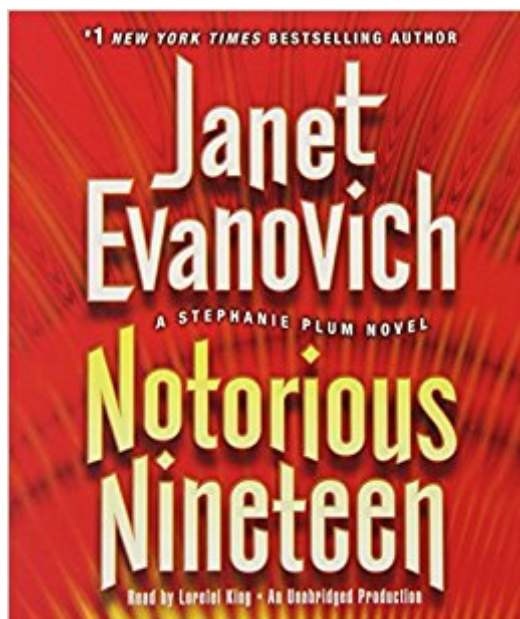


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# Notorious Nineteen: A Stephanie Plum Novel



## Synopsis

#1 bestselling author Janet Evanovich's Stephanie Plum novels are: "irresistible" (Houston Chronicle), "stunning" (Booklist), "outrageous" (Publishers Weekly), "brilliantly evocative" (The Denver Post), and "making trouble and winning hearts" (USA Today). New Jersey bounty hunter Stephanie Plum is certain of three truths: People don't just vanish into thin air. Never anger old people. And don't do what Tiki tells you to do. After a slow summer of chasing low-level skips for her cousin Vinnie's bail bonds agency, Stephanie Plum finally lands an assignment that could put her checkbook back in the black. Geoffrey Cubbin, facing trial for embezzling millions from Trenton's premier assisted-living facility, has mysteriously vanished from the hospital after an emergency appendectomy. Now it's on Stephanie to track him down. Unfortunately, Cubbin has disappeared without a trace, a witness, or his money-hungry wife. Rumors are stirring that he must have had help with the daring escape . . . or that maybe he never made it out of his room alive. Since the hospital staff's lips seem to be tighter than the security, and it's hard for Stephanie to blend in to assisted living, Stephanie's Grandma Mazur goes in undercover. But when a second felon goes missing from the same hospital, Stephanie is forced into working side by side with Trenton's hottest cop, Joe Morelli, in order to crack the case. The real problem is, no Cubbin also means no way to pay the rent. Desperate for money—or maybe just desperate—Stephanie accepts a secondary job guarding her secretive and mouthwatering mentor Ranger from a deadly Special Forces adversary. While Stephanie is notorious for finding trouble, she may have found a little more than she bargained for this time around. Then again—a little food poisoning, some threatening notes, and a bridesmaid's dress with an excess of taffeta never killed anyone . . . or did they? If Stephanie Plum wants to bring in a paycheck, she'll have to remember: No guts, no glory.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Janet Evanovich's Stephanie Plum novels are: "Making trouble and winning hearts." "USA Today" "Brilliantly evocative." "The Denver Post" "Irresistible." "Houston Chronicle"

JANET EVANOVICH is the #1 New York Times bestselling author of the Stephanie Plum series, the Lizzy and Diesel series, twelve romance novels, the Alexandra Barnaby novels and Trouble Maker graphic novel, and How I Write: Secrets of a Bestselling Author, as well as the Fox and O'Hare series with co-author Lee Goldberg.

Evanovich phoned this one in. The funny parts were not very funny, the romantic parts were not romantic - except for a brief scene with Ranger in a church, the scary parts are not scary and the suspense not suspenseful. There are two independent story lines, one centered on an ex-special forces guy out for revenge against Ranger and the other story line has Joe and Stephanie searching for two fugitives who disappear from a local hospital. Neither story line is worth the price of the book. The Joe vs. Ranger thing continues, with no resolution in sight. The bones were there to have an excellent book but it was just not complete. Perhaps Evanovich is too busy with her two other series to put any real effort into any one of them.

I pre-ordered. I've told my friends that after investing 10 years of my life, and who knows how much \$\$ that I feel like I have to see this series through to the end....but at this point it's just painful. I'm not even really sure Janet wrote this book, it felt more like a ghost writer. It pains me to say that because I LOVED this series in the beginning, but the last...say...half dozen have just been ... boring. No Sally Sweet, no big Grandma laughs, and the characters have not moved forward, not to mention....a 10 year old hamster....Rex didn't even have any good lines this time around. Truth is, I'm neither Team Ranger nor Team Morelli. If either of them was "the one" she would have decided it by now. I'm all for cutting both of them loose and getting Stephanie back on the market...or having her focus on her career....that's where all the good laughs were anyway! What finally tipped the

scale for me? Digging him up and stuffing him in the trunk of the Buick, and demanding a body receipt for him? That's too gross to even contemplate. It gives me pain to be so negative. I have a tremendous respect for Ms. Evanovich, and can only imagine how hurt she would be if she ever ventured out to read these reviews...but I think in her heart she must feel the same way because there was just so substance, no laughs, no movement. She must be tired of writing, and simply be fulfilling her contract. I think others would agree with me, we want some real happiness for Stephanie...and we want to read the passion in Janet's work again. She really seems to have lost interest.

I agree with others on the characters. JE has stunted Stephanie's development in particular. She doesn't even really speak. The first few books were fantastic. Now, I just want to yell "Grow up!" Don't waste your \$\$\$.

I keep buying these hoping they'll get better. They don't. As one reviewer perfectly stated, the only thing that changes are the names of the skips. The jokes...the few that are there, are forced. I said I wouldn't spend the money on more of her regurgitated stories after the last one and my memory must have slipped...or I just HOPED the author was back on track...but, big disappointment this book was. It's like watching Lucy and Ethel re-runs, only less funny.

Okay, when you start a series that eventually gets boring, you cannot help but trudge through the next one hoping it will stop spinning its wheels and get someplace. I have invested so much time in the Plum series I hate to just quit. But, I think at this point Evanovich has a template and just fills in different names of goofy new bail bonds characters and is coasting. And of course we yet again get to hear about Stephanie trying to resist Ranger ("Babe" is getting irritating. ), make up her mind about Morelli, her car will blow up at some point, Lula will be called fat and eat constantly, mom will drink, dad will grumble and so on and so on. I think I will make my New Year's resolution to be NOT to read anymore Stephanie Plum books. I think the next one should be called ~Twenty is PLENTY~!

I said the same thing with Notorious 18.... I WANT TO LOVE THIS SERIES AGAIN!!! I have been a Plumtastic fan since the very first book, faithfully picking up every copy. Maybe that is what Janet banks on...that us Plum fans will run out and grab the latest copy just PRAYING our favorite bumbling bailbond girl will make us a believer again. I really feel like I'm DONE. I use to read them in a day, I just wanted the fun romp of a read! It took me a week to get through it. PLOT: (Any of this

sound familiar?) Stephanie "loves" Morelli but wants Ranger. Stephanie is broke and desperate for money. Lula wants to eat everything in sight. She can't catch 'easy' skips. Her car gets blown up (bored to eyerolling tears with her car being blown up). Ranger loans her multiple cars. Grandma Mazur has a few funny moments. Bad guys have rocket launchers (really!?) Nothing important is resolved. I remember laughing out loud during the first 8-10 books...then the laughing was less and the eye rolling began. I long to love these books again....so maybe instead of churning two out a year...we could have one amazing well written one. After the last 8 awful ones....I think we deserve it Janet...

I have read all of the Plum books and in the beginning I enjoyed them and that is why I continued reading. The last four books started going downhill with the predictable thus boring situations. In this day and age her 50's attitude of this constant need to marry is dated. Her inability to grow in her job as well as in relationships is sad. Morelli seems to be stuck in high school as far as his relationship with Plum is concerned. At least Ranger doesn't want to change her and actually admires her as well as support her in her job. This whole thing of Plum books is going only in circles. I'm not going along.

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