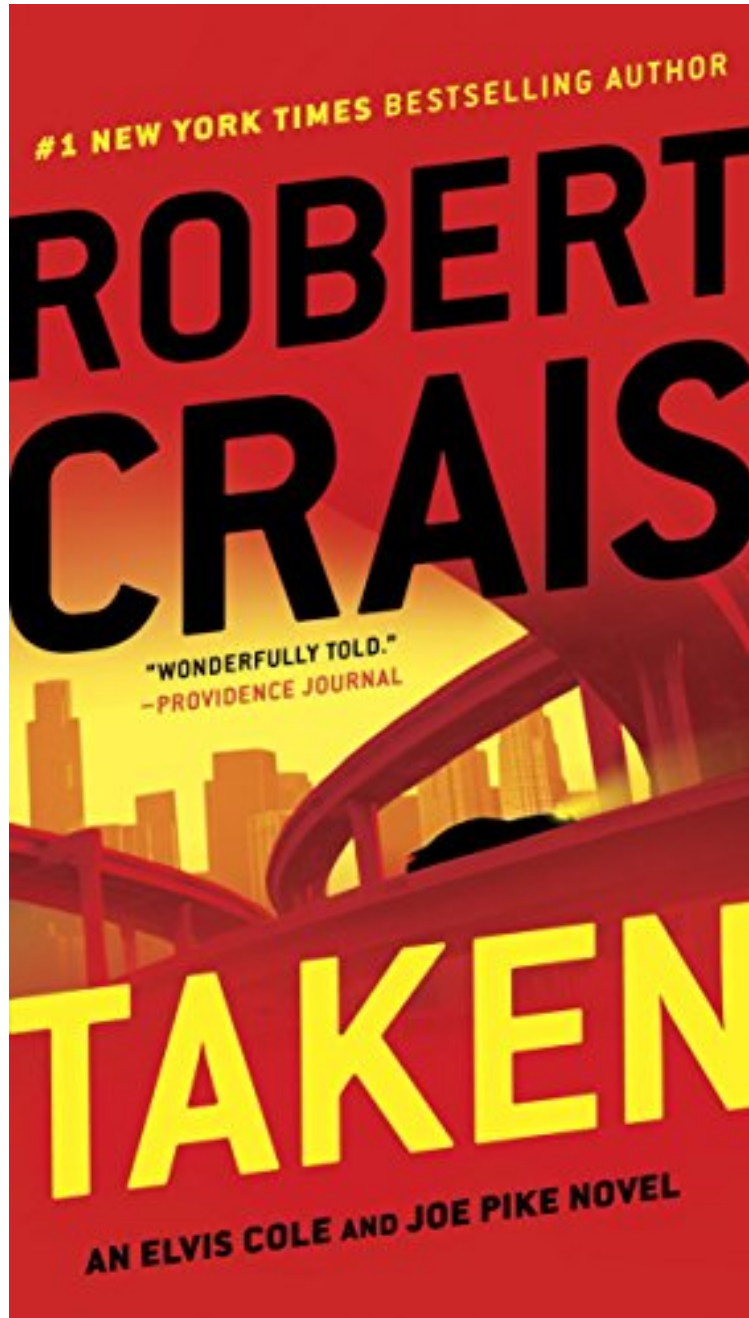


(Download free ebook) Taken (Joe Pike)

Taken (Joe Pike)

Von Robert Crais

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Von Robert Crais : Taken (Joe Pike) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Taken (Joe Pike):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen2 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Elvis Cole and Joe Pike - What a Team!Von Miki101.Micha To make a short story long, here right at the beginning my humble opinion:What a book - what a read!An absolute page-turner from every point of view!It takes You in from Page 1 and doesn't let You go until You have finished it.Some kind of "Magic Carpet Ride" going through all the highs and lows the human race has to offer.On the positive side You find friendship, the dedication to it 'til taking the risk of personal damage or annihilation.On the negative side You can see what greed and absolute disdain for other human beings can drive the worst kind of villains to:Not only ripping off the poorest of the poor, no, its worse than that!Is that possible, You will ask?Oh yes, those predators even take away the last possession those innocents of all kind of colours and races had in common: Their being part of Humanity...They call them "pollos" as in "chicken"!And like those poor animals they are treated.From different narrators on different, but chronological time levels You will learn more about the smuggling of human beings by Mexican cartels that You probably ever wanted to know...The method is simple:One cartel brings a group of illegals - yet bare of the last rupies, wons, kips, baths, or rubles they owned - over the mexican-american border into the U.S.A..On the arrival those miserables are kidnapped by some even worse predators.Cooped up in smallest living space, badly feeded, only a bucket for the most intimate personal needs, abused and tortured until there has been pumped out of the equally poor relatives the last cent they possess - and then to be disposed of in the worst way You can imagine (or not...).But this time something goes wrong.The villains take not only the usual "pollos" but also grab two innocent by-standers, a young couple with acquaintances You better don't mess around with...Elvis Cole is hired by the young girl's mother - immigrated herself illegally as a little girl, to find out what is behind the vanishing of her offspring.Did she run away with the boy she loves to marry him at Las Vegas?Or is there something else? In any way, the mother wants to know.And she sets our hero unwillingly on the tracks of people that You better leave alone.When Elvis Cole also disappears, it is time for Joe Pike to take over.And that he does!With the help of an other Special-Forces drilled comrade Joe moves every stone, sniffes in every angle, uses every, but really every possible means - fair or foul, to free his best friend and companion of so many adventures.But Elvis, too has his resources...So everything goes the way it has to go - straight to the Great Finale, with fireworks of action, giving to the bad ones a good dose of their own medicine to take.My little self, being a great fan of Robert Crais, Elvis Cole and Joe Pike, can only be thankful to this great trio for an other exceptional adventure.Awaiting the next books gnawing impatiently on my fingernails...3 von 3 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. fast-paced thriller w/o everyday detailsVon VanessaI own almost every novel in the Cole/Pike series. Ever since L.A. Requiem, the series has lost that which used to make it awesome: approachable heroes. Not that Pike was ever set up to be approachable but that, too, was part of the series' charme - when Pike was confronted with what Cole calls at some point "the vagaries of the human condition". You could believe that Cole was someone whom you could know, a little like Magnum of the old TV show.In this new installment (no spoilers), Cole goes out to find a missing college student and her boyfriend. Before you know it, he's up to his ears in human trafficking and deals with the Mexican and Korean equivalents of the Mafia. The trusted cat appears twice, and there are three allusions to the series' running gag that Cole never washes his vintage Corvette. Other than Jiminy Cricket, there are no references to Cole's and Pike's regular lives.+ fast-paced and well-written+ page-turner+ changing perspectives which gives you more angles of the story+ Jon Stone's clownery contrasts nicely with Pike's taciturnity- could have had any two protagonists, i.e. not Cole/Pike-specific- no ordinary-life stuff other than Pike getting a call from the gun shop and feeding the cat- hero-stuff laid on too thickly: Cole as the instant, all-out protector of the weak who risks everything for his clients, and Pike/Stone with almost unlimited access to the nifty military gadgets. Jon Stone is handily fluid in all languages needed, has numerous military bigwigs on speed-dial, and knows all the necessary underworld figures.It's a good read but it is also a read whose protagonists could have come from Tom Clancy or Robert Harris, i.e. the Cole/Pike background is secondary. It is definitely not as maudlin parts of The Forgotten Man or The Last Detective where the emotional content was piled on a mile high but now it lacks the context of the series as such (unless you're already familiar with it, then you will recognize certain allusions).If you're looking for a good, fast read, this is your book. If you want to get into the series, rather get anything up to and including L.A. Requiem.2 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Lots of Action from Joe Pike, Detecting by Elvis Cole, and Eyewitness Accounts by Victims Filled with CliffhangersVon Donald Mitchell"And it happened, when they had come to Bethlehem, that all the city was excited because of them;" -- Ruth 1:19 (NKJV)Let me start with the overview. Taken is a real page turner. It's only weaknesses come in needing more editing. If Mr. Crais had another 60 days of preparation time spent on making the plot easier to follow, this probably would have been his best book. As it is, Taken is a fun read and I recommend it to you.In Taken, Mr. Crais tried something a little different. Rather than simply tell the story from beginning to end chronologically, he tells the story out of chronological sequence. You must pay attention to what day is what to follow the story and enjoy it. In the process, you'll run into characters whose first appearance will leave you scratching your head in puzzlement and find definitions and explanations repeated in unnecessary fashion.It looks like the editors didn't have enough time to work it all out with Mr. Crais, and the acknowledgments suggest there was a problem. "The author apologizes for jamming their [the Putnam production team] time line, and thanks them for their herculean efforts on his behalf, most notably Meredith Dros. Copyediting is

an often thankless task done under difficult circumstances. Patricia Crais worked with a constantly changing manuscript, requiring her to revisit and review her own work for far too many last-minute, sleepless nights. Thank you."In past novels, I've marveled out how Mr. Crais can take as laconic a character as Joe Pike and create a story out of him as a protagonist. The design here is to have multiple narrators and to include talkative people in the sections where Pike is the narrator. It works out well as a storytelling method. I hope Mr. Crais will use it again in novels where Pike plays a large role. So, what's it all about? Elvis Cole is hired by a concerned mother after her college senior daughter disappears with her boyfriend and the mother begins receiving telephone calls from her daughter asking for a few hundred dollars. It's not exactly the kind of case that Elvis seeks out . . . but he's all in favor of smoothing out a mother's nerves. The trouble is . . . as you will learn in the first few pages . . . there's a dangerous situation, one that a mother could not anticipate. As the story unrolls its plot, you'll learn a lot about illegal immigration that will probably leave you feeling strong empathy for those who are at risk in the story. The story maintains a high level of tension, aided by lots of cliffhangers, that will keep you rapidly paging through the book. Keep an eye out for danger in all your surroundings!

Kurzbeschreibung The search for a missing girl leads private investigators Elvis Cole and Joe Pike into the nightmarish world of human trafficking in this #1 New York Times bestseller from Robert Crais. When Nita Morales hires Elvis Cole to find her missing daughter, she's sure it's a ruse orchestrated by the girl and her boyfriend. She's wrong. They've been taken by bajadores border bandits who prey on the innocent by buying, selling, and disposing of victims like commodities. Cole and Joe Pike start an undercover investigation to find the couple, but their plan derails when Cole disappears, leaving Pike to burn through the murderous world of human traffickers to find his friend as well as the missing young people. But he may already be too late... Pressestimmen Praise for Taken I have no criticisms of Robert Crais's work, other than I wish he could write as fast as I devour his work, which would require him to crank out at the very least a new book every week. Huffington Post Wonderfully told, a punch-in-the-gut thriller that is not to be missed. The Providence Journal [Craiss] best-selling Elvis Cole/Joe Pike series gets better with every new book, and... Taken, is no exception. OregonLive.com [Taken] would make a fine action-packed film. Publishers Weekly Pressestimmen Wowee, what a thrill ride. It's a blast, with more action and suspense than all three Bourne films rolled into one. PETERBROUGH EVENING TELEGRAPH 20120428 'Taken' is the best Crais book I have read for some time and I had to read it in one sitting ... a fast pace book filled with great characters, that is very well written and comes highly recommended. CRIMESQUAD 20120521 A gripping storyline, engaging and enthusiastic characters, a tight plot and action to die for, this is one hell of an entertaining read; perhaps more importantly this is a fun read. Jam packed with tension and enough cliff-hangers to keep you turning the page, Crais has earned himself another fan with this book and as Elvis once said - Thank you Very Much! MILO RAMBLES 20120521 Taken is a corker of a fast moving, action packed read, with smart dialogue and lots of meaty characters and juicy scenes to sink your teeth into. -- Paul D Brazil MEAN STREETS Blog