



## Confess, Fletch

*Gregory McDonald*

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The flight from Rome had been pleasant enough, even if the business he was on wasn't exactly. His Italian fiancée's father had been kidnapped and presumably murdered, and Fletch is on the trail of a stolen art collection that is her only patrimony. But when he arrives in his apartment to find a dead body, things start to get complicated.

Confess, Fletch

Inspector Flynn found him a little glib for someone who seemed to be the only likely suspect in a pretty clear case of homicide. He wasn't exactly uncooperative, but it wasn't like he was entirely forthcoming either. And Flynn wasn't entirely convinced that the nineteenth-century Western artist Edgar Arthur Tharp really occupied most of Fletch's thoughts.

Confess, Fletch

With the police on his tail and a few other things to do beside prove his own innocence, Fletch makes himself at home in Boston, renting a van, painting it black, and breaking into a private art gallery. That is when he's not "entertaining" his future mother-in-law and visiting with the good Inspector Flynn and his family.

## Confess, Fletch Details

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Author : Gregory McDonald

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## From Reader Review Confess, Fletch for online ebook

### Connie N. says

#2 in the Fletch mystery series

I remember reading these books years ago and finding them entertaining and funny. But so far this time around, I'm not finding the humor. Fletch is an investigative reporter, so he's good at solving mysteries. In this case he's engaged to a young Italian woman, and he's come to Boston to search for the missing art collection that was stolen from her after her father's kidnapping and supposed-death (although there's some question about that, which is why the police aren't really looking for the paintings or allowing the will to be read). Soon after Fletch arrives in Boston, he finds a woman's dead body in the apartment he's staying at, which puts him under suspicion. The cop who's investigating the murder is new to the force and works in an unconventional way. He's Irish, has a very gentle and convivial manner, but he quietly gets the job done. So while Fletch is trying to search for the paintings, Inspector Flynn is keeping an eye on Fletch. I was actually confused through much of the book since I didn't really understand Fletch's motivation. Since it wasn't clear what he was doing, it didn't make sense (to me) why he was using such a complicated cloak-and-dagger routine. All became clear at the end and was actually quite interesting, but I was clueless until that point. Flynn was actually the star of the book with his amusing comments and off-hand remarks. All that being said, the book was a quick read and kept me turning the pages. I'll probably continue with the series, but not right away.

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### Sandy Adams says

#### Fletch does it again!

Trouble manages to find our flippant hero as he hunts for stolen art. Unfortunately he is severely hampered by an unlikely cop who believes Fletch is responsible for the dead woman found in his apartment. Another fun whodunit.

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### Brian O'Leary says

A huge disappointment after that awesome first book.

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### Cathy DuPont says

What a fun ride this was.

*Confess, Fletch* is number two in the Fletch series and he's getting married. Again. Even after all the alimony problems he had in *Fletch*. Duh, it's Fletch, he won't learn.

He's been living in Italy but flew to Boston to try to locate his fiancee's stolen inheritance, priceless pieces of

art including a Picasso and Degas sculpture.

Apparently he's no longer a working stiff, investigative reporter for the Chicago Times. But it's Fletch and he just can't give it up, investigating especially when he's the number one suspect. But he can't find the priceless art if he's in jail, so trying to find the real murderer and the art work at the same time...and then women, his downfall.

Chevy Chase played Fletch in the movie and here are some lines from the movie I thought you would like...the lines are much like lines in the book, too.

**Fletch:** It was something your wife said while we were in bed together. She said we had the same build. From the waist up I imagine.

**Gail** You ordered lunch to my room.

**Fletch:** Well, I knew that's where my mouth would be.

### **Chevy Chase as Fletch is the Movie with the same title**

This series is such a fun ride...easy reading; fun characters, well-drawn, too; sharply developed storyline which unfolds like the pages of the book; and quick and witty lines.

When I got towards the end, I laughed out loud. Last time I remember doing that was an early Elvis Cole. This was just a fun ride from the first page to the last page.

Thanks to my Goodreads friend and author Harv Griffin who shared with me his TwitterArt and how I looked when I laughed at final resolution. It was just a lot of fun to read, like the first book.

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My happy face!

*I'm not even counting the number of times I used 'fun' in this short review, but dammit, it was...fun, that is*

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### **Birdie Duplessis says**

Very Good storyline, I really enjoy McDonald's character development. Very different storyline from the first Fletch. Great ending

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## **Dipanjan says**

"Confess, Fletch" is the 2nd appearance of Fletch, an investigative reporter who happens to be intelligent, cocky, obnoxious, witty and always a step ahead. Breaking rules and flying in the face of convention does have its rewards and "Confess, Fletch" just demonstrates how brilliantly it is done. It features a naked corpse right on our protagonist, a strange list of morally challenged suspects and an eccentric police detective, an enormous Irish cop with the fondness for chamomile tea and Bach. The way all these are delicately balanced within the framework of the Fletch world truly shows what a master of the craft Mr. McDonald was.

"Confess, Fletch" was published in 1974 and it went on to win the Edgar Award again (the first book "Fletch" had also won an Edgar award). It's interesting to note that this is the only time that a book and its sequel have achieved this feat. This is probably because the sequel "Confess, Fletch" didn't just replicate the qualities of its predecessor but altered the terrain vastly. The Fletch of the first novel was an underpaid reporter, hounded by editors, dodging divorce lawyers and generally dressed in jeans and T-Shirts. Due to the incidents in the first book, he shows up this time as a man of fine tastes, impeccably groomed in tweeds and expensive lifestyle choices. However, he is still an incorrigible non-conformist who is consistently one step ahead of his adversaries and a melting pot of cockiest one-liners.

Also, in this book we get introduced to Inspector Flynn who is notorious in his reluctance to make an arrest until he is sure of the guilt of the suspect. You may want to keep in mind that while introducing Inspector Flynn, the author had a spin-off in his mind. Inspector Flynn is also a non-conformist and has tremendous wit. However, unlike Fletch, Inspector Flynn is a happily married man with four children. He was also a spy during the World War II times. Now this is what makes the book superb – a battle of wits between two very strong and similar characters. Inspector Flynn went on to star in his own series of books.

The reader will devour this book because they are brisk, tightly written plots, well positioned narrative which, at times, are outrageously funny. The main pillar of this book is a murder mystery that gets initiated with a corpse in Fletch's room. Now add the threads of missing paintings, Fletch's upcoming marriage, a random arsonist in action and a unique equation between Fletch and Flynn. In the end, the author pulls all this together into one fantastic precision to a very satisfying climax.

The setup in "Confess, Fletch" is as odd as in the first book. Fletch's usual attitude oozes out from the very beginning. There is plenty brains, plenty cockiness and the women are ravishing. Fletch continues to border between naughty and wicked. He is still a master of entrapment.

You can't miss this series. So looking forward to the next Fletch Run.

P.S - Please avoid the movie. It's complete garbage compared to the wonder of the reading experience. Chevy Chase is an absolute disaster of casting and the film maker had no idea of what Fletch stories are how they are supposed to be told.

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## **Eric Pedersen says**

### **Twists & Turns**

A story filled with twists & turns. It's only in the last few pages that the author shares all the details with you and lets you in on the mystery.

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### **Dave says**

In *Confess*, Fletch, the second book of the series, McDonald offers us another taste of a reworking of a classic pulp theme. As many pulp novels begin, this book begins with the main character discovering a beautiful naked woman in his rental, dead. Normally, in a pulp, you'd have the main character hiding the corpse and furiously covering his tracks and fleeing into the night because he knows that all the evidence points to him. The story has femme fatales, murder, kidnapping, lunches, seductions, international intrigue, and all kinds of fascinating characters.

What turns that classic set-up on its head, however, is that Fletch isn't too concerned with being charged with murder. He has other things on his mind like stolen paintings, a countess who wants to seduce him, his fiancé in Italy, and other things. So we have his calm conversations with Inspector Flynn and the cat and mouse game they play with each other as Fletch calmly goes about his business. This is not an action-packed story. There aren't car chases and gunfights. It's a much more subtle story. But it's really good and a real satisfying read.

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### **Rob Daliege says**

The first Fletch novel is still my favorite but this one was fun enough to warrant giving another novel from the series a go.

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### **Diane says**

I read this about 30 years ago, along with a number of other McDonald books, and I recently got the urge to rediscover McDonald's Flynn novels. Flynn first appears in this Fletch story. It was great fun reading it again. The dialogue between Fletch and Flynn is a delight. It hasn't lost its charm, and it doesn't seem as dated as I feared it might.

I have had to buy battered second hand copies of all the books because not all of them are still in print, but now I'm set up for reading the set. Next is: "Flynn".

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### **Daniel Beckwith says**

meeeh, this was an ok one.

I mean still a good book, but not quite as good as the first. I liked how he's still got all his money from the first one and he didn't just go back and be an investigative journalist some more.

It was a little far-fetched. I didn't see the ending coming of this one either, but it was so far out of left field

that I wasn't really impressed when it was all revealed.

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### **Alicia says**

I didn't even realize this book was part of a series so I have nothing to compare it to but I very much enjoyed it.

The mystery had me hooked, I had to keep reading to find out who done it and the dialogue was brilliantly written. It's a witty, laugh out loud kind of mystery that I would definitely recommend.

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### **Morgan says**

This second title in the Fletch series is entertaining, but missing a bit of the sly, clever, and morally ambiguous Fletch of book one. Fletch himself really makes these books, and I felt a little less in his head in this installment. Ah well, on to book three!

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### **James Bateman says**

Others have summarized it better than I will. Quick paced, cynical, slightly dated, and a fun read. I recommend the series!

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### **Patrick says**

So clever. Nothing like the first but so good.

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