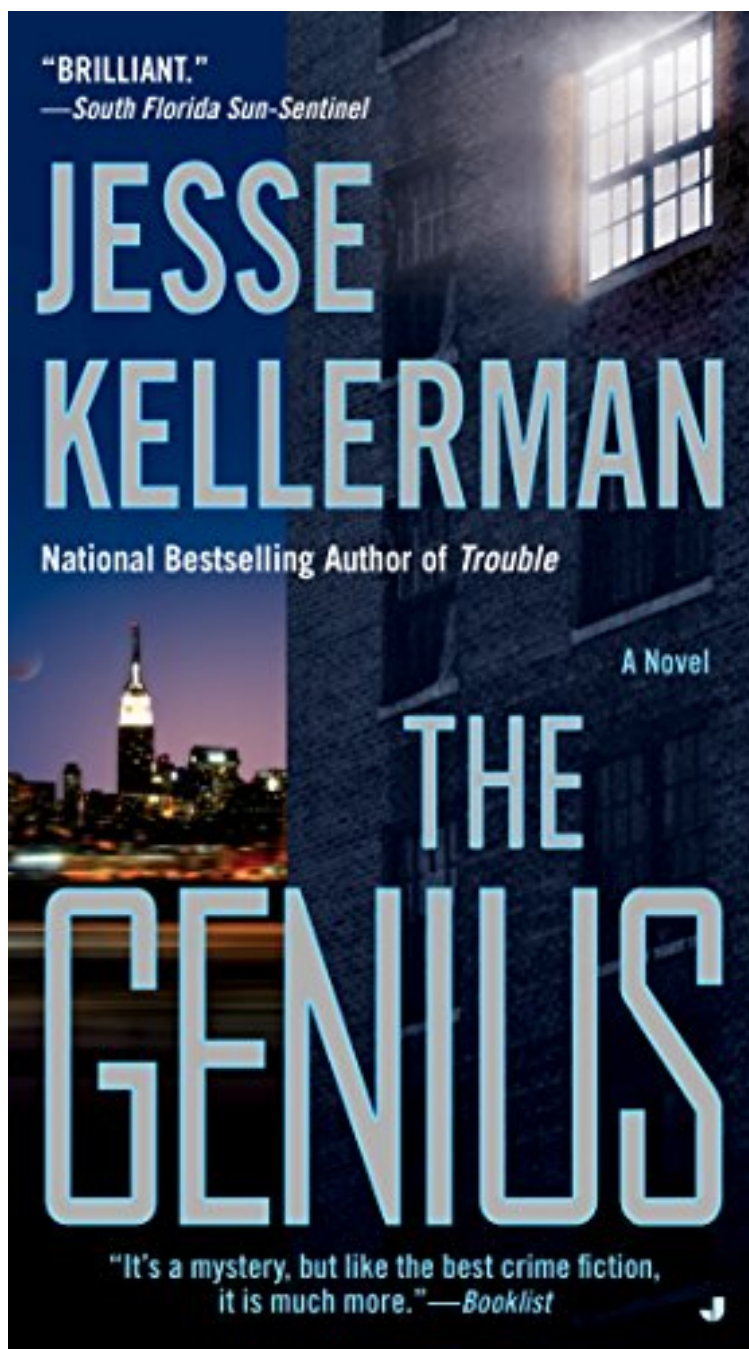


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The Genius



Par Jesse Kellerman
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Par Jesse Kellerman : The Genius
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Description :

Prsentation de l'diteurA MASTERFUL PLOT AND DEAD-ON PACING.Entertainment Weekly From its first hip, cynical, snarky, confessional pages, this deftly plotted novel rivets the readera must buy.Booklist In a decaying New York slum, a tenant named Victor Cracke has disappeared, leaving behind countless

cardboard boxes of strange, original artwork. Gallery owner Ethan Muller can see their brilliance and their moneymaking potential. Strictly speaking, the drawings don't belong to Ethan. But great art demands an audience, and before long Ethan's wildly successful show is being covered by the Times where it attracts the attention of the police. Because the subjects of the pictures look exactly like the victims in a long-cold murder case. Ethan has received a letter saying stop stop stop. And the still-missing genius may be the link to a madman or the madman himself.

From the Paperback edition. .com

Harlan Coben on The Genius

Harlan Coben is one of the virtuosos of the modern thriller. Each new novel hits the top of bestseller lists across the world, and he has become the first author to sweep the Edgar, Shamus, and Anthony awards. Beginning with his acclaimed Myron Bolitar series (including the recent *Promise Me*), Coben soon branched out into stand-alone thrillers that have made his name as a master of clockwork suspense, including his latest, *Hold Tight*, which brings his trademark thrills into the most basic dilemmas of the modern suburban family. "In the beginning, I behaved badly." That's how the uber-talented Jesse Kellerman opens up his newest novel, *The Genius*, and right away, he has you. I won't give you a long plot summary because others will do it better, but briefly: A young art dealer named Ethan Muller manages to get hold of a treasure trove of original art after the artist, an unknown shut-in named Victor Cracke, disappears. The first sign of trouble crops up when a retired cop recognizes one of the figures as being a boy who died some 40 years earlier. Ethan's life spirals out of control from there. Before the story is over, Ethan will learn to question everything about his "wonderful" discovery--as well as his own family's destiny. Yes, the book is gripping and compelling and Ethan Muller, the narrator, is wonderfully wry company, but what truly separates Kellerman from the pack is his prose. Simply put, he is a wonderful writer. He has the ability to make everything seem, well, true. Every scene has that ring of authenticity that's so elusive in fiction. I bought everything that Ethan did--and loved the flashbacks showing how the Muller family went from poor immigrants to real-estate tycoons. I love books where past crimes will not stay buried. The web of deceit in *The Genius* stretches back four decades, but it is still claiming victims. Jesse Kellerman tightens the noose slowly, and we his readers can do nothing but turn the pages. I have been a fan since his debut, *Sunstroke*, but he's getting better and better. If you've already read Jesse Kellerman, don't waste anymore time reading this review. If you haven't yet discovered his work, *The Genius* is the place to begin--and not a bad description of the author. From Publishers Weekly

Starred . Greed gets Ethan Muller, a 33-year-old Manhattan art dealer, into hot water in Kellerman's superb third stand-alone thriller (after *Trouble*). When reclusive artist Victor Cracke disappears, Muller winds up taking possession of the boxes and boxes of intense, disturbing drawings that Cracke left behind in his shabby Queens apartment. A favorable New York Times article helps fuel lucrative sales at an exhibit of Cracke's drawings at Muller's Chelsea gallery. Soon, though, Muller starts to receive cryptic, vaguely threatening letters. He also hears from a retired NYPD detective, Lee McGrath, who recognizes the face of one of the boys in a Cracke drawing as belonging to the victim of a 40-year-old unsolved murder. That revelation turns Muller into an amateur detective as he attempts to discover how the dead boy's image along with those of several other victims made its way into the pictures. Kellerman has a gift for creating compelling characters as well as for crafting an ingenious plot that grabs the reader and refuses to let go.

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