



## In for the Kill

*John Lutz*

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## **In for the Kill** John Lutz

New York Times bestseller Frank Quinn, the relentless detective who made his debut in John Lutz's acclaimed thriller "Darker Than Night, " faces his toughest--and most personal--case yet. . .

An Invitation Written In Blood. . .

A madman is stalking women in the city. By the time his victims are found, they've been dismembered with careful precision, their limbs stacked into a gruesome pyramid and completely cleansed of every last drop of blood.

To Catch A Killer--Or Die Next. . .

Accustomed to working on the most grisly homicides, detective Frank Quinn's nerves don't rattle easily. But when the last names of the killer's victims spell out "Q-u-i-n-n," the veteran cop feels a chill run down his spine. Then a fresh victim is linked to the one woman Quinn can't stop desiring. Hunting down killers is what Quinn does best. But this time, Quinn is up against a psychopath that will test him as never before. . .

"Lutz is one of the masters."--Ridley Pearson

"A major talent."--John Lescroart

"I've been a fan for years."--T. Jefferson Parker

## **In for the Kill Details**

Date : Published (first published 2007)

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Author : John Lutz

Format : Kindle Edition

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# From Reader Review In for the Kill for online ebook

## Bridgit says

This was a nice, mindless fast-paced read. The plot wasn't particularly original or frightening - it was in fact a bit repetetive - but it was definitely an enjoyable read. I was left a little annoyed at all of the loose ends and pointless plotlines...(vibrating cell phones - where was the tie in..., relationship between brothers? disconnected family background of the killer, how did the killer actually leave a single fingerprint when he wears gloves? Why does Quinn's daughter seem to sleep with ever man in the book? And what the heck is the Butcher's fascination with Quinn - as far as we are told, there is no prior interaction, so why spell out the name of a retired police officer...

Despite all the questions, it was entertaining if you just want a quick police-procedural.

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## Momreadstoomuch says

Lutz did it again!! Just plain awesomeness.

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## Brian O'Leary says

Great main character, good writing in the serial killer genre, easy read with good pacing.

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## Matt Cowper says

The amount of filler in this novel was disappointing. Lutz is an adept enough writer, but he chooses to toss in endless points-of-view (most of them ultimately pointless, since it's obvious when a woman is going to get killed off) and a ho-hum backstory about the serial killer.

The good guys, the folks we should root for, are...drab. Quinn is your typical grizzled cop. Pearl is the quick-tempered, buxom love interest. Feds is the rumpled cop. Renz is the PR-conscious boss. None of them did much of interest. Pearl has the most interesting story – or I should say the most titillating. Her actions are unprofessional and mystifying, and the fact that she gets off with a slap on the wrist boggles the mind.

The serial killer is just another serial killer. His murders are shockingly gruesome, which does raise the stakes, but there isn't much to distinguish him from a host of other fictional killers. His flashback sections drag on and on, for reasons I can't ascertain. His grievances with his mother could've been explained in a few chapters of him reminiscing instead of transporting us back in time for pages and pages.

Again, I question why Lutz used so many female victim POVs, and why he has Team Quinn trot off to basically identical crime scenes over and over. I don't need to read Nift, the medical examiner, explaining how this crime scene is the same as the last one – just like he explained how the last one was the same as the one before that.

The police work (if you want to call it that) isn't exactly top-tier. Team Quinn interviews people, then waits until they're called to the next murder scene. The climax only happens because the cops forget fairly obvious points regarding building construction, and because one of the cops doesn't think it's necessary to inform Quinn that his own daughter is in the same hotel as the "Mom bait" operation. I realize this is fiction, but please, don't run completely off the rails.

This novel is able to keep a three-star rating mainly because Lutz is a technically sound writer. Most of the descriptions are outstanding, and most of the observations and social commentary are spot-on. I just wish the story was better structured, and that the "WTF" moments were culled.

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### **Frank says**

A good serial-killer thriller in the Frank Quinn series. This is the second in the series and the second I have read. A really fast-paced engrossing thriller even though it was quite long at 477 pages. The book is about a very nasty killer of young women who drowns his victims, then dissects them and cleans all the body parts in a bathtub, leaving the parts neatly stacked for the police. Frank Quinn is called out of retirement to try to catch the killer along with Pearl and Fedderman who assisted on the previous case as related in *Darker Than Night*. After several of the killings, it is noted that the killer is spelling out QUINN using his victims' last names. Can Quinn and his team stop the killings before he strikes again? And will Quinn's daughter become a victim of the killer? The novel also delves into the mind of the killer and how what happened to him as a child affected him for life. Overall, a good page-turner with a sicko villain!

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### **Wendy says**

Serial killer taunts the police in such a way that they bring back retired detective Frank Quinn and his team of 2 other retired detectives. The Butcher drowns his victims, dismembers them, neatly stacks the body parts in the tub, and scours the bathroom to a spotless shine with any cleaning product in the apartment. The initials of the victims spell Quinn's name.

This was a 3.5 book. It was a little longer than needed; we didn't need all of the details on each new victim. And I'm not sure the sub-plot about Quinn's daughter was needed (unless that will develop in future stories). The level of suspense and action, especially the back story of The Butcher, were well kept until the mother came to NYC. Still, I'll try another by Mr. Lutz because I did enjoy this book.

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### **Marti says**

It is the old dismemberment ploy--not sure why the killer does this. It gives three retired cops something to do. Quinn's daughter gets mixed up with a killer.

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### **Pat says**

I didn't like this as much as the first book in the series. The plot was pretty predictable, painfully so. I also

had an issue with the three lead investigators, who are all former but no longer current police officers, being given the running on such a high profile case and still working it without much supervision after eight murders and still no leads. Although the killings could have been rather gruesome and or terrifying they were written really dispassionately, as if we were reading a weather forecast. So it was kind of boring, oh another death - same again, ho hum.

The twist was OK but the rest of the story was a bit lame. I'm not sure if I'll continue with this series now.

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### **Stacey Nelson says**

The story was so good. The killer's past was intriguing and his murders were unlike any I've read about. He will definitely have me looking at the FedEx man differently from now on, haha. But the ending!! What a waste of opportunity, of great story telling! There were so many missing pieces, so much left out. It was rushed into a few pages of complete let down. I mean it had such potential to be a 5 star book! Nevertheless, John Lutz is still an author I will read because he def has the fear factor and originality.

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### **Steve Sawczyn says**

Another fantastic suspense, absolutely loved it.

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### **Davin says**

One cool book. Lutz is now on my list of authors to read. This was my first book from him and it was great. Get on the train and hold on because this book will take you for a ride. Harlan Coben said Lutz is a hell of an author and I agree with him. I encourage you to read this book.

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### **Lien says**

Sebuah novel thriller dengan 72 bab ini cukup menarik dari segi cover maupun ceritanya. Suguhan adegan per adegan pembunuhan secara sadis dengan korban semua perempuan (lajang dan rata-rata berambut cokelat) dilakukan sangat rapi oleh "si jagal" begitu disebut, membuat teka-teki yang harus dipecahkan oleh Frank Quinn bersama timnya Pearl Kasner dan Fedderman, mereka ditunjuk secara langsung oleh Deputy Kepala Kepolisian New York, Harley Renz.

Cerita dengan alur maju dan alur mundur (ke era 1979) membuat kita menebak-nebak siapa sebenarnya Dia "si jagal" dan masa lalunya, kejutan demi kejutan di bab demi bab yang diciptakan oleh pengarang John Lutz bikin mata serasa gak ngantuk (jadi pengen cepat diselesaikan bacanya :D ) Akhirnya well.. cukuplah 3 bintang saya sematkan karena agak kecewa sedikit endingnya, tapi.. kapan-kapan tetap pengen baca Frank Quinn series book berikutnya :D

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## **Brandon Bundy says**

A fascinating novel for most of the journey. I found the twist regarding Joe Jeb to be welcome, both the first and the last. Quinn was entertaining by and large, as was Pearl, Fedderman, and even Nift had his moments. The interactions between them kept me entertained. It was also pleasant to see the expansion of events in the latter half of the novel as they unfolded.

Having said that, I find it hard to believe that for each of the Butcher's victims(barring the last, and Ms. Nelson), they were so gullible as to open the door for him just because he had a nice face and a box in hand and attempted to convey himself as a deliveryman. The first I could tolerate, the second I felt my suspension of disbelief beginning to crack, and by the third I was simply out of patience with their self-same mistake even after the warnings had gone out into the general public.

I must also confess myself disappointed that the Butcher deviated from the norm with Lauri. It does make sense that he would keep her around as a bargaining chip, but I cannot help but wonder, given his history with women, how likely the police would be to believe he had not already dealt with her as he had all of the rest if they cornered him by his lonesome self? And that it was Wormy of all people who caused the Butcher to fail in his task... well, I can find that at least to be amusing after all of the Butcher's effort.

I have enjoyed In for the Kill and I expect I'll look into more work by Mr. John Lutz ahead. I can only hope that the future murder victims are a tad more bright instead of much of the same cookie-cutter naive trust in a complete stranger.

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## **Neil says**

This is a book I recommend to anyone who enjoys to read about serial killers. Outstanding book and the kind you just can't put down.

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## **Patricia says**

What a SAD Ending...

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