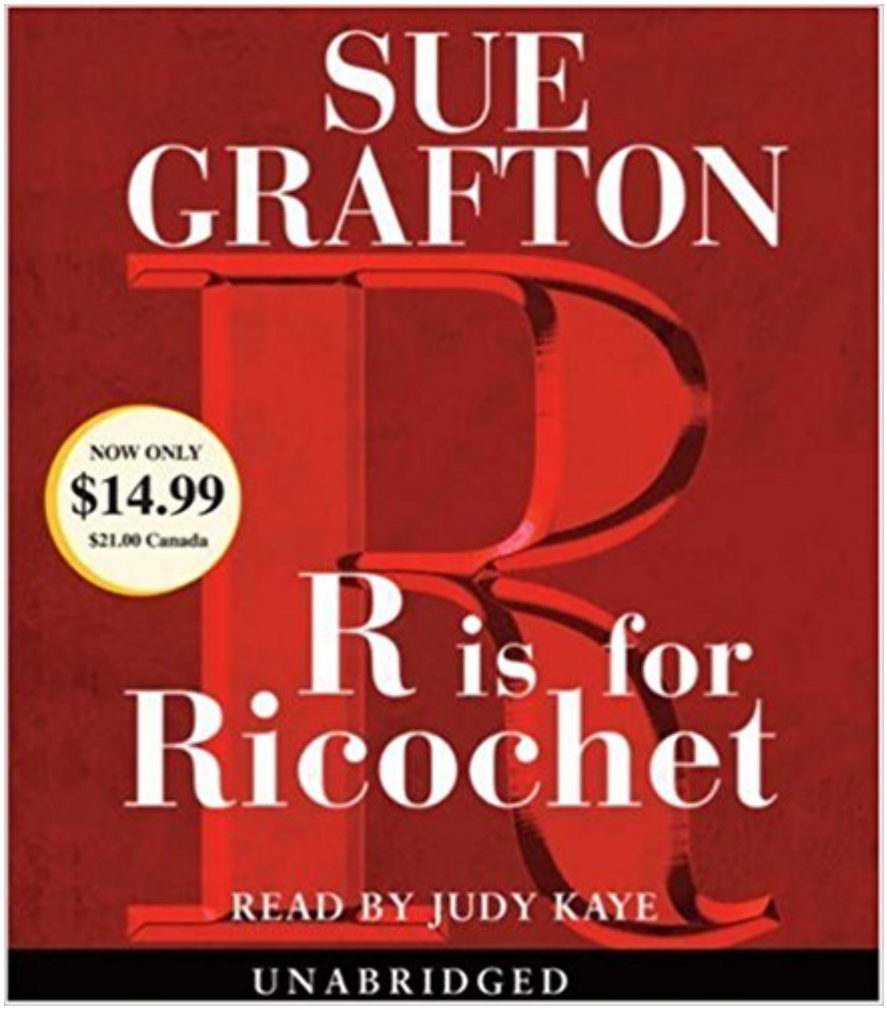
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R Is For Ricochet (A Kinsey Millhone Novel)



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Synopsis

R is for Ricochet is another thrilling installment in Sue Grafton's Kinsey Millhone series.Reba Lafferty was a daughter of privilege, the only child of an adoring father. Over the years, he quietly settled her many scrapes with the law, but he wasn't there for her when she was convicted of embezzlement and sent to the California Institute for Women. Now, at thirty-two, she is about to be paroled, having served twenty-two months of a four-year sentence. Nord Lafferty wants to be sure she stays straight, stays at home and away from the drugs, the booze, the gamblers. It seems a straightforward assignment for Kinsey: babysit Reba until she settles in, make sure she follows all the rules of her parole. Maybe all of a week's work. Nothing untowardÃ¢â ¬â œthe woman seems remorseful and friendly. And the money is good. But life is never that simple, and Reba is out of prison less than 24 hours when one of her old crowd comes circling around. Readers have come to expect the unexpected from Sue Grafton, and R is for Ricochet is no exception. In it, a complex and clever money-laundering scheme is just a cover for a novel that is all about love: love gone wrong, love betrayed, love denied. And love avenged. For Reba Lafferty, its moral is clear: Sometimes what you hand out in life comes back to bite you in the ass. Sometimes the good guys win, even when they lose.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

When wealthy octogenarian Nord Lafferty hires Kinsey Millhone to help his newly paroled daughter find her way back to the straight and narrow after doing time for embezzlement, the Santa Teresa

P.I. has no idea what she’s getting into. Reba Lafferty’s ex-boss, land developer Alan Beckwith, is the man who sent her to prison--so how come she’s meeting him just hours after her release, and treating Kinsey to an X-rated reunion scene played out in his parked Mercedes? And why is he also playing sex games with Reba’s formerly best friend, who still works for him? A visit from an old friend from the FBI clears up the mystery--Beckwith is suspected of running a money-laundering game, and they need Reba to make their case by rolling over on him. It’s not until Millhone presents Reba with photographic evidence of Beckwith’s two-timing that she agrees to do what the Feds want... but she’ll only do it her way, which could get a lot of people killed. Grafton fleshes out this well-crafted thriller with a romantic subplot involving a romantic triangle that features Kinsey’s elderly landlord Henry, his brother, and a vivacious widow who can’t seem to choose between them. It doesn’t add much to the plot, but the fans of this evergreen series (who must be wondering what will happen to Millhone when Grafton gets to the end of the alphabet) probably won’t mind a bit. --Jane Adams --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Bestseller Grafton offers more of the same-old same-old in her less-than-inspired 18th Kinsey Millhone novel (after 2002’s Q Is for Quarry). In this sexy adventure, the spunky hard-boiled detective has to escort the newly paroled Reba Lafferty, privileged ne’er-do-well, to her stately home, keeping her on the straight and narrow. Reba challenges the PI with her barely concealed hankerings for the now off-limits booze, gambling and charming Alan Beckwith, married real estate developer and former employer for whom Reba took a two-year barbwire vacation courtesy of the California Institution for Women. Lust is in the air as studly, stylish cop Cheney Phillips enters in his red Mercedes, fanning the flames with Kinsey, when Beckwith’s activities catch the eye of the feds. Kinsey lends a supportive ear to her beloved 87-year-old landlord, smitten by a 70-year-old neighbor. Kinsey and Reba team up to get the goods on Beckwith, but reckless Reba has vengeful ideas of her own and more than once lands their collective fat in the fire. If the chemistry between Cheney and Kinsey seems forced at times, Grafton as usual creates believable and enduring characters and a strong sense of place in her town of Santa Teresa circa 1987. And that should be more than enough for most fans. Copyright Ã Â© 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.

Reba Lafferty is so far (of the three alphabet books I’ve read) my favorite character. So that made the ending a big disappointment. I don’t like my escape fiction quite that realistic. On the other hand, Lucinda Cunningham is one of the most disgustingly self righteous characters in the modern

crime/mystery/thriller genre. I don’t mind disgusting so much but she just didn’t fit in. Why would Nord put up with her? In real life I don’t think rich guys let women they aren’t interested in decamp in their homes and intrude into their personal, private, and family affairs. She didn’t serve any vital purpose to the plot so I don’t know why she was even in the book.And another thing...why would Reba take this illegal route to get money? I assume she’s the heir to her father’s fortune and while he’s alive I don’t think he’s going to deprive her of much, so her money scheming didn’t work for me either. And the whole thing with Marty was too dark for the tone of the book.My analysis of the three Grafton books I’ve read is "T for Trespassing" moved too slowly, "U for Undertow" was well plotted and captured the 60’s counter culture with nicely juxtaposed mainstream vs hippie freak characters. It moved right along and was hard to put down. "R for Ricochet" was somewhere between the two. Like I said, Reba was an original and colorful character and I’m a sucker for the girl buddy theme. But that was all it had going for it. I couldn’t figure out if it wanted to be a light hearted, comedic frolic or a women’s prison noir cautionary tale.

If you are familiar with Sue Grafton, get this book. And if you’re not, start reading these alphabet (murder) mysteries. A- W, X Y Z are on the way. I recommend Grafton’s work to all, R is for Ricochet is a great read.

Well written story by a master of story telling. Well developed characters.

I have read the reviews that go with R is for Ricochet, and I can agree with some the of negatives, and all of the positives. I must add that one of the strongest reasons I love the Alphabet series by Grafton, IS the background detail, her personal life, and also that of her landlord, Henry. Adding stuff about Henry and others from her past books brings you into her life. We have to wait a year or more between books, and when she refers to the people who are her "extended family" members, it gives her books that sense of real life, home, security, and continuity. Her books stand alone, but also link together because of the subplots she adds regarding her extended family and friends.I have tried to find other books out there that are like hers: mystery, light, well written, funny, and that have that sense of family. Some head in her direction, but none have managed to carry it off like Grafton.I agree with some of you that have read all her books and therefore can rightfully assess the quality, etc., but even her ’not so good’ books are wonderful. And isn’t that the way our lives are anyway? Some days, some experiences are just more fascinating than others.Sue Grafton... I don’t know what you will do when you reach the end of the alphabet series, but I hope you continue along

this line. I love you work, and applaud you...!

I loved this book. I have to admit; I was feeling like this series was getting a little stale after reading Q. I had already bought R - U in my wonderings through bookstores (BTW, one of my favorite things to do at the mall). So, on a whim, I picked it off the bookshelf and started reading. Just a few chapters in I could see the change in direction this book was taking. I loved the character of Reba Lafferty. She is an incorrigible character you grow to love. She is brash and sassy at times then very vulnerable at others. As if Kinsey can’t find enough trouble to get into on her own, along comes Reba. I hope Grafton brings this character back in subsequent books. Which by the way, I am now looking forward to reading.

These Sue Grafton books are all pretty much the same type. Kinsey Millhone pretty much is always embroiled in some kind of murder. What changes is how she ends up getting into these messes. This time it’s by "baby sitting" a 32 year old woman who is just out of prison. The woman’s father wants to make sure she stays on the straight and narrow. Kinsey should know by now that it won’t be that easy.I enjoy reading these. They are easy reading and just a great way to escape.

This book was very different from the previous books in this book Kinsey isn’t hired as a private detective but for babysitting duty. In this book she has moved to her own office space. She has become romantic with an acquaintance from previous encounter with the vice squad. Her charge Reba was recently released from prison and her father hired Kinsey to pick her up and watch over her. At first it seems her routine and simple until Reba meets up with her old boss. This case becomes more than routine and simple. Kinsey is a part of breaking and entering, robbery after the fact. She get beat up twice and kidnapped. Reba was far from being honest with Kinsey which causes a lot trouble. I enjoyed reading this book.

I enjoy the Sue Grafton books. Ms. Grafton is a great author who develops and carries a bit of the story from book to book. Her books are also stand along mystery novels. The Milhone books are interesting and filled with adventure and humor. The story lines are plausible and I learn something new each book about the primary characters.The bottom line is that these are easy books to enjoy and provide a moment of respite from the daily grind of retirement.

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