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Janet Evanovich

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Three Plums In One: One for the Money, Two for the Dough, Three to Get Deadly (Stephanie Plum Novels)

Three Plums In One Details

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From Reader Review Three Plums In One for online ebook

jeff b olney says

Addicting

Great story, can't put my kindle down. I've read 4 books in a week. I love Grandma Mazur, funniest Gma ever.

Suzanne OBrien says

When you need a laugh

Lucille Ball comes to mind when I read these books because I find myself smiling a good deal of the time. You have a crazy woman bounty hunter in training and everything that can go wrong usually does. Throw in too hunks and you have a great mix.

Macy Sandilands says

Super funny with a little romance thrown in! Quick read! You'll get hooked!

Susan Gazaway says

Funny

I am not crazy about the language but I love a book that makes me laugh out loud. The characters are great and I love the plots.

Lisa Kay says

I had never heard of Janet Evanovich before this. I just ran to the bookstore and grabbed this audio book in a hurry. What a hoot! Very well narrated and even my husband loved them. We laughed all the way on the unplanned road trip.

Evanovich does a hilarious job of blending Stephanie Plum's character as a 'balls of brass' woman with a cute, ditzy amateur who is desperate enough for money to try her hand at bounty hunting...tracking down the man who 'stole' her virginity. It is amazing she can make her heroine both dumb and smart. I've talked with some people who were disappointed because they feel SP is not this shrewd, savvy, experienced investigator.

If you are looking for hardboiled female detectives (that have won Shamus awards) try Karen Kijewski's Kat

Colorado series, Sue Grafton's Kinsey Millhone alphabet soup, Sara Paretsky's Chicagoan V.I. Warshawski, or Linda Barnes' Carlotta Carlyle, a Boston PI (also a 6'1" redhead).

While I like clever female protagonists, I, personally, can take a little inexperience in my heroines especially if she is as spunky as SP. Evanovich's dialogues crackle with many LOL moments and the characters come alive. Yes, beware, there is a little violence towards women, but this is a MURDER mystery.

Danii says

SOO funny!!!

Elaine says

I selected this for a book club intro package, knowing nothing whatsoever about Evanovich or Plum.

What a delightful, refreshing surprise! I long ago tired of both the earnest, hard-working, well-meaning, clean-living devoted wife & mom (Faye Kellerman) and the confused, vulnerable, dysfunctional yet persistent damsel just waiting for the sexy antihero to complete her (Tami Hoag).

No, Stephanie Plum is something else entirely, and I love her. She's a Jersey Girl (which is just one step removed from a Long Island girl, which is where my roots are).

Blue-collar Stephanie has a loving yet remote and silent father; a meddling, narrow-minded yet fiercely protective mother, and best of all, an absolutely over-the-top, brilliant grandmother, who thinks nothing of shooting the "gumpy" off a roast chicken at the dinner table as she tries out her granddaughter's gun.

Stephanie also has the perfect pet, a hamster named Rex, who offers silent counsel from the soup can where he lives. Stephanie needs the protective family, the gun, and the moral support -- all she can get, in fact, because her not-quite-chosen career is bounty hunter.

Stephanie would still be "a discount lingerie buyer for E.E. Martin's" if they hadn't had the bad taste to lay her off. Faced with the prospect of having to pawn all her furniture and appliances or go to work at "the button factory," she instead applies for a job at the office of her very sleazy cousin Vinnie, a bail bondsman. File-clerk opportunities in Vinnie's office are limited and quite unappealing, but Stephanie is offered the chance to go after an "FTA" - Failure to appear. The monetary rewards have the potential to be quite lucrative, depending on the amount of bond posted.

The drawbacks? "Sometimes they don't want to be found, and they shoot at you," she is told. "But that hardly ever happens."

A great deal happens to Stephanie in Evanovich's first three novels, *One for the Money*, *Two for the Dough*, and *Three to Get Deadly*. All of them feature, to one extent or another, her police paramour, Joe Morelli. She and Joe do everything from share pizza and beer over a televised Rangers game to steam up the windows of a vintage Buick.

Stephanie is not shy, not terribly sweet, and far from innocent. As the series continues, she becomes a seasoned bounty hunter. Still, she never stops wondering how all of this happened to her.

Sara Tuschen says

Of the three stories, I like 3 for the Dough the best. I am re-listening to the series. The character are fun in the beginning of the series.

Marla says

I've actually finished the next two books after these three so I'm a little fuzzy on when I finished this one, not to mention, all five books are kind of blended together.

Several bits of information gets repeated in the first several books, but I suppose if someone didn't start at the beginning for some reason, or didn't, like I did, read them all in rush they probably wouldn't have noticed it, while I found it kind of annoying.

At the end of the first three books, I'm still not sold on Morelli, but Ranger on the other hand is made of awesome and needs to be in it more.(which she nicely obliges in the fifth book =D)

C says

Ok, I'm about halfway through the first book. I *should* go back to my other books, but I can't renew it, so that's my excuse to keep reading.

Otherwise, these would be going straight into my stash of "books to read when I need a pick-me-up" along with Terry Pratchett's Night Watch (Discworld) books. I hoard them like a magpie hogging shiny things, and look at them with anticipation of a day when I just need a mental break and something to enjoy. The writing style is flippant, funny and enjoyable. Thanks Dani, Molly & Sherri for the recommendations!

And I've got to say, Grandma is awesome. Having once inadvertently blown the top off a nightstand with a .32, the "dining table" scene had me laughing out loud. My husband was amused as well, but...having been just on the other side of the wall from the nightstand homicide, not QUITE as amused as I was. ;)

Note: now that I'm done with all three:

Book 1 is the best. The rest are fun, though.

I'm not sure what is worse for a hamster: belonging to a kid, or a bounty hunter. Honestly, I think it's a toss up.

Looking forward to book 4.

Linda says

I've seen JE everywhere, but it wasn't until I mentioned it on an Amazon forum, that I got serious about reading the Stephanie Plum series. I bought a used book #1, then found the Three Plums in One at the library. It wouldn't hurt my feelings to cut back on the language, a couple of notches, but I LOVE the books!

Stephanie has lost her job, in book 1, so goes to work for her Cousin Vinnie, as a bounty hunter. She's totally inept, and gets into more trouble than anyone I've ever seen. Her family is a riot, especially Grandma Mazur. Popping in and out is Joe Morelli, who's had a sexual impact on Stephanie, since she was 6. It's a love/hate relationship that will keep you in stitches.

Stephanie slowly becomes better at bounty hunting, but gets herself into all kinds of trouble, along the way. You have to read these to see what I mean, but not many books have ever made me laugh out loud, and certainly not tense, mysteries.

Crystal says

1/7/08: I finished the first book and all I have to say is I am totally hooked. I loved the characters and the storyline. I kept my interest the whole time. If I hadn't needed to do other things, I could have read the whole story in one sitting.

1/15/08: I finished Two for The Dough today. I truly enjoyed this book. A great storyline, excellent pace, everything a chick-lit/mystery should be. It took me 8 days to read because I was a Maid of Honor and had an eye issue. Otherwise, I would have been done in two days. A definite must-read.

3/31/08 I finished Three to Get Deadly. While it wasn't one of my favorites out of the three, I did enjoy it. I finished it in 2 days and it was just what I needed to read at the time.

Peyton Banks says

First book was meh. The second book was much better. The third book was pretty alright too. In general, this series seems to lack pacing and I think the romance is lacking. I simply don't feel the chemistry between Stephanie and Morelli. I also really hated that we are repeatedly told that Morelli is so hot that his coercive sexual advances on Stephanie in her youth are an example of him being too sexy to deny rather than him being gross and coercive. I don't think that is okay. I also didn't like the way homosexuality was portrayed and reacted to in the third book. To be fair, this was written quite a while ago and I'm sure that things improved as the stories continued.

That being said, Stephanie and Rex make these books. The characters (outside of the love interests, imho) are so incredibly well done and interesting. They make the issues with pacing and plot more than bearable even when the pacing is at its worst.

Overall, I found book two really compelling and fun. It was 3 stars for me just because of some issues I had

with the writing, but it was super fun to read. Book one verged on 2 stars and book three was solidly 3 stars.

Laina says

This was your BGB -- or basic good book; nothing earth shattering but very enjoyable. Good beach reading material.

Stephanie Plum is a very likable character.

One for the Money.

The story opens with Stephanie having lost her job as a lingerie buyer six months out, making her in desperate need of incoming cash. (But having lived the majority of my life in Jersey, I have to say, why anyone would have lived in Trenton and commuted up to Newark is practically inconceivable. Ugh!)

Anyway, through her family, Stephanie finagles a week long gig with her cousin's jail bond business. In that week, she manages to learn enough about bounty hunting to turn it into a career move. Her first assignment is to locate a cop accused of murder. It ends about how I expected it to.

You can tell this will be a charming series, the way her family and community all fit together in a bunch of forehead slapping episodes.

Two for the Dough

Janet Evanchoich has a knack for being able to write slap-stick comedy, as Stephanie Plum has the uncanny ability to be in the right place at the right time and still have everything go wrong.

Her mission this time is to track down Kenny Mancuso, who happens to be related to Joe Morelli, her love/hate acquaintance since childhood. Kenny has allegedly shot his pal Moogey in the kneecap, but failed to appear in court, so it's up to the bounty hunter to get her man before cousin Vinnie blows a blood vessel.

Of course, nothing is as simple as it seems, and soon she's coffin hunting, visiting funeral parlors and, just to make life interesting, body parts keep turning up in inconvenient and unexpected places. It's her most dangerous case yet, and this time Grandma Mazur's life is also at stake.

This is funny and fast moving, and is a quick, enjoyable read: Nice brain candy.

After reading the first three-in-one volume, I listened to a few more in the series on audiobook.

Jennifer says

Well, I got through the first two books before returning it to the library. Just haven't had a lot of time to read lately. I don't like this series as much as, say, Jame's Patterson's "Women's Murder Club" series; however, I

do like it enough to continue reading. I feel like it could more suspense and a faster pace. Not bad, though!

Annette Tang says

Talk about your guilty pleasures, or would guilty hilarity be more accurate? I can't remember the last time I laughed so hard at a book! I thought I was going to pee my pants when Granny shot that chicken. And I think people in Trenton, NJ and people in DeRidder, LA must have something in common.

On a less flattering note, I didn't like all the swearing, but after a while my mind didn't read them, almost like my eyes were editing, and I could skip right over without registering the words. Weird, hey? I feel sort of naughty for having read them (not kinky naughty, just the regular kind). Still. Very funny.

Carolyn F. says

First off, I love Lori Petty's narration and I'm sad that she didn't do any more beyond the first 3 books. I really enjoyed these audiobooks, and if you like Janet Evanovich's books, I think you'll love the audiobooks.

One For the Money - Stephanie is laid-off and looking for a way to make money quick because her car's just been repossessed and she has no food in the fridge. She becomes a bail-bondsman for a cousin and her first job is an old boyfriend who was her first. This book was not only funny but some of the characters were downright psychotic scary. Very good book.

Two For the Dough - Stephanie and Joe Morelli are looking for Joe's cousin, who is a psycho. Now the cousin is after Stephanie and her grandmother. Funny story. Hated thinking about the way this guy hurt her grandmother, but all done with humor.

Three to Get Deadly - This one is about vigilantes gone wrong. And finally Stephanie and Joe start to take their relationship to another level.

Macjest says

I saw the movie for One For the Money this weekend and decided to go back and reread. My library had this three books in one so I decided to reread all three. Still just as funny especially when Grandma Mazur shoots the chicken. Stephanie and Lula working together is easily the best part of book three.

Carla says

Series to read.

Love the Stephanie Plum Books. Would recommend to anyone who likes mystery and humor. Become a

Morelli or Ranger fan.

Katie says

This was my introduction to Janet Evanovich. As it turns out, the character of Stephanie Plum was very engaging. The mystery itself didn't really interest me very much, since I spent the whole book wondering why she was investigating the murder at all...it being outside the scope of her job description, and all. When you're weaned on Agatha Christie's Poirot mysteries, most other mysteries will seem lame and poorly thought out in comparison. However, this was still a very entertaining listen.

Unfortunately, it was ruined at the very end because this otherwise decently-written book succumbs to the extremely annoying "villain explains the entire plot to the hero instead of just killing him/her" syndrome. My respect for the book and its author plummeted at that point.

However, I decided to give the book 4 stars because, after it was over, I learned that it was the abridged version. Maybe, just maybe, the heroine actually figures some stuff out on her own before that "just between you and me" scene (<http://tv tropes.org/pmwiki/pmwiki.php...>), but I doubt it.

And since this is the abridged version, I didn't listen to the second two books in the case. Unabridged only for me, folks! :)
