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Back Spin (Myron Bolitar Mysteries (Audio))



Synopsis

Kidnappers have snatched the teenage son of super-star golfer Linda Coldren and her husband, Jack, an aging pro, at the height of the U.S. Open. To help get the boy back, sports agent Myron Bolitar goes charging after clues and suspects from the Main Line mansions to a downtown cheaters' motel--and back in time to a U.S. Open twenty-three years ago, when Jack Coldren should have won, but didn't. Suddenly Myron finds himself surrounded by blue bloods, criminals, and liars. And as one family's darkest secrets explode into murder, Myron finds out just how rough this game can get. In stories that crackle with wit and suspense, Edgar Award winner Harlan Coben has created one of the most fascinating and complex heroes in suspense fiction--Myron Bolitar--a hotheaded, tenderhearted sports agent who grows more and more engaging and unpredictable with each appearance.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Myron Bolitar, MB Sports Rep returns for another fast paced can't put down adventure with so many twists in the ending you feel like you're in a backspin. This time round Myron's at the US Open golf tournament. Not a huge fan of golf he doesn't really want to be there but Win tells him it is an excellent opportunity for clients. Turns out Win's right, but for personal reasons Win doesn't want Myron to accept this case. Myron can't say no though, so he's on the case of kidnapped spoilt rich kid Chad Coldren, who is the son of the top female Golf player Linda Coldren and her husband tournament choker Jack Coldren who is leading the US Open for the first time in 30 years. Of course

not everyone likes Myron poking his nose where it does not belong and to Myron's disappointment Win is at the top of that list. Win of course would never harm Myron but others don't share that point of view. You don't have to be a fan of golf to enjoy this in fact if you don't like Golf Myron's comments along the way are so much funnier. This is one of the best Myron stories, you can read it as a stand alone novel but you'll get a lot more out of this book if you read the prior novels first. Also check out Coben's independent Masterpieces such as Tell No One as well as the rest of Myron's adventures including the next in the series One False Move.

This is not a new story. Back Spin was the 4th release in the Myron Bolitar series. Also, this is not the first time Harlan Coben has released one of his older works without making it clear that it was a redo.

I read "Drop Shot" and absolutely loved it, so I picked up "Back Spin" hoping it would be of the same quality. Unfortunately, I was mistaken. The plot is simply TOO complicated--twists and turns are fun, but this book read as if Mr. Coben made it up the night before it was due. Some of the character's motivations are murky, even at the end of the novel, when Myron does a little bit too much "explaining" (to me, it's always a sign of bad writing when a detective has to "explain" a bunch of stuff away at the end of a mystery), and Mr. Coben asks us to accept some pretty improbable coincidences. I guess my willing suspension of disbelief just wasn't working the day I read "Back Spin." Also, one important plot mechanism just doesn't ring true--that is, we're asked to believe that a professional golfer could possibly mistake an eight-iron for a six-iron. I'm about a 24-handicap, but even I can tell the difference between the two clubs. I'm sure a professional golfer, who hits thousands of balls a week and knows to the yard how long each club carries, could tell the difference. Anyway, I still think "Drop Shot" was great and look forward to reading other Myron Bolitar books because he is such an engaging character. But "Back Spin" has all the signs of a book produced under the pressure of an impending deadline.

Please order all of Harlan Coben's Myron Bolitar novels at once. Not only will you read about the world's most honorable sports agent Myron Bolitar but you get a murder mystery to follow as well as some memorable characters to cheer for. The mysteries are excellently written, hilarious and fast-paced. Once I started reading the book, it is hard to put it down, so I didn't, I finished it the day I received, as I did with the previous Bolitar novels. What draws me to this series is Myron's interactions with the people closest to him - his girlfriend, his parents, his assistant/partner(?)

Esparanza and last but not least Win Lockwood - psycho-yuppie. I can only read books in the mystery genre and this is one of the best series ever. To all you potential Cobenatics - order all Bolitar novels at once! Please note that you can reserve the new novel - The Final Detail before its release in June. Hurry - catch up with Myron, Win (my favorite) and crew before the June deadline.

This book is a thriller that you can't put down. I've been reading mysteries for many years, and have long since stopped staying awake until I finished one. This was an exception. I didn't even regret losing a few hours sleep! It is best to read this series from the beginning so you will appreciate the development of the friendship between the two main characters. In Backspin, Coben not only gives the reader a fine plot, but delves into the psyche of Win and the acceptance of Myron. Even though I don't particularly like golf, I appreciated Coben's insight into the personality of a champion. This was not only a good book, I learned something. A must read for anyone who likes mysteries with depth and has a sense of humor.

He just doesn't get it. It's hilarious to read his scornful thoughts on snap hooks, wicked slices, babied putts, soft greens, goofy greens, waxed greens... His horror at the way golfers dress is equally funny. As a sports agent, Myron represents basketball players, tennis players, football players - but not a golfer. Then when his friend Win talks him into attending a match to troll for golf clients, he finds himself enmeshed in a kidnapping investigation, not to mention a murder case. But Myron is at a disadvantage. Win won't partner with him on these cases, because they involve his family members. Win stays totally aloof from his family. Myron is a talented martial artist, but without Win's skill at stakeouts and his handiness as lethal backup, Myron is likely to get in trouble. Which he does. The cast of characters is fun, as always - his gorgeous Latino assistant Esperanza, an ex-lady wrestler who keeps running into fans in the oddest circumstances; a blue-blooded gangster on medication who talks like a someone in a gangster movie; the manager of a sleazy motel who acts like he's managing the Plaza; a scary black enforcer who contrives ways to avoid violence; an amusing gaggle of girls who hang out at the mall and astonish Myron with their teen-speak; a tough black woman lawyer who twists Myron around her little finger... There are lots of tense scenes and emotional drams, lightened by Myron's compulsive and ill-timed wisecracks. This may be my favorite book in the series so far. It's a seriously good mystery - and lots of laughs.

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