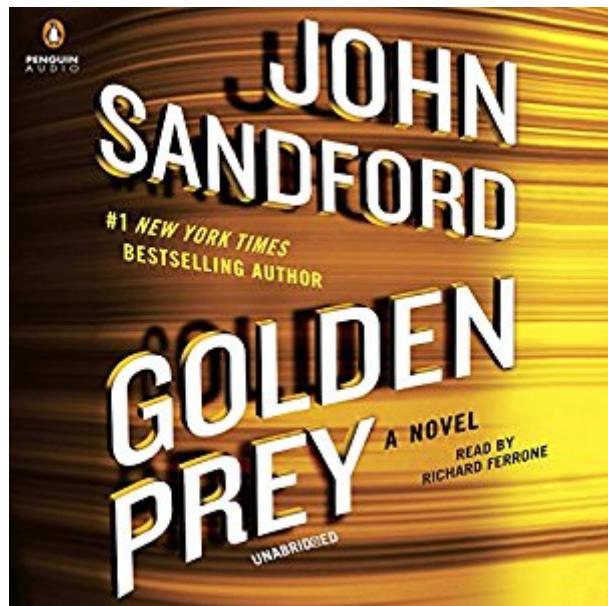


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Golden Prey



Synopsis

The man was smart, and he didn't mind killing people. Welcome to the big leagues, Davenport. Lucas Davenport's first case as a US marshal sends him into uncharted territory in the thrilling new novel in the number one New York Times best-selling series. Thanks to some very influential people whose lives he saved, Lucas is no longer working for the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension but for the US Marshals Service, and with unusual scope. He gets to pick his own cases, whatever they are, wherever they lead him. And where they've led him this time is into real trouble. A Biloxi, Mississippi, drug-cartel counting house gets robbed, and suitcases full of cash disappear, leaving behind five bodies, including that of a six-year-old girl. Davenport takes the case, which quickly spirals out of control as cartel assassins, including a torturer known as the "queen of home-improvement tools", compete with Davenport to find the Dixie Hicks shooters who knocked over the counting house. Things get ugly real fast, and neither the cartel killers nor the holdup men give a damn about whose lives Davenport might have saved; to them he's just another large target. Filled with his trademark razor-sharp plotting and some of the best characters in suspense fiction, *Golden Prey* is further reason why "Sandford has always been at the top of any list of great mystery writers" (The Huffington Post).

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Lucas Davenport is now a "Feelance Deputy Marshall". Huh? Yep, not only is he rich and good looking, with a great family, but now he can pick and choose who he wants to hunt.....from all the

wanted criminals in the U.S. Best of all, he is really good at solving mysteries and catching the bad guys! He's pretty much his own boss, which makes him unpopular with the other Marshalls. He takes that all in stride, and is sure his winning personality will serve him well."Golden Prey" is genuine Sandford, clever, complex, suspenseful, and funny! In the first big case as a Marshall, Lucas is hunting for the men who robbed a drug cartel of millions of dollars and coldly murdered 5 people, including a 6 year-old girl. Of course the cartel boss wants his money back so he sends 2 hired killers to also hunt for the men. They torture and kill their way across the U.S., so now Lucas is looking for them, also. "His most direct contact was with a service bureaucrat in Washington named Russell Forte." Forte just seems to be like a coach of a really good player; he encourages Lucas and gives him whatever he needs to do the job. Lucas is helped along the way by lots of other cops and specialists. As usual, the Author's use of dialog and interactions with other characters is exceptional. This makes for a colossally enjoyable read!

If you like thrillers, you've had the same experience I've had--author starts great, then formulaic, then the writing gets sloppy. Eventually you are halfway through a book, or even near the end, and you realize you don't give a s**t what happens. Has not happened with Sandford. This might be his best yet. Partway through, realized it felt like an Elmore Leonard book. Writing was that strong, lean, elegant. Found myself going back to re-read the final gunfight. I rarely do that. If you haven't read Sandford's recent foray into sci-fi, *Saturn Run*, pick it up. Excellent.

I waited for this book for months. The newest in the Prey series, *Golden Prey* simply had to be great. It even hit the stores (and my Kindle) on my birthday. Well, I was disappointed. The plot was flat and the storyline was incredibly drawn out. There were two sets of devilish criminals, one chasing the other. Davenport, our dashing hero, began collaborating with two new characters from the US Marshal's office, of whom we learned precious little. And when it came time (finally!) to wrap everything up, somehow we found our hero taking action all by himself. (You'll get it later.) We didn't see his brain working, either, though there was a fairly tired thing about cell phones. Remember when your favorite crime author became so obsessed with serial killers that she ignored character development? I'm praying that this is a one-off for Mr. Sandford. He and Lucas are too good together for a cheap date.

It's a John Sandford novel, so it starts off at 5-stars. Since it's one of his Prey novels, it should really start off at 6-stars. I'm an unabashed Sandford fan and love all the Davenport and Flowers novels,

but I guess you can tell that from my first statements. Golden Prey is more of the same old mix of roller coaster excitement and the apparent depravity of the criminal elements inhabiting the middle part of the USA. In this book that insane criminal behavior has spread to other parts of the country outside Minnesota - which is necessary since Davenport is now a US Marshal (albeit a very special one) and must travel around quite a bit.

Lucas Davenport is a character that not everyone will love, for for fans of this series of novels he is a "hero" beyond compare. As a lawman, he will "bend" the law if he has to in order to get the bad guys, and he is not a stranger to violence - but he operates in a world where his way is the best way - and the safest for those he is paid to protect. He also does not suffer fools, in his own chain of command or in the politics that control it. Fast paced story, interesting as always, a joy to read. Some I know question Sandford's politics about gun control, but I think he keeps such things out of his work. Mike Holmes

I am sorry to see this series end, but I guess it was time I enjoyed all of these books, but the first ones were the best. As Lucas changed jobs, they weren't the same and I found myself a little disappointed. This one, being the last, wrapped things up, but it was almost like Sandford was just trying to get it over with. There was the story line, and then the last few paragraphs put an end to everything almost as an after thought. For someone who read every single book in the series I expected something better. Still, I'm sorry there won't be more. Maybe he'll show up in some of the Virgil Flowers books or something. Hope so.

You can never go wrong with John Sandford! I would love to reread the "Prey" books one of these days, as they are some of my favorites. Being a native Texas (don't hold that against me, I hate Abbott too), I especially enjoyed this one and only caught one mistake regarding the interstate freeways. If you've never read a "Prey" book, start with #1 and read them in order. You won't regret it!

This was a good book but not as good as I was hoping or expecting. I don't know if this is true or not but I think I read somewhere that this was the last book in the Lucas Davenport series. I'm really hoping that this is not true because it has become my favorite series. If it is I'll certainly be disappointed but I'm still looking forward to everything else John Sandford will write in the future.

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