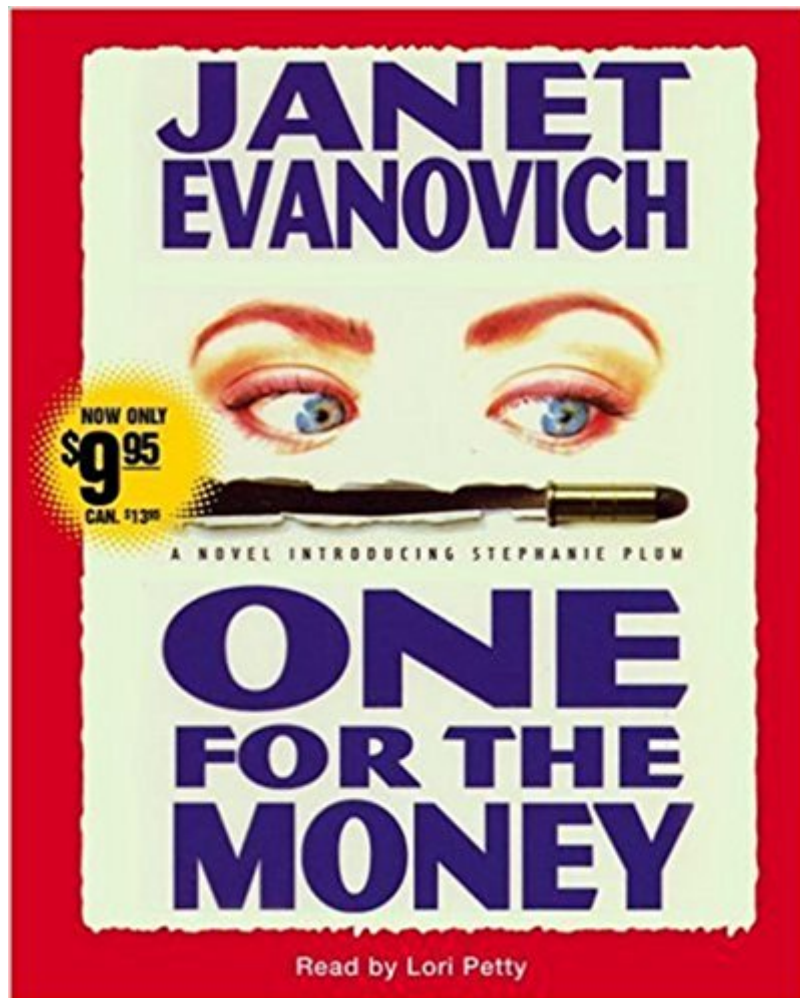




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One For The Money (Stephanie Plum, No. 1) (Stephanie Plum Novels)



Synopsis

ONE FINE MESS Welcome to Trenton, New Jersey, home to wiseguys, average Joes, and Stephanie Plum, who sports a big attitude and even bigger money problems (since losing her job as a lingerie buyer for a department store). Stephanie needs cash-fast-but times are tough, and soon she's forced to turn to the last resort of the truly desperate: family...**ONE FALSE MOVE** Stephanie lands a gig at her sleazy cousin Vinnie's bail bonding company. She's got no experience. But that doesn't matter. As does the fact that the bail jumper in question is local vice cop Joe Morelli. From the time he first looked up her dress to the time he first got into her pants, to the time Steph hit him with her father's Buick, M-o-r-e-l-l-i has spelled t-r-o-u-b-l-e. And now the hot guy is in hot water-wanted for murder...**ONE FOR THE MONEY** Abject poverty is a great motivator for learning new skills, but being trained in the school of hard knocks by people like psycho prizefighter Benito Ramirez isn't. Still, if Stephanie can nab Morelli in a week, she'll make a cool ten grand. All she has to do is become an expert bounty hunter overnight-and keep herself from getting killed before she gets her man... --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

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Customer Reviews

Stephanie Plum is so smart, so honest, and so funny that her narrative charm could drive a documentary on termites. But this tough gal from New Jersey, an unemployed discount lingerie buyer, has a much more interesting story to tell: She has to say that her Miata has been repossessed and that she's so poor at the moment that she just drank her last bottle of beer for

breakfast. She has to say that her only chance out of her present rut is her repugnant cousin Vinnie and his bail-bond business. She has to say that she blackmailed Vinnie into giving her a bail-bond recovery job worth \$10,000 (for a murder suspect), even though she doesn't own a gun and has never apprehended a person in her life. And she has to say that the guy she has to get, Joe Morelli, is the same creep who charmed away her teenage virginity behind the pastry case in the Trenton bakery where she worked after school. If that hard-luck story doesn't sound compelling enough, Stephanie's several unsuccessful attempts at pulling in Joe make a downright hilarious and suspenseful tale of murder and deceit. Along the way, several more outlandish (but unrelentingly real) characters join the story, including Benito Ramirez, a champion boxer who seems to be following Stephanie Plum wherever she goes. Janet Evanovich shares an authentic feel for the streets of Trenton in her debut mystery (she developed her talents in a string of romance novels before creating Ms. Plum), and her tough, frank, and funny first-person narrator offers a winning mix of vulgarity and sensitivity. Evanovich is certainly among the best of the new voices to emerge in the mystery field of the 1990s. --Patrick O'Kelley --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

First novels this funny and self-assured come along rarely; dialogue this astute and raunchy is equally unusual. The gutsy heroine introduced here is Stephanie Plum of Trenton, N.J., a recently laid-off lingerie buyer who has no job, no car and no furniture. She does have a hamster, a deranged grandmother, two caring parents and several pairs of biking shorts and sports bras. Finding work with her cousin Vinnie, she becomes a bond hunter and scrounges money enough to buy a gun, a Chevy Nova and some Mace. Her first assignment is to locate a cop accused of murder. Joe Morelli grew up in Stephanie's neighborhood. Possessed of legendary charm, he relieved Stephanie of her virginity when she was 16 (she later ran over him with a car). In her search, Stephanie catches her prey, loses him and grills a psychotic prizefighter, the employer of the man Morelli shot. She steals Morelli's car and then installs an alarm so he can't steal it back. Resourceful and tough, Stephanie has less difficulty finding her man than deciding what she wants to do with him once she's got him. While the link between the fighter and the cop isn't clear until too late in the plot, Evanovich's debut is a delightful romp and Stephanie flaunts a rough-edged appeal. Mystery Guild alternate; author tour; film rights optioned to Tri-Star. Copyright 1994 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

With fast scene changes and a main character that is both frivolous and fun, this book is a good one for pure enjoyment, for just kicking back and going with the flow. Stephanie Plum makes decisions

on the fly, with not much concentrated intellectual effort, but that suits the environment and job function she finds herself in. She is a Jersey chick that finds that she must sometimes do things that are totally out of character and in steep contrast with her upbringing. Her breaking of tradition, her negation of her past regimentation, makes this story fascinating and worth the time for its perusal. Adapting to frightening situations with sometimes bold innovation and an absence of timidity, Stephanie is both a risk taker and one who hedges her bets along the way with subtasks that assist in sustaining her financially as she seeks to attain her major goal. This goal is to capture an acquaintance, a guy she ****ed in her younger years, and who has skipped bail on murder charges and seemingly wants to prove his innocence. Along the way Stephanie steals his vehicle, discarding the jalopy she started off with, and encounters unsavory and purely evil characters that make the reader want to enter a bathroom for a date with the commode. But Stephanie deals with the creeps and bums that enter into her circle of protected space and decrease its radius with skill and daring, and for readers who admire such traits in a woman, especially male readers, a voluntary sharing of their personal space would be both natural and desirable.

This book was so much fun to read. This was my first Janet Evanovich novel so I figured I would start with the first in the series of Stephanie Plum. Evanovich is so witty and keeps the pace moving. Plum is different than any other detective (actually a bounty hunter). She is feisty, sassy, fearless and makes a million mistakes in a funny way that makes her so much more human. I was constantly chuckling at her comments and almost blushing at her predicaments and how she dealt with them. This was just a hilarious book. Fiction is all about putting reality on hold and just enjoying a good story and Evanovich is masterful at doing just that. Stephanie Plum blunders and trips all over the place as she learns the ropes and tries to stay two steps ahead of the bill collectors. The characters like Ranger and her grandmother are delightful. Plum constantly having to deal with her parents comments as she shows up at their house for weekly dinners with more bruises each time, or her car getting more torn up or spray painted with obscene graffiti was a riot. Plum was tenacious and tough, yet she is so cute and charming that she even makes the man she is hunting down cave in. This was just pure fun. I already ordered the next book in the series and can't wait to read it.

Are you kidding me. This is a great series. I read all 20 in 30 days and loved them... well maybe not the 20th one. The 20th felt like someone else wrote it and not Janet Evanovich. This last book had a different feel and energy. I hope that if there is a #21, that Ms. Evanovich writes it and please let Ms. Plum make a decision on -- of course - the great COP in her life and maybe before she gets down

the isle, Ranger can try to stop the wedding -- but of course she will choose Morelli in the end. I purchased the movie last week, I appreciate that they tried to stay true to the book, but it just did not get off the ground.... It was the writer of the script and not the actors, they were great and would have done a better job with a better script.

Fabulous series. I've read every book and can't wait for the next one. I recommend starting with this one and going through the entire series in order. Stephanie Plum and her family are wonderful. I bought this so I would have it on my Kindle as well as in hard cover. Worth rereading. Stephanie loses her job and can't find another one. Just about broke, she blackmails her pervert cousin, Vinnie, to hire her as a bounty hunter. She is the most inept bounty hunter and also the luckiest ever. Her first big assignment is bringing in Joe Morelli, her former flame and the guy she ran over when he didn't call. Add in her Granny, who looks like 90 and acts like 20 and her mentor, the super hot bounty hunter, Ranger. Mix this all in with Jersey attitude and you have an amazing result. I hope Evanovich keeps writing. I need my regular fix.

Sometimes you meet an author and a series of action characters that you fall I love with. Stephanie Plum, bounty hunter, is such a funny character that you can't help but keep reading. This is my second time reading this one. I enjoyed it just as much as the first time. I went through the whole series, waiting impatiently for the next one, a few years ago. Whether you like just murder mysteries, thrillers or romantic books, I know you'll love this one.

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