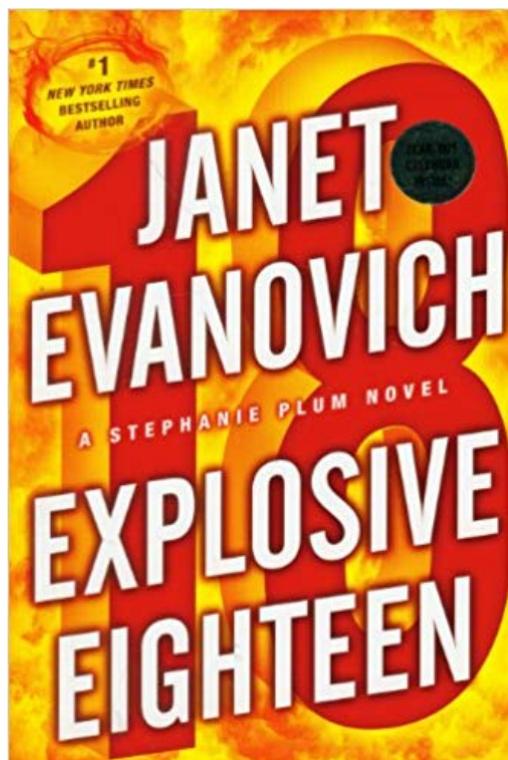


Explosive Eighteen by Janet Evanovich



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Reviews of the **Explosive Eighteen** by Janet Evanovich

Froststalker

Maybe that's it with Stephanie Plum now? Evanovich does Business as usual again, and does so at least since book 16. There is always this little hope that she finally gets around to being brilliant again, but maybe she is just tired of Plum herself? Never mind, there are other funny female detectives out there, but newer and fresher, like in Heads Off (A Lisa Becker Mystery).

The book feels like copy and pasted from the other 19 books, but this time a giraffe on the loose is in it. That's almost worth it, ridiculous and stupid, yes, but not predictable as the rest of the novel. Stephanie still can't decide between Ranger and Morelli - this has gone on so long it's just tedious. Even Grandma Mazur is more creepy than funny, Lula delivers her lines, the guys come in and leave again, absolutely nothing happens. The bounty hunting is nothing special and follows the beaten track. Stephanie says in the book we've done this before". Indeed we have.

If you treat this series like a sitcom with its repetitive humor, it's still enjoyable. But if there is going

to be more, I would like to see some development. By which I mean: Dump Joe. Or Ranger. As long as I still care.

Gralmeena

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.

Gagas

I liked it, but I didn't like it. I guess I got tired of exploding cars, grappling with suspects, and the same old thing. I got kind of tired of Stephanie's incompetence, after seventeen books, she doesn't get much better at apprehending skips. How does she stay slim when she eats donuts, cakes and fried chicken? I'd like to learn her secret. I'm not sure why she has two men attracted to her? What does Joe see in her, and Ranger? I was kind of glad that she got together with Ranger again, since it had been so long, but it seemed in bad taste to be with Joe on back to back nights. It might have meant more if she hadn't been with Joe for a long time, but they seemed to be an item again.

I like the humor, but it seems to be kind of repetitive of all her other books.

Livina

Janet Evanovich has been writing best-selling books for so many years I forget when I started reading them. The antics of Stephanie and her crew have made me laugh so hard I had tears running down my legs. The sexual tension between the characters has always had me coming back for more, and, more. Ms. Evanovich was a master of the craft and we all profited from it. She's done now. The legend of Stephanie Plum is over. I don't know how it happened. I don't know when it all started to go wrong. But alas, the ride is over. Maybe it started when the author started to write other series with other authors. Maybe she just had no more left for Stephanie to do. But since about book 11, I think we all started getting tired of it. How many more times is someone going to say "babe"? Are we expected to read a book where someone usually dies, the dog eats something and pukes, grandma does something kooky, and the heroine waffles back and forth between two men. We all give thanks for the years of enjoyment but we are officially done. For the last ten books (translate ten years and about \$300.00, not to mention the shelf space we have lost) you can take off the dust jackets, mix them around and put them in any order you want. It makes no difference, THE'RE ALL THE SAME

BOOK!!!! I gave it ten good years and except for the fact that the books are getting thinner, they haven't changed a bit. I actually SKIMMED through this book. Can you believe it? SKIMMED!!! I'm sorry Janet, I have loved your books since I was a teenager, but I can't read one more repetitious word. I WILL miss you. But I really need the shelf space.

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