



The Copper Bracelet

Jeffery Deaver, Alfred Molina (Narrator)

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Harold Middleton returns in this explosive sequel to *The Chopin Manuscript* as he's drawn into an international terror plot that threatens to send India and Pakistan into full-scale nuclear war. Careening from Nice to London and Moscow to Kashmir to prevent nuclear disaster, Middleton is unaware his prey has changed and the act of terror is far more diabolical than he knows. Will he discover the identity of the Scorpion in time to halt an event that will pit the United States, China, and Russia against each other at the brink of World War III?

A follow-up to the award-winning *The Chopin Manuscript*, *The Copper Bracelet* brings together 16 of the world's most celebrated thriller writers including Lee Child, Joseph Finder, David Hewson, David Liss, and Lisa Scottoline to each write a chapter of this pulsing tale. Once again, Jeffery Deaver set the story in motion, and brings it to its shocking finale.

The Copper Bracelet Details

Date : Published January 5th 2010 by Brilliance Audio (first published 2009)

ISBN : 9781441830715

Author : Jeffery Deaver , Alfred Molina (Narrator)

Format : Audio CD

Genre : Mystery, Fiction, Thriller, Mystery Thriller

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From Reader Review The Copper Bracelet for online ebook

Melenia says

I really enjoyed this book, but not as much as I loved the first one. The concept works pretty well for them, but I didn't enjoy some of the character changes.

Bev says

"I think something else is going on here," a character says before the end of the book. Never was a truer word written.

This book proves that not only do too many cooks spoil the broth, but too many authors does not a great book make. This was a free download from Audible.com (and does not, apparently have a print version). Each chapter is written by a different author, consequently there are so many plot lines and so many characters it's like trying to follow a Russian novel. Just when you think you know who is the bad guy, there is a badder guy. Just when you know who is the hero, s/he is killed. The travel and convenient meetings are also as implausible as a Dan Brown novel. It seems that everybody is tailing everybody and will the bad guy (whoever it really is) succeed in throwing the world into total chaos? The addition of the innocent daughter of one of the characters is reminiscent of the first three seasons of "24."

Yeah, I stuck through to the end but I wouldn't do it again.

Anita says

Actual Rating: 2.5 Stars

This book is a collaborative effort among various crime thriller novelists, with Jeffrey Deaver fronting the project (he created the main protagonist, Harold Middleton, and he also writes the first and last chapters).

I was just as intrigued with it as I had been with *Chopin Manuscript* (my review), though I had been worried that the book would be a big mess with so many minds and so many ideas trying to take precedent. And despite *The Chopin Manuscript* getting slightly out of control towards the middle and the ending, it was still a very enjoyable piece... if you can ignore a lot of the mess.

Whether this book *was* really a big haphazard, narrative mess, or if it was just me, being distracted at all the wrong times while listening to the audiobook, I can't be sure. But I sure as hell had a hard time following what was going on with *so much* going on within moments of events.

It's a pretty good concept that has potential to last a few more books, honestly. Harold Middleton is pretty much the leader of a group of Volunteers who are tasked with helping keep the world a safe place by going after potential terrorist threats and the like. And, of course, in *The Copper Bracelet*, there's a lot of action, and traveling, and secrets, and secret reveals, and death, and destruction, and betrayals, and torture, and... there's just a LOT going on in this book.

Like I said already, I had no idea where the book was going with all the things happening for a good long time.

Still, I had fun with this one. Even if it was a lot of confusing fun.

And once again, Alfred Molina did excellent with his narration; though I can't help but feel that it was better in the first book.

Melinda says

I have really enjoyed these two books. Love the action, the running plot lines, the twists, Harry...its quite the ride.

Cindy says

meh

Samyann says

The Chopin Manuscript - multiple authors. Released in 2007, 7.5 hours of listening. Harry Middleton and the "Volunteers" are introduced in a mystery involving a newly discovered Chopin manuscript. The 'Volunteers' is a small group of clandestine good-guys that goes after bad-guys with the aid of alphabet soup named organizations across the world.

The Copper Bracelet - multiple authors. Released in 2009, 8.5 hours in length. A story that starts with a bang: an exploding cell phone and laptop at a beach sting involving Harry Middleton and his cohorts. Subsequent chapters morph into a twisted, confusing, and globe trotting mess that ends with an assassination attempt.

The Starling Project is written by Jeffery Deaver alone and released in 2014. A shorter story just over four hours long, but told in the manner of an old fashioned radio mystery. Lots of sound effects like footsteps, car doors slamming.

The first two books in the series, The Chopin Manuscript and The Copper Bracelet, are collaborative efforts involving multiple writers - each author responsible for one chapter. A single narrator, Alfred Molina, does a credible job - no trouble with male/female voices, good diction, sound effects a little over the top, but decent productions. The books begin with a foundation by Jeffery Deaver and the final chapters are his efforts to bring all the disparaging clues to a close. This wasn't the plan, I'm sure, but it's what appears to have resulted.

The books lack the cohesiveness of an overall vision because there are so many cooks in the kitchen stirring the plot with their own vision. The efforts were likely fun (or frustrating?) for the authors, but resulted in books that were difficult reads. Lots of rewinding and muttering of "What the...?". The best parts of these stories are the chapters written by those you would expect. Jeffery Deaver, Joseph Finder, and Lee Child. In

my opinion, the rest tried too hard to 'make a splash' and ultimately damaged the overall effort. My cliched opinion: Everybody was not using the same playbook - shoot me.

The last book in the series, *The Starling Project*, is completely different from a production standpoint. The book is the performances of a myriad of narrators/actors, special sound effects of bombs, gunshots, creaking doors, and heart-thumping music fill - basically an elaborate radio drama. Smooching/moaning during a few sex episodes distracted from plot. These scenes are presented in a 'fade-to-black' manner, but are eye-rolling and ridiculous. Although the plot is interesting, Jeffery Deaver uses Harry Middleton conversations to wrap up much of the story - pulling loose ends together in the last few minutes of listening. This book is more about production than story.

The Harold Middleton Series was created in audiobook format only. The series has decent reviews and is certainly an extraordinarily unusual effort. Suppose I'm alone in a 'meh' opinion - but, there it is.

Andreas Strom says

Not bad, but not very impressive either. I thought it was a little boring until the last few chapters, and the final chapter had about two endings too many. Still, it's another successful experiment in writing, but I found the first one slightly better.

Dale says

Much like the last one in the series, the experiment in making the story is better than the story (A review of the audiobook)

7 discs

9 hours

+ 1 interview disc lasting about 45 minutes.

The Copper Bracelet is the second installment in the Harry Middleton story. Harry is former military officer, former music teacher, current hunter of war criminals. Along with his compatriots, the Volunteers, Harry Middleton is after war criminals from Kashmir.

The story behind the book is pretty simple - Jeffery Deaver (*Garden of Beasts: A Novel of Berlin 1936*), a well-known writer of action thrillers started out an international thriller by writing the first chapter. Then the story was handed off to another author and a chapter was added (16 authors in total) until it got back Deaver who wrote the concluding chapter.

This is a slightly different group of writers than in the first novel, *The Chopin Manuscript: A Serial Thriller*. *The Copper Bracelet* is a bit smoother than the first book, but it still has its herky-jerky moments in which characters are introduced and then promptly killed. To me, the bad guys seemed rather James Bond Super-Villain-ish, which for me is too cartoonish to be interesting.

The most interesting feature of the audiobook is the last "Bonus" disc that includes an interview with the narrator, veteran actor Alfred Molina (*Spider-Man 2*) and an interview with Jeffrey Deaver and a couple of authors about the process they used to write the book. Most interestingly, no overall plot was ever discussed beforehand - the authors receive the completed chapters and have a limited amount of time to add another

chapter before it gets handed off to the next author in line.

<http://dwdsreviews.blogspot.com/>

Darcey Hawkins says

I didn't think I was a fan of spy drama (or whatever it's called). It took me a bit to engage but I'm glad I did. It's a good read.

Stellina says

Interessante l'esperienza di scrivere a più mani una storia. Un po' meno per quanto riguarda i contenuti, piuttosto fantastici, molto inverosimili, a volte assurdi. La storia ricorda autori americani che scrivono di eroi invincibili, infallibili, che sfiorano sempre le pallottole, che cadono da altezze assurde eppure restano illesi. Insomma, bella l'idea della scrittura collettiva, meno bella la costruzione di un ex colonnello che sfida da solo la cattiveria del mondo.

Chris says

Reviewed first at Brunner's Bookshelf

This is amazing for the simple reason that this was written by 16 different authors. This is the sequel to The Chopin Manuscript bringing Harold Middleton back for another adventure. The Chopin Manuscript was originally a serial audio book. Every week there was a new chapter written by a different author. My favorite author, Jeffery Deaver, wrote the first chapter in that one and this book setting the story. After he set every thing up each author wrote the next chapter and steered the story in the direction they wanted. At the very end Jeffery Deaver wrote the last chapter to finish off the book.

This book has a much more intense plot line that takes the story all around the world. In this book there isn't just adventure and action but a massive threat of nuclear war. Some of my favorite characters are back in this book but we also get to meet a few more. The way that each author is able to seamlessly mesh these chapters together and make it seem like one person wrote it is amazing. It really does make me want to check out some of these authors. If they can write this well then I'm sure I would enjoy their individual books. I have read Lee Child before and his stuff is good.

I really liked this book but there were a few things that kept this from a full 5 star review. A lot of reviews I have read as well as interviews with the authors who contributed say this is better than the first book. I disagree. There were a few times that I found my mind wandering away from the story. The Chopin Manuscript held my attention all the way through which is why I think that one was better. The addition of new characters was great, but it came close to Stephen King territory with almost too many to be able to keep straight.

This is a great book and a lot of fun to read/listen too. If audio books aren't your thing, then you can get this book and the Chopin Manuscript in the book called Watchlist. I highly recommend both books to any fans of mystery novels. Especially if you are a fan of any of these authors you will enjoy reading this. I give it 4 out

of 5 stars. I know the cover is small so here is a list of the authors who wrote this book.

Jeffery Deaver
Linda Barnes
Gayle Lynds
Jenny Siler
Jim Fusilli
P.J. Parrish
John Gilstrap
Brett Battles
Joseph Finder
Lee Child
Lisa Scottoline
Jon Land
David Corbett
James Phelan

Linda says

I liked the story, but it seemed a bit disjointed. I guess that was because there were so many authors. The beginning and ending chapters were my favorites because they were written by Jeffery Deaver, Jeffery Deaver who is one of my favorite writers. I could easily recognize his style. I only recognized the names of a few of the other writers in the collaboration. I think it was a good idea. I had listened to "The Chopin Manuscript" Chopin Manuscript, which was also a collaboration and thought it was great, I thought the story was very good and the different authors melded very well. It was more seamless than "The Copper Bracelet." I think the switch between authors was disjointed in "The Copper Bracelet." That was mainly due to the long pause between chapters as the individual authors were introduced. I don't remember that being done in The Chopin Manuscript, although it may have been. The different authors also introduced new characters and that sometimes made the story confusing, but, most of them moved the story along and I really enjoyed the fact that one of the peripheral characters was used to bring the book to a conclusion of sorts, tying it back into music that the main character, Harold Middleton, loved.

The Copper Bracelet was narrated by Alfred Molina. I have long been a fan of his, and I thought he did a great job with the voices of the different characters, making them each unique and distinguishable. There were time that I wished it was a print book because I would have like to be able to easily go back to clarify points in the story. Unfortunately, as far as I know, this book is only available in audio. All in all, though, I liked it and would recommended it to everyone who likes a good espionage, conspiracy-theory type read. However, I think just about everyone would find something to like.

Ashima Jain says

The Copper Bracelet is a brilliantly written sequel to The Chopin Manuscript which takes the Volunteers all across the globe in an effort to stop what could clearly be the beginning of World War III. The plot has a multi layered structure which, combined with its inspiration from real events in North India, keeps you hooked. I particularly enjoyed how the lead characters return in the sequel to play even more dangerous roles. Alfred Molina's narration is superb. His voice enactment of the variety of accents is an absolute delight to listen to.

Kelley says

Courtesy of Amazon

I listened to The Chopin Manuscript back when it was first released from Audible in serial format and loved the whole concept of a thriller round-robin novel. That book was fascinating and I loved it so when I saw The Copper Bracelet was released, I just had to have this one too, especially since it is the sequel to The Chopin Manuscript.

Harold Middleton is back again on a new mission. He and his contingents are trying to get to the bottom of an international plot that threatens to bring the Eastern world to its knees by instigating a nuclear war between India and Pakistan. On the trail of the mysterious man known only as The Scorpion, Middleton must find this terrorist and stop him before World War III erupts. However, these terrorists are more diabolical than Middleton realizes and his only clue, an unusual copper bracelet, seems to be leading him to the wrong man... or is it? It will take everything Middleton and company have to get out of this predicament, especially when clues seem to indicate his daughter Charlie is in danger.

Several different threads and a few red herrings are intertwined to make for a brilliantly complex story full of danger and intrigue in The Copper Bracelet. Just when we think we know what direction the story will go next, we are thrown for a loop when events are turned upside down and inside out, only to take us somewhere different than we first imagined.

I love all the characters in this novel, from the beautiful but deadly Jana to the traumatized Charlie, to the tough as nails Leona, and everyone in between. Middleton is a fascinating man who somehow manages to put his mission first, even when those he loves most are endangered in the process. We just know he'll figure it all out and save the day, though we will be wondering who will left standing in the end.

The Copper Bracelet starts off with a bang when Jeffrey Deaver introduces the mystery in the first chapter, and does not let up until the explosive finale. I was captivated from beginning to end and on the edge of my seat as I waited to see what direction each author would take.

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Jennifer Baratta says

Worth listening to.
