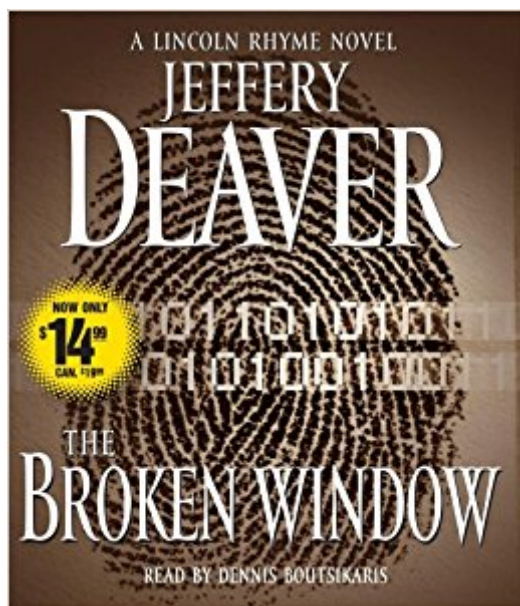


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The Broken Window: A Lincoln Rhyme Novel (Lincoln Rhyme Novels)



Synopsis

New York Times bestselling author Jeffery Deaver's The Broken Window is now available on audio for only \$14.99. When Lincoln's cousin is arrested on murder charges, the case against Arthur Rhyme is perfect too perfect. Forensic evidence from Arthur's home is found all over the scene of the crime, and it looks like the fate of Lincoln's estranged cousin is sealed. At the request of Arthur's wife Judy, Lincoln begrudgingly agrees to investigate the case. Soon Lincoln and Amelia uncover a string of similar murders and rapes with perpetrators claiming innocence and ignorance despite ironclad evidence at the scenes of the crime. Rhyme's team realizes this "perfect" evidence may actually be the result of masterful identity theft and manipulation. An information service company seems to have all of the answers but is reluctant to share its information. Still, Rhyme and Sachs and their assembled team begin putting together a chilling pattern and consistent trace evidence, and their investigation points to one master criminal, whom they dub "522." And when "522" learns the identities of the crime fighting team, the hunters become the hunted. Filled with Deaver's trademark suspenseful plot twists, The Broken Window puts the partnership of Lincoln Rhyme and Amelia Sachs to the ultimate test.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Dennis Boutsikaris's reading of Deaver's latest Lincoln Rhyme thriller is positively chilling. When the

quadriplegic detective's cousin is arrested for murder, it seems to be an open-and-shut case, as plenty of forensic evidence links him to the crime. But Lincoln discovers that the real killer is framing others for his killings by manipulating intimate computer information. A deadly game of cat and mouse pits Lincoln; his partner, Amanda Sachs; and the rest of his NYPD crew against an adversary who is consistently one step ahead of them. Boutsikaris's reading is excellent, but he really ratchets the intensity when performing the passages told from the killer's point of view. His delivery fully embraces the cold, calculating mind of the murderer, imbuing his seemingly dispassionate thoughts with an underlying sense of barely controlled rage and menace. A Simon & Schuster hardcover (Reviews, Apr. 14). (July) Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

As the Lincoln Rhyme series rolls along, the quadriplegic criminalist's cases keep getting more and more elaborate. The Cold Moon (2006) was extremely intricate, but this one tops it. Lincoln's cousin has been arrested for murder. The case seems airtight, but when he looks into it, Rhyme begins to suspect that he has stumbled onto an especially devious serial killer, one who uses cutting-edge data-mining techniques to steal the identities of his victims and of the innocent people he frames for his crimes. Rhyme is perhaps the best and smartest investigator in the game, but how do you catch a killer when you don't know anything about him? If a large part of writing a mystery is like making a puzzle, then Deaver may just be the cleverest puzzle maker in the business. He has built his reputation on the strength of well-drawn characters; hyperrealistic dialogue (you don't read it, you hear it); and right-angle plot twists that are impossible to predict. There is no one quite like Deaver or like Lincoln Rhyme. --David Pitt
--This text refers to the Paperback edition.

THE BROKEN WINDOW, by Jeffery Deaver broached a very interesting subject which deals with identity theft, and data mining. He presents a scary subject of how data collection companies can amass a large amount of information about any given individual! Then, Mr. Deaver throws in a serial killer who seeks his victims out in a very unique way; by learning all of their information and executing an almost perfect murder. Lincoln Rhyme, Amelia Sacks and associated friends have a huge task ahead of them as they delve into finding the responsible person. Although the story line was interesting, I thought the whole manuscript was way to long at 596 pages. Deaver could have cut out a lot of words, shortened the story and it would have flowed just fine. Also, I thought Deaver should have left the "mini story" occurring in England; to be a tale written about in another book.

Another great book by this author and great and consistent user of his characters. There are many subplots and story lines throughout. Be prepared to set time aside to read this book even if it means losing sleep or not doing all your dusting

Our modern world may have conquered the wild beasts who once threatened us, but we have a new kind of predator who uses our technology against us, in ways that can destroy us just as surely as being ripped apart by a hungry carnivore. *Broken Window* is another in the Lincoln Rhymes series, where the brilliant and wheelchair-bound detective from the *Bone Collector* matches wits with a killer who causally destroyed a man's life by stealing his identity, just to see what it would be like. From there, the killer, known as 522, moves on to killing people in order to steal from their collections to add to his own. Lincoln Rhymes can only use his mind to catch killers, since his back from broken in the line of duty, yet he manages to do his job as well, or better than most able bodied law enforcement officers. With the help of Amelia Sachs, the police officer he used to help him catch the killer in the *Bone Collector* (a movie made with Denzel Washington and Angelina Jolie), Lincoln immerses himself into the world of information, and is shocked at how pervasive it is on our lives. Lincoln finds that Sachs finds has 500 pages of information on her, as if she can have no secrets in today's world. How do you catch a killer who can trace you through IFD tags (sewn into clothes to keep track of them in stores) GPS on phones, and in cars, savings cards that supermarkets use to track their customers buying choices, and of course credit cards that show where we are and what we buy. The killer that Lincoln faces has access to all of a person's information which he uses to draw his victims in close, before they realize that they really don't know him. What makes this book so chilling is that it could easily happen to anyone at any time. As tied into technology as we are, having your identity stolen can literally destroy your lives in no time. George Orwell's *Brave New World* is here now. While all the information on technology was fascinating, the repeating of the facts grew tedious after awhile, which is why I only gave this novel 4 stars instead of 5.

I should know better than to pick up a Jeffery Deaver thriller when I have anything else planned that day; once I pick up a Lincoln Rhyme novel, I can't put it down until the last word - which always leaves me - satisfied, yet wanting more! The *Broken Window* is no exception; Deaver is one of the very few authors who truly keep me guessing until the very end. I just hope that Deaver never decides to put that devious mind to use doing the real crimes, rather than just writing about them! His plots are invariably so twisted and intricate that he could no doubt easily get away with whatever

he chose to do; I am always amazed at his depth of knowledge of forensics, and - scary thought! - the criminal mind! The only thing that I find really irritating in the Rhyme books is his constant detailing the crime "board", where all the information concerning the crime, perpetrator(s), victim(s), etc. are endlessly updated for the reader. I frankly find it just a bit insulting, and definitely boring; I have finally reached the point where I generally skip over the later ones. Does he think we are too simple to remember? I'm 75, and have no problem remembering the progress of the evidence gathered. However, that is a relatively minor issue, especially when the excellent writing of the story is considered. Highly recommended!

As always Deaver doesn't disappoint however I rated this a 3 due to the implausibility of some of the data changes and the speed at which they were made. Without going into detail to not spoil the book there are situations that arise due to the update to the data that just wouldn't happen that way despite those changes. It was a little too far-fetched. Other than that, I enjoyed the book quite well and still couldn't put it down until I was done.

Mr. Deaver has accomplished an amazing tale. His protagonist, and the surrounding characters are drawn with clarity, precision and heart. The many characters who think more than emoter are the more interesting for me because I find myself responding to his characters with emotion. Flawed, wounded, tragic - his heroes rise. But it is with this specific topic that I also got a jolt, a wake up call. Data mining, a subject I never thought much about, is shockingly real and pervasive. I don't want to know what I now know, as I don't have any idea how to protect my own details from public, computer driven exposure. In an ironic sense, this story is about a hero and his gang of friends who try to outwit the forces of technology as used for gain or evil; they must use technology to win as well, with the added benefit of good luck, human endurance, loyalty and intuition. Such a good book, well done.

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