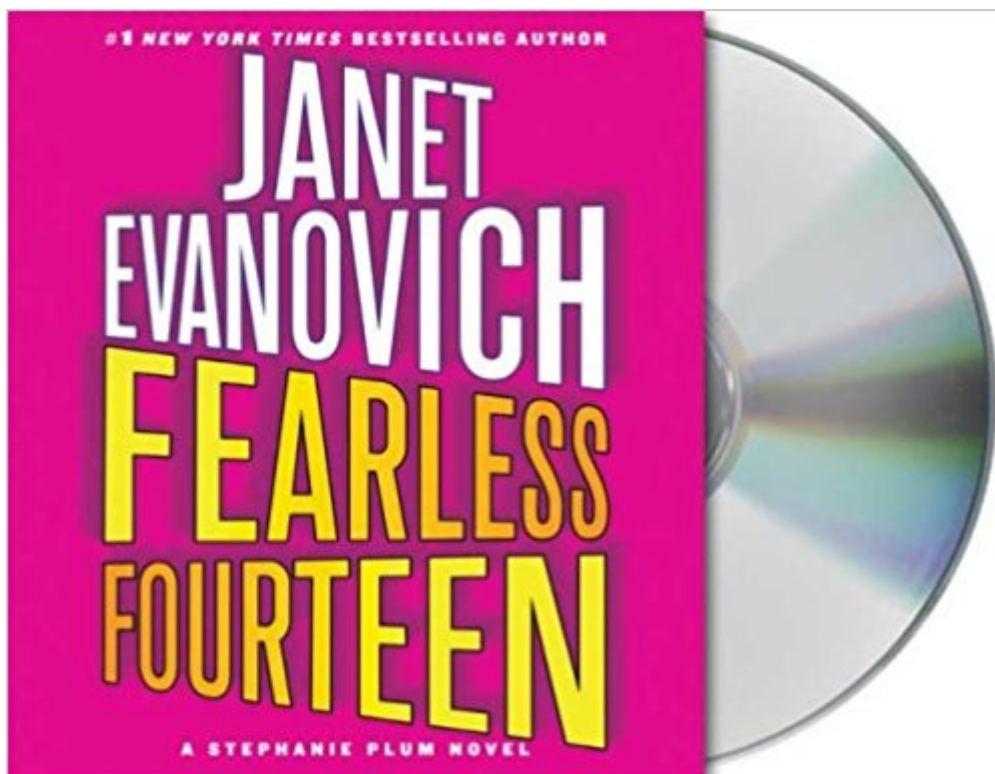




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Fearless Fourteen (Stephanie Plum, No. 14)



Synopsis

Personal vendettas, hidden treasure, and a monkey named Carl will send bounty hunter Stephanie Plum on her most explosive adventure yet.

The Crime: Armed robbery to the tune of nine million dollars. Dom Rizzi robbed a bank, stashed the money, and did the time. His family couldn't be more proud. He always was the smart one.

The Cousin: Joe Morelli, Dom Rizzi, and Dom's sister, Loretta, are cousins. Morelli is a cop, Rizzi robs banks, and Loretta is a single mother waiting tables at the firehouse. The all-American family.

The Complications: Murder, kidnapping, destruction of personal property, and acid reflux. Less than a week after Dom's release from prison, Joe Morelli has shadowy figures breaking into his house and dying in his basement. He's getting threatening messages, Loretta is kidnapped, and Dom is missing.

The Catastrophe: Moonman. Morelli hires Walter "Mooner" Dunphy, stoner and "inventor" turned crime fighter, to protect his house. Morelli can't afford a lot on a cop's salary, and Mooner will work for potatoes.

The Cupcake: Stephanie Plum. Stephanie and Morelli have a long-standing relationship that involves sex, affection, and driving each other nuts. She's a bond enforcement agent with more luck than talent, and she's involved in this bank-robbery-gone-bad disaster from day one.

The Crisis: A favor for Ranger. Security expert Carlos Manoso, street name Ranger, has a job for Stephanie that will involve night work. Morelli has his own ideas regarding Stephanie's evening activities.

The Conclusion: Only the fearless should listen to Fourteen. Thrills, chills, and incontinence may result.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Starred Review. Lorelei King returns to Trenton, N.J., to continue the misadventures of Stephanie Plum, intermittently successful bounty hunter. King is one of many to voice Janet Evanovich's successful series, but her voice can be heard above the crowd, especially when she's bringing the more colorful characters to life. Her former prostitute Lula can tear down walls with the force of her personality, and King gives professional security specialist (read mercenary) Ranger the measured tones of one who is always in control. Stephanie spends much of the book blue from a briefcase dye bomb. King's Plum accepts her blueness and responds to the reactions with indignity, ruefulness and eventually resignation. In addition to established favorites, Evanovich has thrown into the mix a 60-ish singer trying to hang onto fame who gives King plenty of scope for her Southern side. Fearless Fourteen becomes peerless fourteen with narrator King at the helm. A St. Martin's hardcover (Reviews, May 19). (June) Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to an alternate Audio CD edition.

Our heroine, the irrepressible bounty hunter Stephanie Plum, finds herself watching over a goth teen called Zook, who is heavily into gaming, after his mom can't make bail and disappears (or has been kidnapped). A lot of people think there is stolen money buried in or near Officer Morelli's little house—that's Steph's Morelli, the cop who is her number-one boyfriend most of the time, or at least when the entrancing Ranger isn't nearby. The money is the reason behind Zook's mom's disappearance, and it's the tie that binds Evanovich's various plotlines, which carom about endlessly, not always resolving. Questions abound: Are Steph's sidekick, the plus-size Lula, and Ranger's man Tank really engaged? Ranger is working security for a fading but brassy pop star: How does Steph manage to get into and out of her reality show? Can Zook and his sidekicks protect Morelli's house—and Stephanie—with their homegrown weaponry (think potatoes as missiles)? Where else but Evanovich's fourteenth novel can a line like "it's raining money and popsicles!" actually make sense? Fans will be delighted, but others, who stumble into the series at this advanced point, may find themselves starved for backstory, so much so that they may need to go all the way back to *One for the Money* (1994). --GraceAnne A. DeCandido --This text refers to an alternate Audio CD edition.

The last two books have had some negative reviews which made me hesitate before I bought them. Frankly I'm not sure what bothered them. The reviewers indicated they were fans and had read all

of the books but we're disappointed in this one. There are similar reviews for #13 too. Having finished both books I can say that everything I love about the series is intact. It makes me smile and laugh out loud. It leaves me wanting to spend more time with the characters. It reminds me we are all a little wacky and makes me appreciate the quirkiness in myself and my own family. It is the perfect read for just taking some time to relax and enjoy yourself! If you are a fan go ahead you will enjoy this book. If you are just starting it is more fun to go back and start with #1!

Stephanie Plum is continuing with her history of hunting down criminals and blowing up cars in Fearless Fourteen, the fourteenth adventure in the series by Janet Evanovich. This time her main suspect is Loretta, who stole alcohol and failed to turn up for her court date. In the process of apprehending Loretta and getting her re-bonded, she becomes involved in an adventure involving Loretta's brother, Dom, who is looking to recover his robbery earnings now that he's out of jail. However one of his partner-in-crime wants the money and is impatient, resorting to kidnapping Loretta to get what he wants. Stephanie (and Morelli and Ranger) must work together to try and recover Loretta and the stolen money in time. I love the Stephanie Plum books because they are so outrageous laugh-out-loud funny. There isn't as much "substance" to them as some of the other mysteries I read, but they do deliver in the laughs department, and Fearless Fourteen was no exception. While there was no car bombings or explosions, we did have a house bombing, a monkey that likes to hump and a aging star that likes to get intoxicated and is looking for husband #6. So needless to say there is plenty of action and lots of laughs!!! I liked this Stephanie Plum adventure. There are hints towards a future between Stephanie and Morelli, and it will be interesting to see if that plays out. While I'm hoping Stephanie might choose Ranger down the track, right now I'm happy to read about her love life with Morelli. There wasn't as much "mystery" with this one but there were lots of laughs, including Grandma Mazur playing the role of a goth gamer, and for this reason it was a solid 4-star read for me!

I have to say I enjoyed this book. I recently got into the Plum series books and haven't stopped since I started the first one, sometimes reading a book a day. Therefore, I was reluctant on starting this book from the reviews I'd read. After reading the book, I have to say I disagree with most of the reviews. I think people saying "goodbye to my favorite series" are being dramatic. While this book wasn't as exciting as the others, it wasn't as bad as some of the reviews make it out to be. I do agree that I wish Grandma Mazur was in the book a bit more. However, Grandma Mazur, Ranger and

even Morelli are side characters. Stephanie is the main character of these books and sometimes the other characters are going to be scarce and that's something you just have to deal with. But, having Mooner back was a treat. I think his character is funny and adds comic relief to the story line. I also agree with the fact that I didn't like that we don't know (and am guessing never will) who the toes belonged to. Dom's mom? A random lady? Not getting to know who's they were after it being mentioned several times was kind of upsetting. All in all, if you've read the other thirteen books, give fourteen a shot and form your own opinions. There were plenty of laugh out loud moments and interesting story lines.

Dom Rizzi and his untrustworthy partners robbed a bank some years ago and stole 9 million dollars that the police could not recover, even though they got Rizzi. Rizzi is finally out of jail and it is time to divide the money amongst the partners, but Rizzi disappears as most of his partners drop dead. Stephanie gets involved because she has to take care of Rizzi's nephew - who looks like Morelli a little too much - while his mother is waiting to be bonded. To make things even more interesting, the money may be hidden inside Morelli's house where she is keeping the kid safe. I understand why the title has "fearless" in it as Stephanie is getting more "professional" at what she does, and calls the shots even when it means facing an angry Morelli. I do not think the story was as inspired as some of the previous ones, but it is immensely entertaining and that is the reason I keep reading this series. I like the characters (I felt for Tank during this one!), and I am always amused by the storyline. If I am too tired or just feeling low, Stephanie never fails to make me laugh out loud.

Janet Evanovich has great characters. Granny Mazur is the best, and always brings so much fun to the story. Great storyline and Joe being Joe.

Good read. I love the Stephanie Plum series. This one wasn't as exciting, as the last were, but still entertaining to read. On to #15!

Laugh out loud parts. Note this series is not serious or intellectual. Stephanie Plum books are one of my little guilty pleasures.

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