—a self-absorbed actor, a Somali pirate, and Kate's father, an ex-soldier who believes a rocket launcher is the best way to solve every problem. What could possibly go wrong?

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"The Scam" is the newest book in the Fox and O'Hare series by Janet Evanovich and Lee Goldberg. I've read the previous books and really enjoyed them and this is the best one yet. The characters in the story bring Elizabeth Peter's Vicky Bliss mysteries to mind, except that Kate O'Hare is a tough and well trained FBI agent. The background for these books is that Kate has been on the trail of master criminal Nicholas Fox for years and finally brought him down. Almost immediately, Nick is back out and working with the FBI and especially Kate to bring down other

criminals around the world. It is really fun reading these stories as they take me to far-off places. It is evident that the authors have done their research well and are able to describe the places and people so well I feel almost like I am there, too. In "The Scam", the action centers around Macau, Las Vegas, the North Shore of Oahu, Hawaii, and of course, Kate's home stomping ground of Southern California. The story involves money laundering and gambling as well as shoot-em-ups and lots of funny dialog. It was great to see some of the characters from previous books back in the action again. Kate's father, Jake, is a favorite of mine with his propensity to teach young family members survival skills, including a tad bit of bomb making. Another favorite is the actor, Boyd Capwell, who gets so far into his roles in the cons for Nick and Kate, that he sometimes seems to forget that it is a role and not his real life. His embellishments are always good for a laugh. Kate and Nick work together to bring down the house of cards that a small time gambler turned entrepreneur, Evan Trace, has managed to build into a multi-million dollar business.

Nick Fox and Kate O'Hare are at it again, ridding the world of bad guys one "Scam" at a time. This time Nick, one of the FBI's most wanted criminals now turned informant and Kate are after Evan Trace. Evan has been running a money laundering scheme through his casino in Japan where some of the world's worst terrorist and mobsters are some of his best customers. It's up to Kate, Nick and their band of helpers to both set up the scam while closing Evan down for good by trying to get him to turn himself in to the FBI. All goes well until Evan throws in his own twist while looking for potential investors for his new casino that he's looking to open. Thankfully two of the would be investors were hired by Nick and Kate to help pull off the scam but the third is a drug lord that doesn't have a problem with killing anyone that gets in his way. How will they get Evan to surrender now but the bigger question may be | will they be able to before he's killed when said drug lord is told that he's been double crossed? There are certain authors that I always look forward to the arrival of receiving an advanced reading copy in my mailbox and I can assure that this is one of them. Each and every time I've done a little happy dance when I saw that I had received a book in this series. This series is absolutely amazing! Its cast of characters range from of course FBI agents to criminals but also everything in between, including a B rated actor that believes that he's the best and can't believe that he's never made it in the big time yet, a retired special forces operative that believes that leaving home without a rocket launcher is as bad as leaving the house undressed, a special effects specialist that makes blowing things up an art form and even a pirate, yes you read that right, a pirate.

If you have read any of the previous book in the series, then you know exactly what you're going to get in "The Scam" - elaborate cons, sexy banter, exotic locales. But then why is it that I found myself being mostly bored by this book and checking the progress bar on my Kindle every couple of page to see how many pages I have left? Maybe it's because after 3 books, the sameness of the these books are starting to get to me. The elaborate, over-the-top setups..The foaming at the mouth villains...Kate and Nick's high-roller acts that routinely require them to dress in designer clothing and drop millions of dollars at the drop of a hat. I know that the premise of these books is for them to catch big criminals that operate at that kind of scale. But still, if I have to read through one more string of designer brand names whenever Kate and Nick stroll up to someone's front door, I may just end up throwing my Kindle against the door. And then, there's the non-existent character development. Sure, that's not why we read these books anyway. But can't the characters at least exhibit some kind of growth even just a little bit? For example, what does Kate bring to the table in these books other than to nag at Nick and dress in sexy dress and to give the villain of the day a hard-on? In each and every book, Nick is the one who comes up with the con while all Kate does is nag about how this and that isn't going to work. And then, when something goes wrong, she'll go into her doomsday mode and whine about how all their effort has been wasted, until Nick manages to come up with another plan to turn things. It's the same routine every..single...time. And don't even get me started on Jake, who would be a shoo-in for the World's Most Irresponsible Parent Award, if there is one.

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