



Fade Away

Harlan Coben

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The home was top-notch New Jersey suburban. The living room was Martha Stewart. The basement was Legos and blood. For sports agent Myron Bolitar, the disappearance of a man he'd once competed against was bringing back memories of the sport he and Greg Downing had both played and the woman they both loved. Now, among the stars, the wanna-bes, the gamblers and groupies, Myron is unraveling the strange, violent life of a sports hero gone wrong, and coming face-to-face with a past he can't relive, and a present he may not survive.

In novels that crackle with wit and suspense, Edgar Award winner Harlan Coben has created one of the most fascinating and complex heroes in suspense fiction Myron Bolitar a hotheaded, tenderhearted sports agent who grows more and more engaging and unpredictable with each page-turning appearance.

Fade Away Details

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Author : Harlan Coben

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From Reader Review Fade Away for online ebook

Joyce Lagow says

Myron Bolitar's professional basketball career ended before it ever really began with a severe knee injury sustained during a pre-season game. He is therefore astonished when the owner of the New Jersey Dragons, a team headed for the playoffs, offers him a job as a player. But it turns out that this is to be a cover for the real job--finding the whereabouts of one of the team's star players, Greg Downing, who has disappeared on the eve of the playoffs. Myron and Greg have a history as rivals going back to their high school basketball days.[return][return]Myron and his Philadelphia Main Line Old Family assistant Win immediately run into signs of trouble when they discover blood in the basement playroom of Downing's house. Soon a body shows up, that of a mysterious "Carla", and the puzzle thickens.[return][return]Coben is in fine feather with this series installment. Myron and Win are two of the more original "detectives" in the mystery genre, and Coben's comic touch, as usual, really enlivens the story. Win is definitely everyone's favorite sociopath.[return][return]The plot is excellent with a gratifying number of twists and turns. The climax is completely unexpected and well-written; the ending, quite appropriately, is somewhat somber and a little ambivalent.[return][return]There are aspects of the plot, however, that do not tie up neatly at the end, and that left me uncomfortable trying to figure out just exactly how they actually did fit in to the overall plot. There is a brief and pretty superficial look at the price sports superstars pay for their celebrity status that is crucial to the plot.[return][return]As always, Myron and Win are the chief attractions in a highly entertaining--many times truly funny--book. Highly recommended for a good, light read.

Olivermagnus says

Fade Away is the third book in the Myron Bolitar series. Myron is a sports agent and former FBI agent, but ten years ago was a top NBA draft choice until a serious injury sidelined him in his first preseason game. Myron's former rival, Greg Downing, is now a superstar for the New Jersey Dragons. He's also missing and the owner of the team wants Myron to find him. To do that he gives Myron a place as a substitute on the team. When the trail leads to the bludgeoned corpse of a woman last seen with Greg, Myron, and his best friend and partner, Win, find themselves in real trouble. Win has a penchant for violence and he certainly puts it to use in their investigation.

I enjoyed the plot twists involving Myron's history and the way he has coped with his disappointment over the years. The writing is suspenseful, at the same time, laugh out loud funny. The characters are all multi-dimensional, and the secondary characters of Win and Esperanza, are some of the best I've ever seen. Harlan Coben is a master of great storytelling and suspense. Myron is a fascinating character and I look forward to continuing the rest of this highly addictive series.

Corey says

The Myron Bolitar series just keeps getting better and better by each book! And Myron and Win's characters just seem to get funnier!

In Fade Away, Myron is called on by a Basketball coach to track down Greg Downing, a professional

Basketball player and former rival of Myron, who is the #1 suspect in a woman's murder. But as Myron get more and more involved, the plot thickens and parts of his past come back to haunt him.

Towards the end of the book when I thought it was going in a certain direction, it's like, BAM! I never saw that coming! A highly entertaining mystery!

Suzanne says

I very much have missed Myron Bolitar, but feel I must have waited too long in between books (and I did skip this one and read number 4 first, I was not happy about this). I wasn't as excited about this book as I would have hoped, Win and Myron did have the same humour and bantering as always, but I was missing something. An easy read as always, and an added bonus to read about Myron's knee injury which crushed his career. Understanding the source of this left for a great segway into the next title with Win promising something dark in terms of payback. Still looking forward to the rest, unsure if I will ever get to the Mickey spin off, so many books, so little time! But no fear.. HC is still one of my few 'go to' authors!

Bonnie says

This book is just one of the books featuring main character Myron Bolitar. Being released soon: Long Lost, the most recent addition to Coben's list of Myron books. The others are: Promise Me, Drop Shot, Gone for Good, One False Move...

Going to the beach? Want to escape into an entertaining, well-written story? Choose any book by Harlan Coben, but those Myron Bolitar stories became contagious for me for quite a while -- and a while ago.

That's why I have added Long Lost to my to-read shelf. I'll read it this summer; see what's new with that character with the great sense of humour.

Phrynne says

Another excellent book in this series. I am now a fully subscribed Harlan Coben fan and I will continue to read about Myron until he stops writing them. I enjoyed getting to know the characters better, I was totally engrossed in the story and I laughed out loud at some off the funny comments. There are a couple of lines right at the end about what Win does next which were great. Karma at its best. Loved it.

Gary says

Hmm. I am enjoying some of it. Two serious problems in the writing is that sometimes characters get out of character, and things happen that aren't strong enough to justify themselves.

Tony says

Harlan Coben- Fade Away (Dell Publishing 1998) 4.75 Stars

The life of a famous basketball star should be wonderful, lots of money and a big home, but when Greg Downing disappears blood is discovered in his basement and it appears that his life may not have been so perfect after all. Myron Bolitar is a sports agent and former college ball player who competed against his rival Greg Downing and suspicions are out that Downing set up Myron's career-ending injury, yet he has just been hired to locate the missing star. Now he must wade through the lies, deceit, and violent thugs involved in Downing's life. Suppressed memories of the devastating injury are surfacing as he fights to solve this dangerous mystery. It turns out that solving it may cost him more than he had counted on, it may mean facing his past, and struggling through the present.

Another great read from an author I admire greatly. Harlan Coben knows how to weave a twisting tale of danger and intrigue. The introduction caught my attention and made me want to dig further into the mystery, but it did not stop there. I dug deeper and the pace did not slow down. It was a very interesting plot with really great work by the author to wind the tale in such a way to keep the reader guessing. I also love both Win and Myron as they make a great team. They work so well together and seem to connect on some odd level that helps them understand the other better than they understand themselves. I know I say this each time I read one of this series, but I love the sarcasm used by the author to relieve the tense situations, it makes me chuckle as I read, at times laughing out loud. I think my wife is beginning to wonder about my sanity. The setting was fairly well done, although could have been utilized a little better, not a big enough deal to lower my opinion of the book (pretty much just need to say something negative or it wouldn't look balanced).

I highly recommend Fade Away or any other book in the Myron Bolitar series.

For more of my reviews check out my website, www.tonypeters.webs.com

Tony Peters

Kids on a Case: The Case of the Ten Grand Kidnapping

<http://authortonypeters.blogspot.com/>

Amanda McGill says

Do you ever read a series, or even an author's novels, super slowly because you want to savour every novel and enjoy this adventure that they bring you on? This is how I feel about the Myron Bolitar series. I just can't get enough of it, but I want to enjoy this novels as long as I can.

Myron is back in his old world of basketball. A famous all star basketball player, who also was Myron's rival back in the day, is missing and the owner has hired Myron to find him. Myron needs to work uncover by joining the NBA basketball team, so while trying to find Greg, he also needs to work through his feelings by being back on the court.

The novel was moving well, until the last 50 pages where it just turned amazingly good. I was blown away by the mystery aspect as well as the motive for the crime. I love all of the characters, with my favourite

relationship being Myron and his best friend Win. I think they may be my favourite literary duo.

Another amazing novel. If you haven't read this series, do it!

Matthew says

Oh, Coben, you have done it again. With 20 pages left I was wondering if I was going to give this book more than 3 stars, or if it was going to end up being mediocre. The story is far fetched and highly unbelievable, but I am willing to suspend belief for a few hundred pages of Myron and Win antics.

Then, as the story was winding down - WHAM! BANG! WHAT THE!?! and, without giving anything away, this book earned its 4 star rating in the last 20 pages.

You gotta read this series in order. You will miss out on a lot of subtle nuances if you don't.

Shorty says

Fade Away is so far one of the best novels in this series, that I've read. Not only is Coben really hitting his stride with the characters in this novel, but the twisty-turny plot line kept me enthralled throughout. I listened to this entire audiobook in two sittings, late at night when almost the entire house was asleep, and I had no distractions. Boltar's character is so fleshed out, he seems more real than ever to me, and I adore his sarcastic asides and Bon mot's especially. (And the other characters as well. But NOT the way he made fun of the new receptionist, "Big Cindy"...! That was awful, and Coben should be ashamed of his sizeist attitude! I would hope that Coben's attitude towards larger sized women changes before the next novel.)

Anyway, I snickered more than once, and this does not happen often.

Jonathan Marosz is a great narrator, and I hope he narrates more of The Boltar's series. The reveal at the end of the novel was a real wowser, and I am betting that it will keep me, and many, many other readers and listeners coming back for more. I'm very happy that I kept up with this series, through the first couple of novels in it. This novel is the beginning of the pay off. Please give this series a try, you won't be disappointed.

4 solid stars, and recommended for other lovers of mystery novels.

Mahoghani 23 says

Catchy name to a book. The storyline crisscrosses but makes sense throughout the book. The characters, some good, some bad are entertaining as well as devious. How does an aging sports agent get the opportunity to relieve his glory days? All in the book.

Myron is hired to play on a professional basketball team to secretly locate one of the teams' most valued players. He accosted by the police, news reporters, homeless people, mobsters and teammates but he's still determined to find out what really happened as well as solve a murder.

Julie says

Fade Away by Harlan Coben is a 1996 publication

I'm working my way through the Bolitar series in preparation for the new release due out in a few weeks. I know I have read a few of these prior to joining GR, but I have forgotten large portions of the older titles, and I couldn't remember if I had read this one or not.

As I started reading, bits and pieces began to come back to me, so apparently I have read it, but with a copyright date of 1996, it's no wonder I didn't remember all the minute details, so it was almost like reading it for the first time.

Myron has an opportunity to live the dream of playing professional basketball, which was denied him after a career ending injury. Naturally, there's a catch. Myron's college basketball teammate, and friend, Greg Downing, has gone AWOL and the team is trying to keep it away from the press. Myron gets a spot on the team in order to find out what has really happened to Greg.

Once more Bolitar's humor is striking and by now, the supporting cast is starting gel, with Win's personality shining through in a big way. The plot is a little complex with a few too many characters thrown into the mix, but overall, I enjoyed the mystery, never guessing how it would end. The last paragraph in the book is truly wicked and left me a satisfied grin on my face.

I'm having a great time catching back up with this series, and am looking forward to reading the next one on my list.

4 stars

Harry says

Beginning to exhaust my hunt for the loner, the hunter as a singular and main hero...a new trend seems to be emerging, the disassociation of the hunter and conscientious hero into two separate characters: the main character and his loner side-kick. Several authors embrace this genre motif: Robert Crais's Elvis Cole and his side-kick Joe Pike and of course Harlan Coben's Mylon Bolitar and his elitist side-kick Win.

Of this genre, Coben is probably the most adept at creating complex and winning characters. His portrayal of Myron (conscientious) and Win (borderline Sociopath) is second to none. Again, I devoured these books (in order, as with all series books) and in record time and found myself waking groggy from lack of sleep thanks to Mr. Coben.

P.S. Same review for all the Myron Bolitar novels, if you've read one of my reviews of Bolitar you've read them all. How can I say that? Well, Mr. Coben as with most series authors, is a master at being consistent from one book to another and delivering a sucker punch to his readers everytime.

?Karen says

Maybe 2.5. Not the best in this series. The plot was not bad, but the lame dialog was at times off-putting. I think I like Coben's newer stand alones so much that I expect the same quality in these older books. You can't ignore that fact--these books are old, 90's humor, and were probably hysterical back in the day. Now, not so much.
