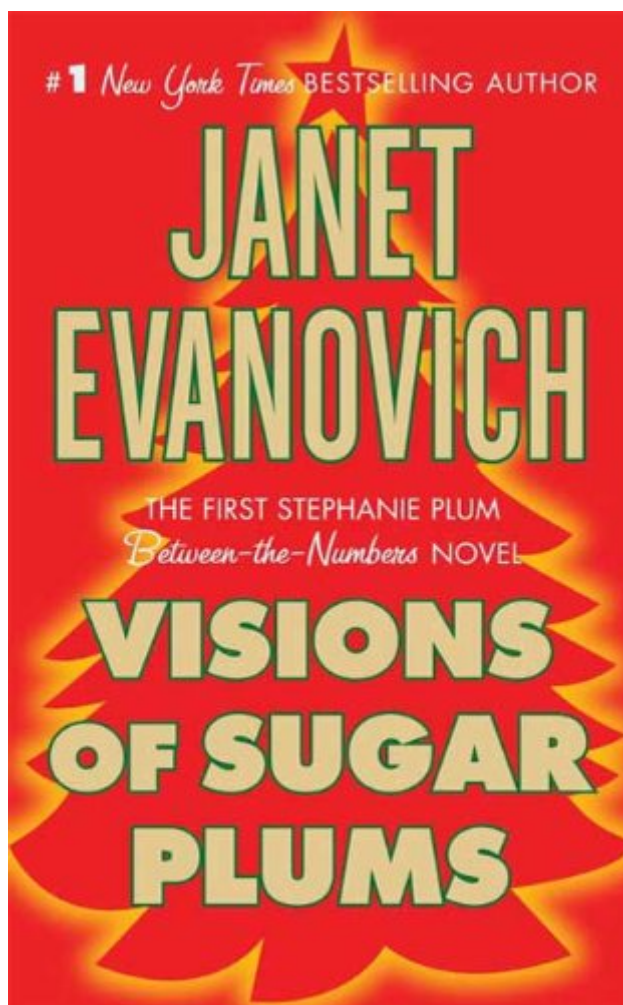


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Visions Of Sugar Plums: A Stephanie Plum Holiday Novel (A Between The Numbers Novel)



Synopsis

It's five days before Christmas and things are not looking merry for Fugitive Apprehension Agent Stephanie Plum. She hasn't got a tree. She hasn't bought any presents. The malls are jam-packed with staggering shoppers. There's not a twinkle light anywhere to be seen in her apartment. And there's a strange man in her kitchen. Sure, this has happened to Stephanie Plum before. Strangers, weirdos, felons, creeps, and lunatics are always finding their way to her front door. But this guy is different. This guy is mysterious, sexy-and he has his own agenda. His name is Diesel and he is a man on a mission. And Diesel is unlike anyone Stephanie has ever met before in her life. The question is, what does he want with her? Can he help her find a little old toy maker who has skipped out on his bail right before Christmas? Can he survive the Plum family holiday dinner? Can he get Stephanie a tree that doesn't look like it was grown next to a nuclear power plant? These questions and more are keeping Stephanie awake at night. Not to mention the fact that she needs to find a bunch of nasty elves, her sister Valerie has a Christmas "surprise" for the Plums, her niece Mary Alice doesn't believe in Santa anymore, and Grandma Mazur has a new stud muffin. So bring out the plastic reindeer, strap on your jingle bells, and get ready to celebrate the holidays-Jersey style. In Janet Evanovich's *Visions of Sugar Plums*, the world of Plum has never been merrier!

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Customer Reviews

This book was not of the same caliber as *One for the Money*. Janet can write better than this. The story line is thin, of course the characters are zany as always and that's the one good thing about this novella. However the characters can't always carry the book you need a good strong story line as well. Stephanie is after an FTA named Sandy Claws. One morning she wakes up and finds a man in her apartment. It started off well, the idea was interesting and it could have worked. But in the end, the plot was rushed and I didn't feel like all my answers about the character Diesel were answered. Diesel would have been interesting but in the middle of the book he turned out to be a copy of Ranger. I don't recommend you buy this in hardcover. You will feel cheated. I paid for this in Canadian dollars and it was close to 30\$. If readers are going to spend this much money the publisher, writer and editor better make damn sure it's the best novella ever written. I think the publisher should stop rushing Janet to produce books because the quality of the writing and the story telling is declining as the series progresses. I rather wait for 2 years for an awesome book than 1 year for a book.

I love Stephanie Plum. And lucky for Janet E, I will still love Stephanie, despite this short, expensive fairy tale. I can suspend disbelief with the best of the, but Stephanie is supposed to live in a wild, wacky but somewhat real world. This book deals with a fantasy hero which is fine in fantasy books, but last time I checked, Plum books were classified as mysteries. It was an expensive, totally unsatisfying read that smacked not of author intrusion, but publisher intrusion as a gambit to drain some holiday bucks from loyal Plum readers. A non-worldly hero who pops in and out of Stephanie's life, a missing Santa, a workshop manned by elves. Take the typical crazy Plum elements that we always love and take them two steps too far, making a parody of a parody of a parody. And now we know the definition of "derivative." Folks, we were used.... I'm still going to be first in line for the numbered books because I have faith that Janet E will deliver the goods. SMP, we'll forgive you this time, but we won't forget. Don't try our patience and make such a calculated attack on our wallets again without giving us anything substantial.

I was so excited to see a new book by Janet Evanovich that I bought it without reading much about it (except to ensure that it did involve Stephanie Plum). It was the first day it was available, and

there were no customer reviews yet. I enjoyed reading it because I love her sense of humor, but I feel cheated. Twelve dollars (plus shipping) is awfully expensive for what is essentially an extended short story. Guess I should have paid more attention to the fact there was no number in the title.

As a person who has read every book in the Stephanie Plum series, who has recommended them to a number of people, who has eagerly awaited the arrival of each new installment, I really wanted to love this book. Or, at least like it. Well, I can't say I don't like it, but that warm and fuzzy feeling I used to get when reading one of Stephanie Plum's adventures? It just wasn't there. I'm ashamed, and saddened to say that. No one could be more disappointed than a true fan. I have followed Stephanie since the first time she tried to apprehend a bad guy, and I will admit that the 7th and 8th installments haven't been as great as the first 6. But *Visions of Sugar Plums* just doesn't deserve to be called a Stephanie Plum novel. At a scant 149 pages, it's not worthy of its price, nor is it really worthy of your time. There's none of that simmering sexual tension between her and Ranger, or her and Morelli for that matter. Instead, the main man is Diesel - a mysterious guy who just "appears" in Stephanie's apartment one day, and who can unlock doors like magic. It sounds a bit too supernatural to me, which is a little bit silly, considering that Stephanie Plum books have never even touched on the supernatural. Overall, the story feels rushed, and it feels like we've been there before. Her grandma is still crazy (along with the rest of her family), she's still got her cute hamster, she's still having Morelli issues, but...well...this novel doesn't make us care. I sure hope that this was just a bad fluke, and that Janet Evanovich will give more TLC to her next Stephanie Plum novel.

I normally would not write a review when there are so many on this book already, but seeing how many were poorly rated I felt an overwhelming desire to have my say. If you love Janet Evanovich books, if you are a fan of Stephanie Plum, if you adore her family with all their quirks and are willing to let yourself move in a world of fun and "fantasy", your going to LOVE this book. Don't try to pull it apart and analyze it, just go with it and enjoy. This book deals primarily with her family and what's not to love about them?!!! Who cares who Ring really is and what Diesel is, in the grand scheme of things it doesn't really matter. This is not a Tolstoy classic with symbolism and scholarly views, this is Evanovich lightening your day and making you smile. I dare you to read this book and not laugh! If you are looking for a romance with sexual tension mixed with some lighthearted laughs than this is not the book for you, try reading Evanovich's "Full House", and if you looking for the same old style of a Stephanie Plum book than try rereading her first eight. So the book is short, so are "The

Brothers Grimm Fairy Tales" and they are always great reading. If you are willing to break out of the old mold and can't get enough of Stephanie's family and need to escape into a fun book you couldn't ask for anything better.

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