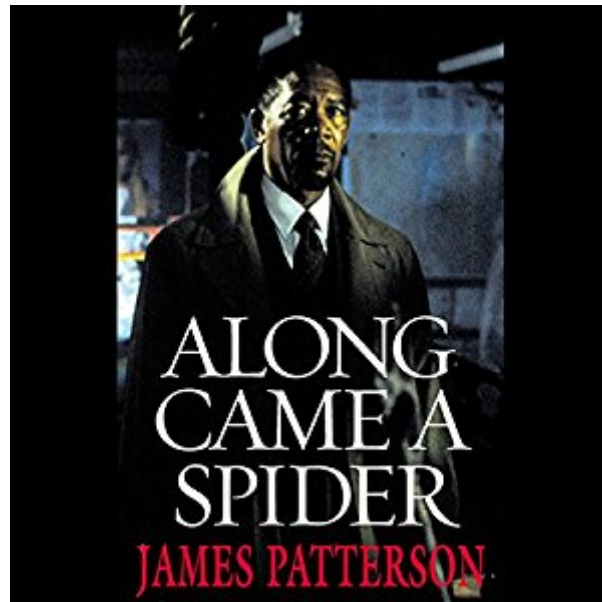




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Along Came A Spider



Synopsis

FOR USE IN SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES ONLY. Washington, D.C. police detective Alex Cross becomes caught up in a kidnapping case that may involve Gary Soneji, a teacher at an elite private school who is also a schizophrenic psychopath and serial murderer.

Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

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Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Unabridged

Publisher: Hachette Audio

Audible.com Release Date: May 11, 2001

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Best Sellers Rank: #85 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Mysteries & Thrillers > Police

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#1751 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Fiction & Literature

Customer Reviews

I found that James Patterson's #1 book "Along Came a Spider" is a very interesting read. It is not too often that I can find a psychological mystery to be this exceptional. The Gary Soneji/Murphy outsmarting the police with being a psychopath, potential Multiple personality disorder/ personality fatigue, and being the actor with having homicidal "1 year/5 year/lifetime plans" to be famous like he feels he should be is very interesting. From what I heard (without reading any other Alex Cross books), this book will set up for some storylines in the next few books allowing for some interesting storylines for the book now. This book series is the Law and Order: Criminal Intent series of James Patterson. While the story revolves around the crime and solving the crime, there is a huge element to the psychological, motives and the "criminal intent". It involves the "ticking" of the criminal to why they would do the things they would do. It can range from money to famous to just being a pure psychological evil driven madman. All in all an A+. In this book by itself, there is one drawback. It can be really slow sometimes. After Soneji's trial and conviction (about half way through) starting with part 4, it starts dragging while Alex Cross continues the case. But it does lead up to a very interesting ending (the last few chapters), in which I will be willing to give it a pass. Like I said, an A+ and an A+ book!!!

I have read all of the Alex Cross books except for two, well now one. The reason I waited so long was because the first two were movies.. I have seen both movies and enjoyed them! I figured the books would be the same as the movies... I thought WRONG "Along Came a Spider" was completely different than the movie with minimal similarities! The book was excellent, wish I never waited to read it!!! Can't wait to read "Kiss The Girls!"

James Patterson, the master of the psychological thriller, has created a brilliant Washington, D.C. detective who can psycho-analyze AND catch the bad guy--or girl, while being a loving father to his two children and devoted grandson to his Nana Mama. Alex Cross is the "real deal" whom you soon feel you have known and adored as a family friend for your entire life. This ranks right up there with the best of the thrillers!

Any James Patterson/Alex Cross fans will fondly remember this book as the start for both men's careers. However, the movie simply deviates too much from its source material to truly merit the description of "adaptation". While the plot of the movie was good and its cast was superb (isn't Morgan Freeman always?), this film might have done better in my eyes had it not been adapted from the novel of the same name to begin with. Ultimately, they don't share much apart from the character names and a few plot details. I do understand that a movie must take certain liberties with its source material, especially a novel, as there are time constraints. But so much that made this novel great was cut out and, in many cases, replaced by plot devices which probably did not take up more or less time than the original. Perhaps this was a book that would have been best served by a movie split into two parts (i.e. like the 7th Harry Potter book.) As a general crime thriller, I say it's far above average mostly thanks to its casting choices, but I feel so much more could have been done with it even if it weren't an adaptation. As for my recommendation, I do recommend it to anyone who's a fan of crime thrillers with a decent plot and a great cast. For all the James Patterson/Alex Cross fans out there, I'll leave it up to you. Enjoy.

love this series delighted when the bluray versions came out. Stands alone even if you didn't see the first one, "Kiss the Girls" though I must admit I like that one better. As always Morgan Freeman delivers, always believable no matter what the role.

The problem is, it's not the book version!! Gone are Nana and the kids, gone is Sampson, and there

is no torrid affair with Jezzie Flanagan. No offense to Morgan, but he was too old for this role to begin with yet they went with him because of his name and acting chops. And, while he does bring to life Alex Cross quite well, he's no Alex for real... at least not what the book fans are looking for. Maggie is now Meghan and she is the daughter of a no-name Senator instead of the beautiful actress. Shrimpie Goldberg is non-existent and D'mitri is the object of Meghan's affections??? Gone is the cellar in the barn and somehow there is a boat... And, Soneji/Murphy is now dead and therefore cannot come back in a later installment! Truly disappointing, hence the four stars. Kyle Craig does show up and there is an anonymous ransom drop that the doers get away with that is actually a little more creative than the book... The complexity of Soneji was played well, but without the background and his family its kind of lost if you don't know what his character was all about in the first place. Yet, somehow this theatrical version seems to pull it off without the sex and entanglements, something more movies could benefit from. So, for what it is, this is a GREAT movie, just don't expect a true book version... "cool beans" ~ Gary Soneji

Patterson's books are difficult to review. I have a love/hate relationship with them. I love them because they are so easy and absorbing to read, and truly are thrillers. I 'hate' them because they are so dark and gritty that I come away feeling like I need some fresh air. I need to be in a certain frame of mind to even start one of his books, because sometimes I just look at the cover and want to turn away. I guess it shows he's a powerful writer. This book is a good example of all of that. If you like a dark, gritty page-turner that's a very quick read, this book is for you.

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