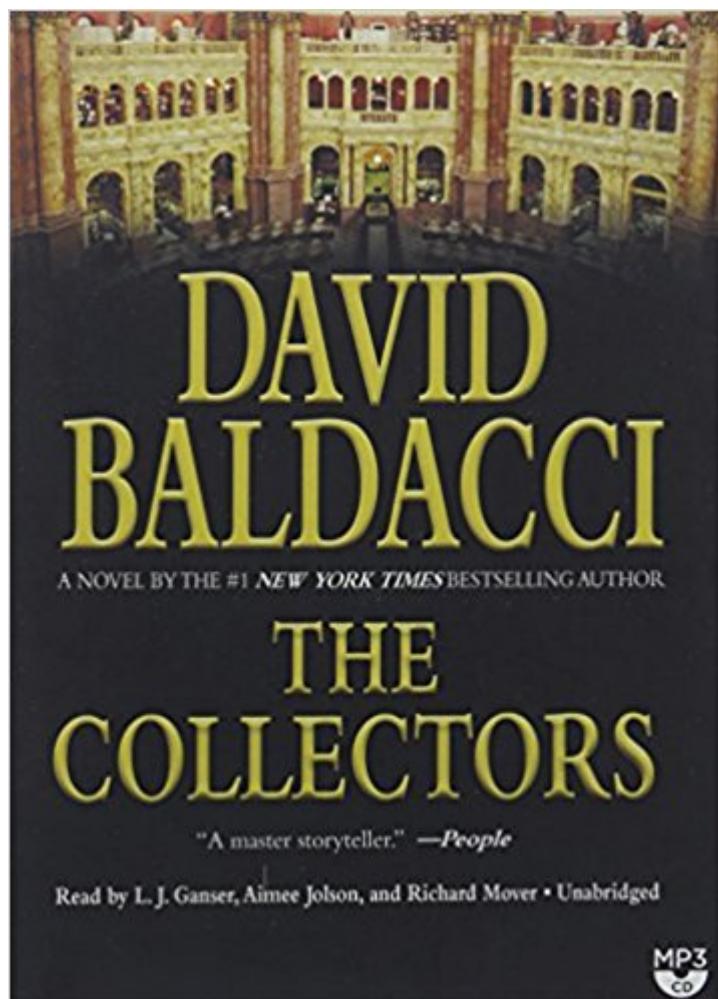


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The Collectors (Camel Club)



Synopsis

The assassination of the speaker of the house has rocked the nation, and the Camel Club has found a chilling connection with another death: that of the director of the Library of Congress Rare Books and Special Collections Division. Oliver Stone and his Camel Club are soon in a race to stop a man who is determined to auction off America to the highest bidder: Roger Seagraves is selling America to his enemies, one devastating secret at a time. On a local level, Annabelle Conroy, the most gifted con artist of her generation, is becoming a bit of a Robin Hood as she plots a monumental scam against one of the most ruthless businessmen on earth. As the killings on both fronts mount, the Camel Club fights the most deadly foes they have ever faced.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

In bestseller Baldacci's entertaining if overly long sequel to *The Camel Club* (2005), renegade CIA agent Roger Seagraves has set himself up in the business of freelance assassination and selling our country's secrets to the highest bidder. The Camel Club, a group of four dysfunctional crime solvers headed by ex-CIA assassin Caleb Shaw, becomes involved with Seagraves through a killing at the Library of Congress, where one of the club members works. Meanwhile, an enigmatic young woman, Annabelle Conroy, is assembling a team to engineer a "long con," a \$33 million scam targeting Jerry Bagger, the sleazy owner of an Atlantic City casino. This time around, Baldacci wisely tones down the wackiness of the club members, focusing instead on bringing Seagraves to justice while Annabelle works her ingenious scam. The splicing of the two plots is problematic, but

Baldacci sacrifices a bit of believability to cobble together a new cast of characters destined to continue fighting the forces of evil in the next installment. (Oct.) Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

The four disillusioned, aging gentlemen featured in Baldacci's 2005 best-seller, *The Camel Club*, are back in this engaging offering. The ringleader of the eccentric Washington, D.C., group (comprising obsessive-compulsive computer-whiz Milton Farb, decorated Vietnam vet Rueben Rhodes, and slightly rumpled library-scholar Caleb Shaw) is an ex-CIA conspiracy theorist who goes by the pseudonym Oliver Stone. All are reunited when Shaw's boss, the Library of Congress' director of Rare Books and Special Collections, is found dead. (Might he have been killed for possession of a rare collection of Puritan psalms?) Meanwhile, a few hundred miles away, sexy scam artist Annabelle Conroy avenges her mother's death with a fiendishly clever con pulled on a nefarious Atlantic City casino magnate. Though his two plots converge in a rather contrived way, Baldacci delivers crisp, economical prose and a cast of spies, misfits, and assassins that would make even the most patriotic citizen question the American political system. The best of the characters include gorgeous, gutsy newcomer Annabelle and the wonderfully idiosyncratic Stone, who spends many a day camped out on the lawn across from the White House with a sign that says, "I want the truth." Allison BlockCopyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Excellent read! Previously to purchasing the Kindle Paperwhite, I picked up the Finisher on a trip to Houston, TX this past April and ever since then I've been hooked on his novels. I'll be patiently waiting for Baldacci to complete a sequel to the Finisher. I've read all the Will Robie series and the first two of the John Puller, all fantastic and would recommend to everyone. Baldacci's writing draws you in from beginning to end with each turn(tap) of the page. This is the most I've read in at least ten years. In anticipation of The Escape, I've started reading The Camel Club toward the end of October and I'm already into the third book of the series, Stone Cold. Thank you Mr. Baldacci, your novels have gotten me excited to read again.

I liked the characters. Their disruptions made it seem real. The story was interesting enough to keep interest. I did expect a different ending for Mr Bagger but I suspect he made his point.

I would recommend reading The Camel Club (1st book in this series) before reading The Collectors. The Camel Club really establishes the main characters that are also used in The Collectors and helps to define the personal characteristics each member of "The Camel Club" brings to the story line. By reading The Camel Club first, it will give the reader a certain familiarity and background while in the opening pages of The Collectors. I enjoyed The Collectors and thought the story moved along at a good and gripping pace. The plot was mostly believable, but I turn to these types of books for entertainment value and try not to get caught up in true reality and the "possibility" of each scenario. If you are looking for a book that has some plots and twists that keep the pages turning, than I would recommend this book. If you are looking for a book that combines "the perfect" story with iron clad, blockbuster literary genius, than perhaps you should look elsewhere. What I really enjoyed about The Collectors is the two story lines and how they are interwoven together. I also like the fact that one of the story lines is a definite lead in for a future novel. Overall, I thought it was a fun read. Was it David Baldacci's best work? Probably not, but the characters are interesting, especially Oliver Stone and Annabelle Conroy, and I had trouble putting the book down- put it this way, I was willing to sacrifice a few hours of sleep and be tired the next day at work, just to get a few more pages into the book. To me, that is what makes reading so fantastic. I definitely look forward to reading Stone Cold.

I preferred the first book but this one was good . At times it was extremely fast-paced and other times I was bored but I kept on reading and I can honestly say it was worth the read! I love the characters in the Camel club series and anxiously look forward to reading number three . I would recommend this for one reason . There are times it's slow but when it picks up which is a lot during the book it's really hard to put the book down

After reading the first book in the Camel Club series I moved right along to book #2. I love this quirky group of characters dedicated to solving the death of a friend while fighting dangerous and corrupt foes.

David Baldacci is a great writer, keeps the reader engaged from start to finish. The Camel Club series is great clean action.

A good read for anytime. Even a re-read. Lots of characters and background. Take the time to

follow the criminals.

As usual, this is a great story that is hard to put down! I enjoyed it from start to finish.

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