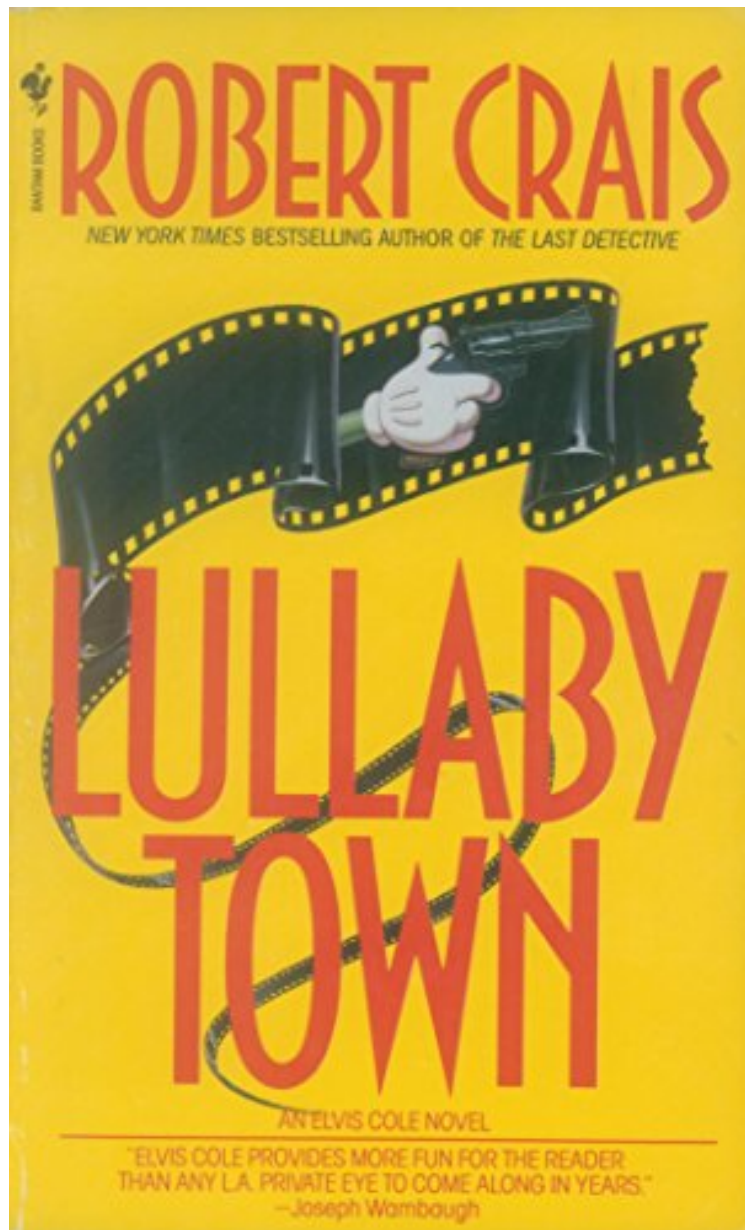


(Ebook pdf) Lullaby Town (An Elvis Cole Novel)

Lullaby Town (An Elvis Cole Novel)

Von Robert Crais

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Von Robert Crais : Lullaby Town (An Elvis Cole Novel) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Lullaby Town (An Elvis Cole Novel):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Hollywood Meets the Real WorldVon Donald MitchellIf you have yet to begin the marvelous Elvis Cole series by

Robert Crais, you've got a great treat ahead of you! Few series get off to a stronger start than Mr. Crais did with *The Monkey's Raincoat*, which won both the Anthony and Macavity awards for best novel while being nominated for the Edgar and Shamus awards as well. *Stalking the Angel* followed powerfully with classic noir style of the 1930s hard-boiled detective up against evil, but moderated with wise cracks. And the books just keep getting better from there in their characterizations, action, story-telling and excitement. Elvis Cole is the star attraction, the co-owner of The Elvis Cole Detective Agency. He's now 38, ex-Army, served in Vietnam, ex-security guard, has two years of college, learned to be a detective by working under George Feider, a licensed P.I. for over 40 years, does martial arts as enthusiastically as most people do lunch, and is fearless but not foolish. He's out to right the wrongs of the world as much as he is to earn a living. Elvis has a thing for Disney characters (including a Pinocchio clock), kids, cats, scared clients and rapid fire repartee. He drives a Jamaica yellow 1966 Corvette Stingray convertible, and usually carries a .38 Special Dan Wesson. His main foil is partner, Joe Pike, an ex-Marine, ex-cop who moves quietly and mysteriously wearing shades even in the dark . . . when he's not scaring the bad guys with the red arrows tattooed on his deltoids, which are usually bare in sleeveless shirts. Although he's got an office with Elvis, Pike spends all of his time at his gun shop when not routing the bad guys with martial arts while carrying and often using enough firepower to stop a tank. Pike rarely speaks . . . and never smiles. A standing gag is trying to catch Pike with a little twitch of his lips indicating he might possibly be amused. But he's there when you need him. He drives a red Jeep. Robert Parker's Spenser is the obvious character parallel for Elvis, but Spenser and Elvis are different in some ways. Cole is more solitary, usually being alone when he's not working. Cole is very much L.A. and Spenser is ultra blue collar Boston. Cole is martial arts while Spenser boxes and jogs. What they have in common is that they're both out to do the right thing, with money being unimportant. They both love to crack wise as they take on the bad guys. The bad guys hate the "humor" in both cases, and can't do much about it. The dialogue written for each is intensely rich. Mr. Crais has a special talent for making you care about his characters, especially the clients and their kids. You'll want to know what happens to them. With a lot of experience in script writing, Mr. Crais also knows how to set the scene physically and make you feel it. He may be our finest fiction writer about physical movement. He gives you all the clues to picture what's going on . . . but draws back from giving so much detail that you can't use your own imagination to make things better. I grew up near Los Angeles, and get a special pleasure out of reading his descriptions of the differences in cities, neighborhoods, and buildings in the area. He gets in right . . . and in detail. It's a nice touch!

On to *Lullaby Town*, the third book in the series. The title refers to the peddler who sells dreams in *Lullaby Town*. In our case, it's Hollywood. The peddler in the story is Peter Alan Nelson, a motion picture director dubbed as the King of Adventure by *Time* magazine (think Steven Spielberg and George Lucas wrapped up into one hyper personality), which also called him "arrogant, brilliant, demanding." In real life, he has the maturity of a male 2 year old, and has worse habits. Elvis is hired to find Nelson's ex-wife and child so Nelson can form a relationship with his son, whom he's ignored virtually from birth. The studio doesn't want Nelson distracted by all this yearning for his son because he's due to start a new movie in three weeks. Elvis has no trouble finding the ex and the son. They've left a trail a mile wide across the country to Connecticut where Nelson's mousy young wife has turned herself into a successful banker who doesn't want to hear anything from Nelson. At this point, Elvis's job would amount to bringing them all together gently . . . except that the ex, who now calls herself Karen Lloyd, has a little problem with the biggest crime family in the East. Elvis and Joe set out to eliminate the little problem and are tested to the limits of their talents. The story develops rapidly in small segments from quite different perspectives, usually in chapters of 4-5 pages in length, like a scene in a drama. Each change adds to a mosaic portrait of the characters and the overall situation. So the story moves fast . . . but without leaving you behind. There is enough material in this book to make two novels. Pay particular attention to the evolution of characters of Karen Lloyd and Peter Alan Nelson. Mr. Crais does a nice job of helping you realize many sides of their characters over a period of about 10 years. That's one quality that makes this book compelling reading. After you finish the book, you might find it helpful to think about the potential downside of possessing all that you dream of having. Can you select better dreams to turn into reality?

3 von 3 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. *Lullaby Town* Von TJWag To set the stage, I am a Spenser or Robert Parker fan. I read every book he writes when I want to relax and start and finish a book in the same weekend. Elvis Cole and Robert Crais are on the same level. I have been consuming Crais' books one after the other since I first found L.A. Requiem. *Lullaby Town* is another hit with more Pike and food and action and humor. If you like one of his novels, you'll like 'em all. 2 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. You won't be able to put it down!

Von Ein Kunde In *Lullaby Town*, Robert Crais has created a BRILLIANT character in Peter Alan Nelson, a spoiled, narcissistic film director who thinks nothing of invading his ex-wife's new life...even though doing so puts her and their son in grave danger. What separates Robert Crais from EVERYONE else writing mysteries is the touching humanity he invests in his characters. As with all of Crais's novels, some scenes will make you cry, others will make you laugh, and ALL of them will keep you turning the pages. The scenes when Elvis Cole confronts the mobsters in New York are drop-dead hilarious, and I could MORE than relate to Karen Lloyd, the woman who rebuilt her life. I loved this book!

KurzbeschreibungHollywood's newest wunderkind is Peter Alan Nelson, the brilliant, erratic director known as the King of Adventure.His films make billions, but his manners make enemies.What the boy king wants, he gets, and what Nelson wants is for Elvis to comb the country for the airhead wife and infant child the film-school flunkout dumped en route to becoming the third biggest filmmaker in America.It's the kind of case Cole can handle in his sleep -- until it turns out to be a nightmare.For when Cole finds Nelson's wife in a small Conneticut town, she's nothing like what he expects.The lady has some unwanted -- and very nasty -- mob connections, which means Elvis could be opening the East Coast branch of his P.I. office . . .at the bottom of the Hudson River.From the Paperback edition.From Kirkus sLullaby Town is Chelam, Connecticut, where L.A. shamus Elvis Cole (The Monkey's Raincoat, 1987--not reviewed) goes in search of Karen Shipley, divorced ten years earlier by boyish filmmaker Peter Alan Nelsen, who's since developed deep pockets (courtesy of a string of action hits beginning with Chainsaw) and a conscience of sorts. Just when it looks like Elvis has found Karen and her son, Toby, all too easily, Karen turns out to be laundering money for the Mafia, and the story takes off like a two-stage rocket. It'll take all of Elvis's wise-guy savvy to pry Karen loose from those other wise-guys without condemning her to the witness-protection program or the East River. Elvis is as sharp as a West Coast Spenser, but without Spenser's nasty/noble attitudinizing--and this story is pure pleasure from the very first page. -- Copyright 1992, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.WerbetextThe road to fame is paved with danger... as Cole and Pike are about to find out.