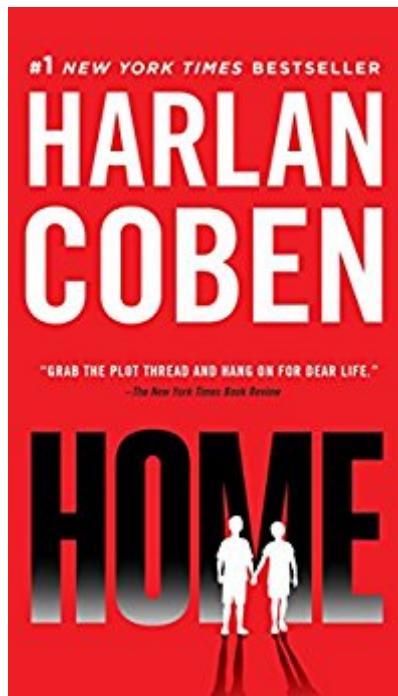


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Home (Myron Bolitar)



Synopsis

THE INSTANT #1 NEW YORK TIMESÃ Â BESTSELLERTen years after the high-profile kidnapping of two young boys, only one returns home in Harlan CobenÃ¢â€šâ€s gripping Myron Bolitar thriller. A decade ago, kidnappers grabbed two boys from wealthy families and demanded ransom, then went silent. No trace of the boys ever surfaced. For ten years their families have been left with nothing but painful memories and a quiet desperation for the day that has finally, miraculously arrived: Myron Bolitar and his friend Win believe they have located one of the boys, now a teenager. Where has he been for ten years, and what does he know about the day, more than half a life ago, when he was taken? And most critically: What can he tell Myron and Win about the fate of his missing friend? Drawing on his singular talent, Harlan Coben delivers an explosive and deeply moving thriller about friendship, family, and the meaning of home.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The last couple of Harlan Coben novels I read were stand-alones. They were enjoyable but not fully satisfying. In Home, Coben returned to the Myron Bolitar series. He has also returned to form. Win

Lockwood is searching for two boys, kidnapped in New Jersey, who have been missing for ten years. He's related to one of them. When he finally spots the other boy, three thugs get in his way. Three dead thugs later, the boy is gone, prompting Win to call Myron Bolitar for help. Harlan Coben doesn't usually write jaw-dropping prose, although he occasionally comes up with something clever ("a purple top so tight it could have been sausage casing"). Coben does, however, know how to keep a story moving, and that's good enough for a thriller, provided the story is interesting.

"Interesting" isn't a sufficiently forceful word to describe the plot of *Home*. The captivating story keeps the reader emotionally involved while pondering the fate of the two boys. The parents of each boy are believable characters. Each parent is obviously the victim of tragedy, but the full nature of their respective tragedies isn't known until the story concludes. The strongest characters, of course, are Win and Myron, each of whom evolves a bit by the time the story ends. Mickey Bolitar, Myron's nephew (and the central character in a young adult series), plays a supporting role, along with his friends Ema and Spoon. Win's cross-dressing buddy Zorra adds a note of comic relief to the story when he isn't causing mayhem. The plot needs that comic relief because it is quite intense. Coben builds suspense until he delivers a startling conclusion that resolves the mystery. The climax is emotionally satisfying. Unlike most modern thrillers, Coben managed to tell a compelling story without overreaching, without relying on implausible coincidence, and without following a formula. I'm glad to see that Coben got his groove back in *Home*.

I have read every book that Harlan Coben has written and his latest book, *HOME* was good. I just think this novel was not up to his usual cliff hanger. He embellished a bit too much on the scenery, cities, homes, landscapes and etc. At times it was like reading a brochure for a vacation spot or referring to areas that you never want to see or be in. But I love his books, I am 79 years old and most likely my opinion is not very important but you asked for it., so you have it..... I will be anxiously waiting for his next book.

One of the nice things about Harlan Coben's ongoing series and individual works is that he still tries. He's not just pumping out books to meet a contract, but he takes the time to develop characters, wrote solid sentences, expand the series universe, and give us good plots. Coben still cares. This is not one of the best Myron Bolitar books, and there is some weak plotting (you'll likely figure out what

happened early), but it is better than most series past a dozen books. I was disappointed with the first person look into Win Lockwood, which took a very tough, mysterious character from the series past and made him more two dimensional. Instead of all the dark brooding, sarcastic dismissals and cold calculation we got a run of the mill entitled rich sociopath who likes violence and has a soft spot for the people he cares about. I liked Win before we saw him "fleshed out". I suspect the reason for this is because Coben is getting bored with Myron after 20+ years, and likely with Mickey after a half dozen stories. I think the solution would be to write more one-off books like *Fool Me Twice* rather than dipping into the Bolitar world too much.

Oh I was so happy to read the continuing story of Win, Myron, Mickey, Ema, Esperanza, and everyone I've grown to love! In this book, we learn what is happening with all of them after some years have passed. Win calls Myron to help with a kidnapping case, and I could not put the book down trying to find out what had happened while enjoying the witty interactions of these characters! Plenty of twists and surprises! The only problem...how fast I read it, and now will there be another?

I look forward to a new novel from Harlan Coben every year and this one didn't disappoint. Myron and Win are back again and as amusing as ever. For the first time, we get a glimpse of what goes on inside Win's head. The story kept me on my toes. Two boys missing for ten years; Patrick is found -- what happened to Rhys? The details that Myron and Win gather just don't add up and it kept me guessing throughout. I did have a few gripes, however. In the time between Coben's last Myron/Win novel and this one, quite a few things happened that were never explained. I suspect that these events occurred in Coben's YA series about Mickey. Not cool. Overall, I loved this novel.

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