

Luckiest Bastard Bastard 2 The Novella

Book Delisted

The Excelsior Hotel and Casino. Built in Las Vegas in 1960 by mobster Louis "The Lip" LaFica. For decades the towering hotel has been the subject of incredible stories and rumors that have kept it in the public eye the world around. Why have so many lovers been mysteriously, magically, magnetically drawn to this magnificent edifice? And why now have so many bestselling authors at last come together to reveal the adventures of these lovers who have stayed at the glorious Excelsior?

"Evanovich...with a dash of CSI." – Publishers Weekly (review of Lucky Stiff) Even a Blind Dog Finds a Bone For Lucky O'Toole, she finds killers. As the Chief Problem Solver for the Babylon, Las Vegas's most over-the-top destination, murder is a bit outside of her normal. But, armed with a wicked wit and an even more wicked right-cross, Lucky takes it all in stride. But tonight taxes even Lucky's formidable skills. LUCKY CATCH Lucky's former lover, Teddie, shows up, hat in hand. A gaggle of egomaniacal chefs appear for a televised cook-off. And Lucky's current lover, Jean-Charles, stops answering his phone. Since trouble comes in threes, Lucky is sure this is the extent of tonight's trouble. As usual, she's a tad optimistic. A prized Alba truffle disappears from Jean-Charles's restaurant. A young chef is murdered in Jean-Charles's food truck. Jean-Charles still isn't answering his phone. And when Lucky's path crosses the killer's will her goose be cooked? You want to know...I know you do. A light, funny, romantic mystery providing a Vegas escape appropriate for anyone looking for a good laugh. Get your copy today! AN INTERVIEW WITH DEBORAH COONTS Why did you decide to write humor? I'm not sure I decided to add snark to the Lucky books, specifically to Lucky's own voice, it just happened that way. When I was a kid, my mouth always got me into trouble. Finally, I've found a way to harness the sarcasm for the Forces of Good—or at least in a way not to anger my grandmother. And when Lucky started talking to me, she had a strong dose of sass in her. The Lucky O'Toole Vegas Adventure series is hard to categorize. Is that by design? When I set out to write Wanna Get Lucky?, I knew I wanted to write a romp through Las Vegas. I had the characters and the setting but no real understanding of narrative drive. So, I threw a young woman out of a tour helicopter into the middle of the Pirate Show and let the story unfold. A bit of murder to keep the plot moving, some wisecracking and Vegas mischief to make you laugh, and some romance to keep it interesting. A bit of a mash up, but it works. PRAISE FOR THE LUCKY O'TOOLE VEGAS ADVENTURE SERIES "Lucky's story is funny, fast-paced, exuberant and brilliantly realized." - Susan Wiggs, #1 New York Times bestselling author "Get ready to win big--with a novel that will keep you glued to the pages all the way to the end." - Brenda Novak, New York Times & USA Today bestselling author "More fun than a winning streak in Vegas. Lucky O'Toole is a character with brains, beauty, and a wry sense of humor. Readers will want to meet her again—and soon." - Diane Mott Davidson, New York Times bestselling author "Deborah Coonts...entrusts the sleuthing to a brainy beauty who sees the lighter side of human folly." - New York Times Book Review "Las Vegas is the perfect setting for this witty tale of misdirection and larger-than-life characters. Fans of J. A. Konrath's Jack Daniels series will love this." - Library Journal, starred review "A whirlwind of a kooky crime novel, and readers will enjoy every minute of it. Coonts provides the perfect solution for readers waiting for the next Stephanie Plum book." - Booklist

Love the bestselling Lucky O'Toole Vegas Adventure series? Get more Vegas mayhem and fun with these between-the-books stories. This set includes Lucky in Love, Lucky Bang, Lucky Now and Then, and Lucky Flash, all four Lucky O'Toole novellas in one boxset! With over 500 pages and 100+ five star reviews, you don't want to miss this bundle full of fun, laughter, mystery and romance. Everyone Has a Hidden Talent For Lucky O'Toole it's murder...solving it. Surviving in Sin City takes cunning, a pair of five-inch heels, and a wiseass attitude. Lucky has mastered them all and has a pair of legs she uses to kick butt and turn heads. As the Chief Problem Solver for the Babylon, Las Vegas's most over-the-top destination, mischief is in her job description. She's good at her job. She's less good at life. But who has time for a life when there's a killer on the loose? Light, funny, romantic mysteries providing a Vegas escape appropriate for anyone looking for a good laugh. AN INTERVIEW WITH DEBORAH COONTS Why did you decide to write humor? I'm not sure I decided to add snark to the Lucky books, specifically to Lucky's own voice, it just happened that way. When I was a kid, my mouth always got me into trouble. Finally, I've found a way to harness the sarcasm for the Forces of Good—or at least in a way not to anger my grandmother. And when Lucky started talking to me, she had a strong dose of sass in her. The Lucky O'Toole Vegas Adventure series is hard to categorize. Is that by design? When I set out to write Wanna Get Lucky?, I knew I wanted to write a romp through Las Vegas. I had the characters and the setting but no real understanding of narrative drive. So, I threw a young woman out of a tour helicopter into the middle of the Pirate Show and let the story unfold. A bit of murder to keep the plot moving, some wisecracking and Vegas mischief to make you laugh, and some romance to keep it interesting. A bit of a mash up, but it works. PRAISE FOR THE LUCKY O'TOOLE VEGAS ADVENTURE SERIES "Lucky's story is funny, fast-paced, exuberant and brilliantly realized." - Susan Wiggs, #1 New York Times bestselling author "Get ready to win big--with a novel that will keep you glued to the pages all the way to the end." - Brenda Novak, New York Times & USA Today bestselling author "More fun than a winning streak in Vegas. Lucky O'Toole is a character with brains, beauty, and a wry sense of humor. Readers will want to meet her again—and soon." - Diane Mott Davidson, New York Times bestselling author "Deborah Coonts...entrusts the sleuthing to a brainy beauty who sees the lighter side of human folly." - New York Times Book Review "Las Vegas is the perfect setting for this witty tale of misdirection and larger-than-life characters. Fans of J. A. Konrath's Jack Daniels series will love this." - Library Journal, starred review "A whirlwind of a kooky crime novel, and readers will enjoy every minute of it. Coonts provides the perfect solution for readers waiting for the next Stephanie Plum book." - Booklist

Proposes that cinematic time is not a fixed idea, but a dynamic exchange between film and viewer. Doing Time addresses two areas of interest in recent film study—film temporality and film philosophy—to propose an innovative theorization of cinematic time that sees it as a dynamic process of engagement, or something we do as viewers. This active relation to cinematic time, which discloses a film's temporal character, is called its "timeliness." Here it is traced across a range of fascinating case studies from Hollywood and the global art cinema, uncovering each film's characteristic way of "doing time." Throughout, the ambiguities of filmic time are held as powerful attractions as they modulate film viewing: such pauses, gaps, repetitions, and stretches of time illuminate a living field that extends from viewing activity. Drawing on the writings of French film critic and theorist André Bazin, as well as the phenomenology of Martin Heidegger and Maurice Merleau-Ponty, Lee Carruthers forwards a claim about the value of cinematic time for thinking. She also raises the tasks of film analysis and interpretation to renewed visibility. By prioritizing the viewer's experience of filmic temporality, and offering a rich vocabulary for describing this exchange, Carruthers articulates a new sphere of theoretical inquiry that invites film viewers (and readers) to participate. "Lee Carruthers makes an original and powerful argument about the importance of 'timeliness,' providing a much-needed alternative approach to that of Deleuze to thinking seriously about the temporality of cinema. Her chapters, including one on The Tree of Life, are masterful criticism." — William Rothman, author of Must We Kill the Thing We Love? Emersonian Perfectionism and the Films of Alfred Hitchcock

The Ponderosa Resort Romantic Comedy Series invites you to small-town Central Oregon where two sisters work to get their reindeer ranch up and running while the siblings down the road transform their late father's ranch into a luxury resort (all while getting to know each other because they grew up with different moms. Er, Dad got around). Fans of laughter, tears, and tingly bits will love this series from a USA Today bestselling author. This boxed set contains books 4-6 in the Ponderosa Resort series. About Hottie Lumberjack (book 4) I have my reasons for walking into Chelsea Singer's cupcake shop with an axe. Too bad I've forgotten what they are. Hell, I forgot my own name the second she flashed those blue eyes and offered up a double-fudge cupcake with Irish cream frosting. I may look like a grumpy lumberjack, but I'm a

softie for sweets, single moms, and my massive, messy family. The family stuff gets messier now that we're running a resort together on our late-father's ranch, which brings my siblings that much closer to discovering I'm not who they think I am. As things heat up with Chelsea, I'm falling faster than an old-growth redwood filled with buttercream and lit on fire and then maybe chopped into kindling. It's a figure of speech, okay? And it's damned inconvenient, since it turns out someone wants to hurt Chelsea and her daughter. But they'll have to get through me first. And no way in hell is that happening. About Stiff Suit (book 5) I've spent my whole life guarding the family's biggest secrets. Too bad this one won't leave my guest room. Let's blame that inconvenient distraction for the questionable choices I make at my brother's wedding. Thank God for Lily Archer, who saves my rep and melts my heart in one fell swoop. It's damn humbling for a controlling jerk like me accustomed to being in charge of everything. But something about Lily has me unraveling like the cuffs on a cheap suit. She's sexy and smart as hell, and makes no secret she wants me for a no-strings fling. What guy in his right mind would say no? I'm clearly not in my right mind because I suddenly can't stop thinking about long-term with Lily. It's not ideal, since the family's worst skeleton is ready to tumble from the closet in a big, dusty heap. Who the hell is in charge around here? It's me. And before this is over, I'll have some explaining to do. About Mancandy Crush (book 6) A SPECIAL PONDEROSA RESORT NOVELLA! I'm totally over having my heart stomped six years ago. So what's with the mule kick to the chest when I spot the girl who ghosted me? Turns out she's not my teenage fling, but her twin sister—and she needs a fake date to her cousin's wedding. I'm game, especially since Val fires me up like no one I've ever met. She's smart and funny and sweet and is it wrong that I'm diggin' this bogus boyfriend role? As our make-believe romance melts into real-deal territory, things get hotter than a habanero on a bonfire. But what happens when her sister shows up? Or worse, when I fall in love with my fake summer fling. "Evanovich...with a dash of CSI." – Publishers Weekly (review of Lucky Stiff) Everyone Has a Hidden Talent For Lucky O'Toole it's murder...solving it. Surviving in Sin City takes cunning, a pair of five-inch heels, and a wiseass attitude. Lucky has mastered them all and has a pair of legs she uses to kick butt and turn heads. As the Chief Problem Solver for the Babylon, Las Vegas's most over-the-top destination, mischief is in her job description. She's good at her job. She's less good at life. But who has time for a life when there's a killer on the loose? WANNA GET LUCKY? A woman falls from a tour helicopter to the horror of the 8:30 Pirate show crowd. Was it suicide? An accident? Could she have been pushed? Lucky's day began with the invasion of the Adult Video Awards and Trade show convention. It got more hectic when the spouse-swapping annual event checked in. And if adding a body to the mix wasn't enough, Lucky's got a new suitor. Her best friend, Teddie, a female impersonator who is pressing to take their relationship to the next level. Can she really date a man who looks better in a dress? What happened to the woman over the pirate show? Will her sleuthing skills catch the killer and save her job? A light, funny, romantic mystery providing a Vegas escape appropriate for anyone looking for a good laugh. Pick up a copy now and start your adventure. AN INTERVIEW WITH DEBORAH COONTS Why did you decide to write humor? I'm not sure I decided to add snark to the Lucky books, specifically to Lucky's own voice, it just happened that way. When I was a kid, my mouth always got me into trouble. 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As the first in a series, Wanna Get Lucky? hits the proverbial jackpot." - Booklist "Deliciously raunchy, with humorous takes on sexual proclivities, Vegas glitz and love, though Agatha Christie is probably spinning in her grave." - Kirkus Reviews "Wanna Get Lucky? is a winner on every level. Deborah Coonts has crafted a first-class murder mystery coupled with a touching and unexpected love story. Against a flawlessly-rendered Las Vegas backdrop, Lucky's story is funny, fast-paced, exuberant and brilliantly realized." - Susan Wiggs, #1 New York Times bestselling author "Get ready to win big--with a novel that will keep you glued to the pages all the way to the end. Wanna Get Lucky? is as entertaining as the city in which it's set." - Brenda Novak, New York Times & USA Today bestselling author "More fun than a winning streak in Vegas. Lucky O'Toole is a character with brains, beauty, and a wry sense of humor. Readers will want to meet her again—and soon." - Diane Mott Davidson, New York Times bestselling author "Paints a dead-on portrait of Las Vegas that is somehow dark, outrageous, and hilarious at the same time. Lucky O'Toole is wise, witty, and brimming with cheery cynicism. Wanna Get Lucky? goes down faster than an ice-cold Bombay martini--very dry, of course, and with a twist." - Douglas Preston, New York Times bestselling author "Wanna Get Lucky? is an amazing debut novel, a mile-a-minute read, with fantastic characters, dry wit, and the gritty neon feel of Las Vegas. Bravo to Deborah Coonts--I see a great future ahead." - Heather Graham, New York Times bestselling author "Wanna Get Lucky? sizzles. It beguiles and surprises. It's belly-laugh funny. Add in unforgettable characters, crimes to die for, the ka-ching of high-stakes casinos, and Laura Ashley-decorated bordellos, and you have a read that's utterly irresistible from first page to last. Watch out, Janet Evanovich. The new hot number is Deborah Coonts." - Gayle Lynds, New York Times bestselling author "When it comes to the crunch (something for a sullen teenager, hostile neighbor, unbearably saintly mother-in-law), the secret is to make them laugh. Deborah Coonts's Wanna Get Lucky? (Forge/Tom Doherty, \$24.99), set at the 'most over-the-top mega casino/resort on the Las Vegas Strip,' entrusts the sleuthing to a brainy beauty who sees the lighter side of human folly." - Marilyn Stassio, New York Times Book Review, choosing Wanna Get Lucky? As a Notable Crime Novel for 2010

"Evanovich...with a dash of CSI." – Publishers Weekly (review of Lucky Stiff) If Lucky O'Toole, Chief Problem Solver for the Babylon, Vegas' primo Strip property, knows one thing—where money goes, trouble follows. So, when the NFL announces it's moving a team to Vegas, Lucky is left on the fence until the trouble she feared lands in her lap. Nolan Ponder, one of the key players in the negotiations to get the NFL to Sin City, staggers into the Babylon covered in blood and holding a knife. With the mountains of money and careers on the line, Lucky figured someone would try to kill the deal. But murder? Chasing down a murderer is the last thing she needs. Teddie, her former live-in lover, is exploiting every angle to get back into her heart. Jean-Charles, her fiancé, is planning a trip to France to introduce Lucky to his family. Mona, her mother, still hasn't named her twins. Lucky's life is quickly becoming a game of murder and mayhem. She just hopes this game won't go into overtime. A light, funny, romantic mystery providing a Vegas escape appropriate for anyone looking for a good laugh. Get your copy today! AN INTERVIEW WITH DEBORAH COONTS Why did you decide to write humor? I'm not sure I decided to add snark to the Lucky books, specifically to Lucky's own voice, it just happened that way. When I was a kid, my mouth always got me into trouble. Finally, I've found a way to harness the sarcasm for the Forces of Good—or at least in a way not to anger my grandmother. And when Lucky started talking to me, she had a strong dose of sass in her. The Lucky O'Toole Vegas Adventure series is hard to categorize. Is that by design? When I set out to write Wanna Get Lucky?, I knew I wanted to write a romp through Las Vegas. I had the characters and the setting but no real understanding of narrative drive. So, I threw a young woman out of a tour helicopter into the middle of the Pirate Show and let the story unfold. A bit of murder to keep the plot moving, some wisecracking and Vegas mischief to make you laugh, and some romance to keep it interesting. A bit of a mash up, but it works. PRAISE FOR THE LUCKY O'TOOLE VEGAS ADVENTURE SERIES "Lucky's story is funny, fast-paced, exuberant and brilliantly realized." - Susan Wiggs, #1 New York Times bestselling author "Get ready to win big--with a novel that will keep you glued to the pages all the way to the

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LUCKY BREAK Holt Box, a beloved country singer on the comeback trail is killed in Lucky's lover, Jean-Charles's, kitchen. Mr. Box dies in Lucky's father's arms. Her former lover, Teddie, is accused of the murder. A heavy-hitter in the Macanese underworld is working over Lucky's father. An old nemesis salivating for revenge gets out of jail on a technicality. Lucky's mother is ramping up an ill-advised political campaign. And the holidays are racing to a crescendo. And then things get really messy... A light, funny, romantic mystery providing a Vegas escape appropriate for anyone looking for a good laugh. Get this can't-put-it-down romp today! AN INTERVIEW WITH DEBORAH COONTS Why did you decide to write humor? I'm not sure I decided to add snark to the Lucky books, specifically to Lucky's own voice, it just happened that way. When I was a kid, my mouth always got me into trouble. Finally, I've found a way to harness the sarcasm for the Forces of Good—or at least in a way not to anger my grandmother. And when Lucky started talking to me, she had a strong dose of sass in her. The Lucky O'Toole Vegas Adventure series is hard to categorize. Is that by design? When I set out to write *Wanna Get Lucky?*, I knew I wanted to write a romp through Las Vegas. I had the characters and the setting but no real understanding of narrative drive. So, I threw a young woman out of a tour helicopter into the middle of the Pirate Show and let the story unfold. A bit of murder to keep the plot moving, some wisecracking and Vegas mischief to make you laugh, and some romance to keep it interesting. A bit of a mash up, but it works. PRAISE FOR THE LUCKY O'TOOLE VEGAS ADVENTURE SERIES "Lucky's story is funny, fast-paced, exuberant and brilliantly realized." - Susan Wiggs, #1 New York Times bestselling author "Get ready to win big--with a novel that will keep you glued to the pages all the way to the end." - Brenda Novak, New York Times & USA Today bestselling author "More fun than a winning streak in Vegas. Lucky O'Toole is a character with brains, beauty, and a wry sense of humor. Readers will want to meet her again—and soon." - Diane Mott Davidson, New York Times bestselling author "Deborah Coonts...entrusts the sleuthing to a brainy beauty who sees the lighter side of human folly." - New York Times Book Review "Las Vegas is the perfect setting for this witty tale of misdirection and larger-than-life characters. Fans of J. A. Konrath's Jack Daniels series will love this." - Library Journal, starred review "A whirlwind of a kooky crime novel, and readers will enjoy every minute of it. Coonts provides the perfect solution for readers waiting for the next Stephanie Plum book." - Booklist

John Fitzgerald Adams, a charismatic young politician who believes that he is the illegitimate son of JFK, sets out to run for president, with the help of friends with mysterious links to foreign powers and his strong-willed wife, an ardent leftist. 75,000 first printing. Tour.

"Evanovich...with a dash of CSI." – Publishers Weekly (review of *Lucky Stiff*) Murder Takes a Holiday For Lucky O'Toole, living with murder is, well...murder. As the Chief Problem Solver for the Babylon, Las Vegas's most over-the-top destination, mischief is in her job description, but murder? Not so much...until recently... LUCKY THE HARD WAY Facing a murder indictment, Lucky's first love, Teddie, has flown to Macau on the heels of the real killer. A powerful figure in the Macanese underworld has Lucky's father and his empire over a barrel. Lucky's own hotel is days away from opening. And her engagement is very new. So, there's only one thing for Lucky to do... Take a trip to Macau. She has five days to catch a killer, save Teddie, and rescue her empire from financial ruin. Piece of cake for someone with Lucky's superpowers... Right? A light, funny, romantic mystery providing a Vegas escape appropriate for anyone looking for a good laugh. Get your copy today! AN INTERVIEW WITH DEBORAH COONTS Why did you decide to write humor? I'm not sure I decided to add snark to the Lucky books, specifically to Lucky's own voice, it just happened that way. When I was a kid, my mouth always got me into trouble. Finally, I've found a way to harness the sarcasm for the Forces of Good—or at least in a way not to anger my grandmother. And when Lucky started talking to me, she had a strong dose of sass in her. The Lucky O'Toole Vegas Adventure series is hard to categorize. Is that by design? When I set out to write *Wanna Get Lucky?*, I knew I wanted to write a romp through Las Vegas. I had the characters and the setting but no real understanding of narrative drive. So, I threw a young woman out of a tour helicopter into the middle of the Pirate Show and let the story unfold. A bit of murder to keep the plot moving, some wisecracking and Vegas mischief to make you laugh, and some romance to keep it interesting. A bit of a mash up, but it works. PRAISE FOR THE LUCKY O'TOOLE VEGAS ADVENTURE SERIES "Lucky's story is funny, fast-paced, exuberant and brilliantly realized." - Susan Wiggs, #1 New York Times bestselling author "Get ready to win big--with a novel that will keep you glued to the pages all the way to the end." - Brenda Novak, New York Times & USA Today bestselling author "More fun than a winning streak in Vegas. Lucky O'Toole is a character with brains, beauty, and a wry sense of humor. Readers will want to meet her again—and soon." - Diane Mott Davidson, New York Times bestselling author "Deborah Coonts...entrusts the sleuthing to a brainy beauty who sees the lighter side of human folly." - New York Times Book Review "Las Vegas is the perfect setting for this witty tale of misdirection and larger-than-life characters. Fans of J. A. Konrath's Jack Daniels series will love this." - Library Journal, starred review "A whirlwind of a kooky crime novel, and readers will enjoy every minute of it. Coonts provides the perfect solution for readers waiting for the next Stephanie Plum book." - Booklist

The work of a prize-winning writer, this novel is vividly portrayed, moving and thought-provoking. How do you make sense of the past when it suddenly explodes into the present? Taking unexpected turns, *Lucky Bastard* is a powerful novel in three acts. In post-war Japan, Eric Keeling must investigate an alleged war crime, but do his actions constitute a further crime? In New Zealand, half a century later, this is the question that confronts his two children. They have grown up with a difficult father, who was traumatised by his past as a prisoner of war. Was he a war hero, or guilty of an unscrupulous act of revenge? As their father loses his hold on reality, they must sift through the facts and fictions of what really happened, and in the process they discover a new sense of family.

"Evanovich...with a dash of CSI." – Publishers Weekly (review of *Lucky Stiff*) Everyone Has a Hidden Talent For Lucky O'Toole it's murder...solving it. Surviving in Sin City takes cunning, a pair of five-inch heels, and a wiseass attitude. Lucky has mastered them all and has a pair of legs she uses to kick butt and turn heads. As the Chief Problem Solver for the Babylon, Las Vegas's most over-the-top destination, mischief is in her job description. She's good at her job. She's less good at life. But who has time for a life when there's a killer on the loose? LUCKY IN LOVE Lucky O'Toole, the Vice President of Customer Relations for the Babylon, one of Las Vegas' most over-the-top strip properties, is seriously regretting booking a reality television show, *The Forever Game*, into the small theater at her hotel. One thing she knows for sure: Vegas does NOT need a dose of reality. The four couples competing in *The Forever Game* add their own mischief to the incendiary mix normally available in Sin City while competing for a Las Vegas wedding extravaganza. The host of the show, Trey Gold, appears interested only in keeping the spotlight on himself while the contestants run-wild sampling all Vegas has to offer, threatening to blow the whole show out of the water. Not only must Lucky keep the couples from killing each other, killing their relationships, or ending up on the front page of

the Review-Journal, she has to navigate the rocky road to love herself. Teddie, her live-in lover, is leaning more-and-more towards chasing a new dream as a singer, leaving Vegas...and Lucky behind. And a new French chef seems determined to muddy the murky waters of love even further. Then there's Lucky's mother, Mona, who never could leave well enough alone... A light, funny, romantic mystery providing a Vegas escape appropriate for anyone looking for a good laugh. AN INTERVIEW WITH DEBORAH COONTS Why did you decide to write humor? I'm not sure I decided to add snark to the Lucky books, specifically to Lucky's own voice, it just happened that way. When I was a kid, my mouth always got me into trouble. Finally, I've found a way to harness the sarcasm for the Forces of Good—or at least in a way not to anger my grandmother. And when Lucky started talking to me, she had a strong dose of sass in her. The Lucky O'Toole Vegas Adventure series is hard to categorize. Is that by design? When I set out to write *Wanna Get Lucky?*, I knew I wanted to write a romp through Las Vegas. I had the characters and the setting but no real understanding of narrative drive. So, I threw a young woman out of a tour helicopter into the middle of the Pirate Show and let the story unfold. A bit of murder to keep the plot moving, some wisecracking and Vegas mischief to make you laugh, and some romance to keep it interesting. A bit of a mash up, but it works. PRAISE FOR THE LUCKY O'TOOLE VEGAS ADVENTURE SERIES "Lucky's story is funny, fast-paced, exuberant and brilliantly realized." - Susan Wiggs, #1 New York Times bestselling author "Get ready to win big--with a novel that will keep you glued to the pages all the way to the end." - Brenda Novak, New York Times & USA Today bestselling author "More fun than a winning streak in Vegas. Lucky O'Toole is a character with brains, beauty, and a wry sense of humor. Readers will want to meet her again—and soon." - Diane Mott Davidson, New York Times bestselling author "Deborah Coonts...entrusts the sleuthing to a brainy beauty who sees the lighter side of human folly." - New York Times Book Review "Las Vegas is the perfect setting for this witty tale of misdirection and larger-than-life characters. Fans of J. A. Konrath's Jack Daniels series will love this." - Library Journal, starred review "A whirlwind of a kooky crime novel, and readers will enjoy every minute of it. Coonts provides the perfect solution for readers waiting for the next Stephanie Plum book." - Booklist

"Evanovich...with a dash of CSI." – Publishers Weekly (review of *Lucky Stiff*) Who would want to kill a clown? Lucky O'Toole, Chief Problem Solver for the Babylon Hotel, the primo property on the Las Vegas Strip, isn't in any mood to find out. For one, it's New Year's Day and Lucky's birthday. And she hasn't caught her breath after a chase to the death in Hong Kong and Macau. Her French chef is pushing to set the wedding date. Her former lover, wounded in the China chase, needs TLC. A young woman, in town with the rodeo, shows up at her office with a secret that could blow the lid off Lucky's life as she knows it. And Lucky's mother starts acting like the secret could be true. Could it? What if everything Lucky thought she knew about her family was built on a lie? And why would someone kill a clown? A light, funny, romantic mystery providing a Vegas escape appropriate for anyone looking for a good laugh. Get your copy today! AN INTERVIEW WITH DEBORAH COONTS Why did you decide to write humor? I'm not sure I decided to add snark to the Lucky books, specifically to Lucky's own voice, it just happened that way. When I was a kid, my mouth always got me into trouble. Finally, I've found a way to harness the sarcasm for the Forces of Good—or at least in a way not to anger my grandmother. And when Lucky started talking to me, she had a strong dose of sass in her. The Lucky O'Toole Vegas Adventure series is hard to categorize. Is that by design? When I set out to write *Wanna Get Lucky?*, I knew I wanted to write a romp through Las Vegas. I had the characters and the setting but no real understanding of narrative drive. So, I threw a young woman out of a tour helicopter into the middle of the Pirate Show and let the story unfold. A bit of murder to keep the plot moving, some wisecracking and Vegas mischief to make you laugh, and some romance to keep it interesting. A bit of a mash up, but it works. PRAISE FOR THE LUCKY O'TOOLE VEGAS ADVENTURE SERIES "Lucky's story is funny, fast-paced, exuberant and brilliantly realized." - Susan Wiggs, #1 New York Times bestselling author "Get ready to win big--with a novel that will keep you glued to the pages all the way to the end." - Brenda Novak, New York Times & USA Today bestselling author "More fun than a winning streak in Vegas. Lucky O'Toole is a character with brains, beauty, and a wry sense of humor. Readers will want to meet her again—and soon." - Diane Mott Davidson, New York Times bestselling author "Deborah Coonts...entrusts the sleuthing to a brainy beauty who sees the lighter side of human folly." - New York Times Book Review "Las Vegas is the perfect setting for this witty tale of misdirection and larger-than-life characters. Fans of J. A. Konrath's Jack Daniels series will love this." - Library Journal, starred review "A whirlwind of a kooky crime novel, and readers will enjoy every minute of it. Coonts provides the perfect solution for readers waiting for the next Stephanie Plum book." - Booklist

"Evanovich...with a dash of CSI." – Publishers Weekly (review of *Lucky Stiff*) Everyone Has a Hidden Talent For Lucky O'Toole it's murder...solving it. Tonight she feels like committing it. Her live-in lover, Teddie, has rock-starred out and taken his show on the road. Her mother is a pregnant hormonal weapon of mass destruction. But, as the Chief Problem Solver for the Babylon, Las Vegas's most over-the-top destination, murder isn't in her job description. SO DAMN LUCKY Renowned magician, Dimitri Fortunoff apparently dies while trying to pull a Houdini. Then his body actually disappears. Lucky is less than amused. She has enough problems already. Paxton Dane, a handsome Texan long on charisma, short on history, is pressing for an opening. And the new French chef is equal parts charm and venom, seasoned with a dash of irresistible. But Lucky can't shake the question: did Fortunoff really die or is this some elaborate hoax? With his connections to the UFO convention in town, outlandish theories abound. Love, laughter, and a few evil spirits from the Great Beyond or the Great Void— A light, funny, romantic mystery providing a Vegas escape appropriate for anyone looking for a good laugh. Join the fun today! AN INTERVIEW WITH DEBORAH COONTS Why did you decide to write humor? I'm not sure I decided to add snark to the Lucky books, specifically to Lucky's own voice, it just happened that way. When I was a kid, my mouth always got me into trouble. Finally, I've found a way to harness the sarcasm for the Forces of Good—or at least in a way not to anger my grandmother. And when Lucky started talking to me, she had a strong dose of sass in her. The Lucky O'Toole Vegas Adventure series is hard to categorize. Is that by design? When I set out to write *Wanna Get Lucky?*, I knew I wanted to write a romp through Las Vegas. I had the characters and the setting but no real understanding of narrative drive. So, I threw a young woman out of a tour helicopter into the middle of the Pirate Show and let the story unfold. A bit of murder to keep the plot moving, some wisecracking and Vegas mischief to make you laugh, and some romance to keep it interesting. A bit of a mash up, but it works. PRAISE FOR So Damn Lucky "Lucky's latest lark brims with the over-the-top ridiculousness that I love about Vegas. Fans of the series will fall in love all over again, and new readers will look forward to her next escapade." - Publishers Weekly "Lucky's the kind of gal who will make any heart beat faster." - Kirkus Reviews "A whirlwind of a kooky crime novel, and readers will enjoy every minute of it. Coonts provides the perfect solution for readers waiting for the next Stephanie Plum book." - Booklist "So Damn Lucky is wacky and witty, chaotic and compelling, and the title aptly describes how you'll feel after you've read the book." - USA Today

Peace of the Mind is D.J. Blue's follow-up to 2005's *The Good Life Chronicles*. Once again, he covers a wide array of topics, this time including several chapters on Christian spirituality. Included among them: an in-depth analysis of the Bible, covering questions answered as well as questions raised while reading the Bible; the debate between Catholics and Protestants on different spiritual issues is discussed; and Rick Warren's best-selling spiritual book *The Purpose Driven Life* is also reviewed, including eerie parallels to topics brought up in *The Good Life Chronicles*. Readers of that preceding book will recognize other familiar topics: the annual Taconite Trophy Classic continues to be immortalized via the written word, as each year's golf tournament has been chronicled herein; the fourth installment chapter on women, always popular yet provocative with the female crowd, is included; and a complete *Seinfeld* episodic list (partially referenced in the previous book) is now given its just due--the entire classic series is reviewed, episode by episode. This is just a sample of the various topics and experiences covered. *Peace of the Mind* concludes the Thousand Page Trilogy with an over-all introspective and occasionally subtle spiritual theme running through many of the chapters, reflecting the accomplishments, the struggles and the aspirations of life itself.

Enforcing and Eluding Censorship: British and Anglo-Italian Perspectives brings together a wide range of current work on literary, cultural and linguistic censorship by a team of fifteen contributors working in Italy, Britain and continental Europe. Censorship can take hold of a written text before or after its public appearance; it can strike the cultural item, as well as the very individual/s who created it; it can also catch in its net the agents responsible for its publication and diffusion (in the case of a printed text, authors, editors, printers, publishers, librarians and booksellers). It can be directed against a single person or against a group, an organization, a political party, or a religious confession. The different "ways of censorship" – how it was enforced or eluded in the Italian or Anglo-American worlds, and often in their mutual relations – are the topic of this volume, whose contents are divided into two main sections. The first, entitled "Discourse Regulation", discusses instances of institutionalized and regulatory censorship and, conversely, forms of reaction against pressure and control. The second section, entitled "Textual and Ideological Manipulations", debates some of the ways in which cultural products can be used to exert censorial influence upon society; among these, it shows how language and descriptions of language may provide a biased view of reality. All in all, the chapters in this volume highlight a notion of censorship that defies strict boundaries and definitions, thus challenging received ideas on cultural practices.

"Evanovich...with a dash of CSI." – Publishers Weekly (review of *Lucky Stiff*) Everyone Has a Hidden Talent For Lucky O'Toole it's murder...solving it. Surviving in Sin City takes cunning, a pair of five-inch heels, and a wiseass attitude. Lucky has mastered them all and has a pair of legs she uses to kick butt and turn heads. As the Chief Problem Solver for the Babylon, Las Vegas's most over-the-top destination, mischief is in her job description. She's good at her job. She's less good at life. But who has time for a life when there's a killer on the loose? **LUCKY FLASH** Love, laughter, and mischief Vegas-style. Lucky O'Toole, Vice President of Customer Relations at the Babylon Resort, one of the premier properties on the Vegas Strip, is back. This time she wises-up and sends her down-and-dirty best friend, investigative reporter "Flash" Gordon on the trail of Johnny Pismo. Pismo, a washed-up-never-been singer shows up at the Babylon singing a song about a ring of thieves stealing Vegas's music memorabilia. They replace each piece of Vegas's music history with a fake, selling the originals on the black market. Pismo even claims to have the prize piece in Lucky's father's collection—a large diamond ring given to the Big Boss by Liberace himself. Lucky is shocked to learn he's telling the truth. Teddie, Lucky's former lover, offers a few choice pieces of his memorabilia collection as bait. Of course, Lucky must join the chase to protect Teddie's treasures. But can she protect her heart from him in the process? A light, funny, romantic mystery providing a Vegas escape appropriate for anyone looking for a good laugh. **AN INTERVIEW WITH DEBORAH COONTS** Why did you decide to write humor? I'm not sure I decided to add snark to the Lucky books, specifically to Lucky's own voice, it just happened that way. When I was a kid, my mouth always got me into trouble. Finally, I've found a way to harness the sarcasm for the Forces of Good—or at least in a way not to anger my grandmother. And when Lucky started talking to me, she had a strong dose of sass in her. The Lucky O'Toole Vegas Adventure series is hard to categorize. Is that by design? When I set out to write *Wanna Get Lucky?*, I knew I wanted to write a romp through Las Vegas. I had the characters and the setting but no real understanding of narrative drive. So, I threw a young woman out of a tour helicopter into the middle of the Pirate Show and let the story unfold. A bit of murder to keep the plot moving, some wisecracking and Vegas mischief to make you laugh, and some romance to keep it interesting. A bit of a mash up, but it works. **PRAISE FOR THE LUCKY O'TOOLE VEGAS ADVENTURE SERIES** "Lucky's story is funny, fast-paced, exuberant and brilliantly realized." - Susan Wiggs, #1 New York Times bestselling author "Get ready to win big--with a novel that will keep you glued to the pages all the way to the end." - Brenda Novak, New York Times & USA Today bestselling author "More fun than a winning streak in Vegas. Lucky O'Toole is a character with brains, beauty, and a wry sense of humor. Readers will want to meet her again—and soon." - Diane Mott Davidson, New York Times bestselling author "Deborah Coonts...entrusts the sleuthing to a brainy beauty who sees the lighter side of human folly." - New York Times Book Review "Las Vegas is the perfect setting for this witty tale of misdirection and larger-than-life characters. Fans of J. A. Konrath's Jack Daniels series will love this." - Library Journal, starred review "A whirlwind of a kooky crime novel, and readers will enjoy every minute of it. Coonts provides the perfect solution for readers waiting for the next Stephanie Plum book." - Booklist

JaxLucky BastardChestnut Street Press

Exploring the successful Norman invasion of England in 1066, this concise and readable book focuses especially on the often dramatic and enduring changes wrought by William the Conqueror and his followers. From the perspective of a modern social historian, Hugh M. Thomas considers the conquest's wide-ranging impact by taking a fresh look at such traditional themes as the influence of battles and great men on history and assessing how far the shift in ruling dynasty and noble elites affected broader aspects of English history. The author sets the stage by describing English society before the Norman Conquest and recounting the dramatic story of the conquest, including the climactic Battle of Hastings. He then traces the influence of the invasion itself and the Normans' political, military, institutional, and legal transformations. Inevitably following on the heels of institutional reform came economic, social, religious, and cultural changes. The results, Thomas convincingly shows, are both complex and surprising. In some areas where one might expect profound influence, such as government institutions, there was little change. In other respects, such as the indirect transformation of the English language, the conquest had profound and lasting effects. With its combination of exciting narrative and clear analysis, this book will capture students interest in a range of courses on medieval and

Western history.

“Evanovich...with a dash of CSI.” – Publishers Weekly (review of Lucky Stiff) Death by future mother-in-law. It’s a thing. Lucky O’Toole is sure of it. What she isn’t sure of is how to deal with it. In Paris, far away from her Vegas home, Lucky is out of her element and out of ideas. Especially when a fortune of rare wine is stolen from her fiancé’s family in a daring heist using the tunnels under Paris. When an unsavory man from Lucky’s past shows up to implicate her in the crime, Lucky is left to debate the merits of a firing squad over a guillotine or... She could find the wine and clear her name. Easy...until people start showing up dead and everyone seems to want Lucky’s head on a pike. Especially the lead police detective investigating the murder and the theft who happens to also be the torch-carrying flame of her betrothed. Sensing an opening, Teddie, Lucky’s former lover, in Paris to open a musical review in Montmartre, gives her a shoulder to cry on. A wise woman, Lucky runs, risking life and liver to find the wine and catch the killer before he kills again. Then, and only then, will she be free to make a choice about her future. A light, funny, romantic mystery providing a Paris escape appropriate for anyone looking for a good laugh. Get your copy today! AN INTERVIEW WITH DEBORAH COONTS Why did you decide to write humor? I’m not sure I decided to add snark to the Lucky books, specifically to Lucky’s own voice, it just happened that way. When I was a kid, my mouth always got me into trouble. Finally, I’ve found a way to harness the sarcasm for the Forces of Good—or at least in a way not to anger my grandmother. And when Lucky started talking to me, she had a strong dose of sass in her. The Lucky O’Toole Vegas Adventure series is hard to categorize. Is that by design? When I set out to write Wanna Get Lucky?, I knew I wanted to write a romp through Las Vegas. I had the characters and the setting but no real understanding of narrative drive. So, I threw a young woman out of a tour helicopter into the middle of the Pirate Show and let the story unfold. A bit of murder to keep the plot moving, some wisecracking and Vegas mischief to make you laugh, and some romance to keep it interesting. A bit of a mash up, but it works. PRAISE FOR THE LUCKY O’TOOLE VEGAS ADVENTURE SERIES “Lucky’s story is funny, fast-paced, exuberant and brilliantly realized.” - Susan Wiggs, #1 New York Times bestselling author “Get ready to win big--with a novel that will keep you glued to the pages all the way to the end.” - Brenda Novak, New York Times & USA Today bestselling author "More fun than a winning streak in Vegas. Lucky O’Toole is a character with brains, beauty, and a wry sense of humor. Readers will want to meet her again—and soon." - Diane Mott Davidson, New York Times bestselling author "Deborah Coonts...entrusts the sleuthing to a brainy beauty who sees the lighter side of human folly." - New York Times Book Review "Las Vegas is the perfect setting for this witty tale of misdirection and larger-than-life characters. Fans of J. A. Konrath's Jack Daniels series will love this." - Library Journal, starred review “A whirlwind of a kooky crime novel, and readers will enjoy every minute of it. Coonts provides the perfect solution for readers waiting for the next Stephanie Plum book.” - Booklist

“Evanovich...with a dash of CSI.” – Publishers Weekly (review of Lucky Stiff) Haven’t met Lucky yet? Here’s your chance! This boxset includes Book One (Wanna Get Lucky?) AND Book Two (Lucky Stiff) in the bestselling Lucky O’Toole Vegas Adventure series. With over 700 pages and 1000+ five star reviews, you don’t want to miss this bundle of Vegas highjinks, murder, romance, and laugh-out-loud moments we all can relate to. Everyone Has a Hidden Talent For Lucky O’Toole it’s murder...solving it. Surviving in Sin City takes cunning, a pair of five-inch heels, and a wiseass attitude. Lucky has mastered them all and has a pair of legs she uses to kick butt and turn heads. As the Chief Problem Solver for the Babylon, Las Vegas’s most over-the-top destination, mischief is in her job description. She’s good at her job. She’s less good at life. But who has time for a life when there’s a killer on the loose? Light, funny, romantic mysteries providing a Vegas escape appropriate for anyone looking for a good laugh. AN INTERVIEW WITH DEBORAH COONTS Why did you decide to write humor? I’m not sure I decided to add snark to the Lucky books, specifically to Lucky’s own voice, it just happened that way. When I was a kid, my mouth always got me into trouble. Finally, I’ve found a way to harness the sarcasm for the Forces of Good—or at least in a way not to anger my grandmother. And when Lucky started talking to me, she had a strong dose of sass in her. The Lucky O’Toole Vegas Adventure series is hard to categorize. Is that by design? When I set out to write Wanna Get Lucky?, I knew I wanted to write a romp through Las Vegas. I had the characters and the setting but no real understanding of narrative drive. So, I threw a young woman out of a tour helicopter into the middle of the Pirate Show and let the story unfold. A bit of murder to keep the plot moving, some wisecracking and Vegas mischief to make you laugh, and some romance to keep it interesting. A bit of a mash up, but it works. PRAISE FOR THE LUCKY O’TOOLE VEGAS ADVENTURE SERIES “Lucky’s story is funny, fast-paced, exuberant and brilliantly realized.” - Susan Wiggs, #1 New York Times bestselling author “Get ready to win big--with a novel that will keep you glued to the pages all the way to the end.” - Brenda Novak, New York Times & USA Today bestselling author "More fun than a winning streak in Vegas. Lucky O’Toole is a character with brains, beauty, and a wry sense of humor. Readers will want to meet her again—and soon." - Diane Mott Davidson, New York Times bestselling author "Deborah Coonts...entrusts the sleuthing to a brainy beauty who sees the lighter side of human folly." - New York Times Book Review "Las Vegas is the perfect setting for this witty tale of misdirection and larger-than-life characters. Fans of J. A. Konrath's Jack Daniels series will love this." - Library Journal, starred review “A whirlwind of a kooky crime novel, and readers will enjoy every minute of it. Coonts provides the perfect solution for readers waiting for the next Stephanie Plum book.” - Booklist

Burned from a previous relationship, Charlie has no desire to look at another man. That is until her friendship with Dax heats up! The night they met she was unavailable and questioning her choices but now that she is unattached Charlie is having a hard time of letting go of the past. She feels as though she may never trust another man. Months after a terrible break up, Dax offers Charlie the use of his house so that she can get away from the memories of that night. He just wants to take away her pain. Well he wants more but his needs will have to wait! Does Charlie find it within herself to let the friendship go further? Can Dax contain his desires for Charlie until she is ready?

Determined to put her short-lived marriage completely behind her, Anneke de Konigh files for divorce, believing she would have no trouble getting the court to grant it. After all, only her Italian billionaire husband could stand in her way, but why would he when he had thrown her away first? Marcus Ravelli wants his wife back, but he also knows it's going to be a treacherously uphill battle to earn back Anneke's trust – and especially when his estranged wife comes to know the devastating truth about his past.

In this town, you're either in or you're out. Glamorous parties, flashing lights, red carpets—Tally Jones has worked hard to join Hollywood's A-list since she moved to Los Angeles. She finally gets her break on the hit nighttime soap opera Dana Point, with a coveted role that allows the former small-town girl to trade her crisp waiter uniform for a breathtaking ball gown, a career as a glittering starlet, and a red-hot arm charm: chiseled hunk Gabriel McNamara, the king of prime-time medical drama. Ratings have skyrocketed since Tally replaced veteran diva Susie Sheppard on the show, and her performance earned her an Emmy nomination. But celebrity has its dark side, too. Tally's financial adviser makes off with her savings, and Gabriel's kinky sexploits and paparazzi baiting have Tally wondering why there isn't a better leading man in her life. There is: the successful film producer Mac Carlton, who has been in love with her from the moment he set eyes on her. With Mac at her side, Tally is living the Hollywood dream—until Susie arranges for her character to make a comeback, then schemes to oust her popular costar from the limelight. Upon learning of Tally and Mac's engagement, Susie sharpens her claws to snag Mac. She's out to ruin Tally's life completely. But Tally won't go down without a fight. She's determined to bring down her on- and off-screen nemesis and claim the sparkling happy ending she deserves. Beloved actress, television personality, and New York Times bestselling author of Rinnavation, Lisa Rinna delivers a deliciously revealing roman à clef about life on and off the red carpet. Filled with colorful characters, Hollywood insider details, scandalous backstabbing, and more than a few scenes—and villains—from Lisa's real life, Starlit combines the fun of Days of Our Lives, Melrose Place, and Us Weekly into one titillating Hollywood drama.

“Evanovich...with a dash of CSI.” – Publishers Weekly (review of Lucky Stiff) Lucky's story comes full circle in the conclusion of the Lucky O'Toole Vegas Adventures. Home: A refuge. An escape. Where the heart is. After a high-body count trip through Europe, Lucky O'Toole, the Chief Problem Solver for the Babylon, Las Vegas's most over the top Strip casino, is home and searching for peace, quiet and a quick fix for a broken heart. She should know better. Her father is failing in his fight to regain his health after taking a bullet to the chest. Her mother, Mona, is increasingly desperate to be “useful” which usually results in her being anything but. Her love life is in shambles. The DEA is after her, but not giving a hint as to why. The NBA is in town for their All-Star break extravaganza highlighting the new rookies. Somebody got cute and put a Bugatti on top of her hotel. And a dead guy turns up in delivery bay seven with his skull bashed in. Not exactly the soft reentry Lucky had hoped for. But she can handle it. Until her father, after checking himself out of the hospital, summons Lucky for a “family” meeting. A secret from his past puts the future of the Babylon and the family in jeopardy. And he expects Lucky to fix it. Worse, a financier who played cat-and-mouse with Lucky around the globe, striving to leave her holding the bag, could hold the key to her saving it all. Can she trust him? Does she have a choice? Find out by getting your copy of this light, funny, romantic mystery today! AN INTERVIEW WITH DEBORAH COONTS Why did you decide to write humor? I'm not sure I decided to add snark to the Lucky books, specifically to Lucky's own voice, it just happened that way. When I was a kid, my mouth always got me into trouble. Finally, I've found a way to harness the sarcasm for the Forces of Good—or at least in a way not to anger my grandmother. And when Lucky started talking to me, she had a strong dose of sass in her. The Lucky O'Toole Vegas Adventure series is hard to categorize. Is that by design? When I set out to write Wanna Get Lucky?, I knew I wanted to write a romp through Las Vegas. I had the characters and the setting but no real understanding of narrative drive. So, I threw a young woman out of a tour helicopter into the middle of the Pirate Show and let the story unfold. A bit of murder to keep the plot moving, some wisecracking and Vegas mischief to make you laugh, and some romance to keep it interesting. A bit of a mash up, but it works. PRAISE FOR THE LUCKY O'TOOLE VEGAS ADVENTURE SERIES “Lucky's story is funny, fast-paced, exuberant and brilliantly realized.” - Susan Wiggs, #1 New York Times bestselling author “Get ready to win big--with a novel that will keep you glued to the pages all the way to the end.” - Brenda Novak, New York Times & USA Today bestselling author “More fun than a winning streak in Vegas. Lucky O'Toole is a character with brains, beauty, and a wry sense of humor. Readers will want to meet her again—and soon.” - Diane Mott Davidson, New York Times bestselling author “Deborah Coonts...entrusts the sleuthing to a brainy beauty who sees the lighter side of human folly.” - New York Times Book Review “Las Vegas is the perfect setting for this witty tale of misdirection and larger-than-life characters. Fans of J. A. Konrath's Jack Daniels series will love this.” - Library Journal, starred review “A whirlwind of a kooky crime novel, and readers will enjoy every minute of it. Coonts provides the perfect solution for readers waiting for the next Stephanie Plum book.” - Booklist

Zhang Yang was a professional gamer in the first and most fantastic game that revolutionized the world: Godj's Miracle. A game where traditional knowledge in RPGs did not matter anymore, players would have to manually target and evade attacks, giving rise to a significant gap in skill between a professional and an amateur gamer. Zhang Yangj's downfall came a little too soon. His girlfriend was snatched, his guild was harassed and disbanded, and he was even driven to commit suicide! Jumping off the top floor of a hotel, Zhang Yang seemed as though he was soaring like a phoenix. Little did he know that the end of his life also signified his rise from the ashes!

“Evanovich...with a dash of CSI.” – Publishers Weekly (review of Lucky Stiff) Everyone Has a Hidden Talent As the Chief Problem Solver for the Babylon, Las Vegas's most over-the-top destination, solving the occasional murder is in Lucky's job description. A rapier wit, her weapon of choice. LUCKY BASTARD Tonight, someone turned a young woman, a Jimmy Choo embedded in her carotid, into a hood ornament for the latest Ferrari in the Babylon's dealership. And one of the big-name players in a huge poker tournament ends up dead. Are the two deaths related? Lucky starts making connections putting her in the crosshairs of a killer. Her former lover, Teddie, comes back from his rock tour to deliver a bombshell. Then life deals another major complication to her personal life...and it's not going to be pretty. Can Lucky handle the fallout and catch a killer? A light, funny, romantic mystery providing a Vegas escape appropriate for anyone looking for a good laugh. Get your copy today! AN INTERVIEW WITH DEBORAH COONTS Why did you decide to write humor? I'm not sure I decided to add

snark to the Lucky books, specifically to Lucky's own voice, it just happened that way. When I was a kid, my mouth always got me into trouble. Finally, I've found a way to harness the sarcasm for the Forces of Good—or at least in a way not to anger my grandmother. And when Lucky started talking to me, she had a strong dose of sass in her. The Lucky O'Toole Vegas Adventure series is hard to categorize. Is that by design? When I set out to write *Wanna Get Lucky?*, I knew I wanted to write a romp through Las Vegas. I had the characters and the setting but no real understanding of narrative drive. So, I threw a young woman out of a tour helicopter into the middle of the Pirate Show and let the story unfold. A bit of murder to keep the plot moving, some wisecracking and Vegas mischief to make you laugh, and some romance to keep it interesting. A bit of a mash up, but it works. PRAISE FOR Lucky Bastard "If you're entertained by sex, innuendo and a few fantasies you'd like to see played out—and who isn't?—you ought to have Lucky and her extended Vegas family (*So Damn Lucky*, 2012, etc.) on speed dial." - Kirkus Reviews, starred review "This fast, funny, frantic Vegas-set series offers great laughs as well as compelling mystery and intriguing continuing characters. You'll want to spend more time with Lucky, the daughter of a former madam and a mobster." - RT Book Reviews "...the talented Coonts takes the reader on another wild ride through Sin City." - Booklist "Lucky's sass and snark make for fun reading..." - Publishers Weekly

Southern barbecue and barbecue traditions are the primary focus of *Cornbread Nation 2*, our second collection of the best of Southern food writing. "Barbecue is the closest thing we have in the United States to Europe's wines or cheeses; drive a hundred miles and the barbecue changes," writes John Shelton Reed. Indeed, no other dish is served a dozen different ways just between Memphis and Birmingham. In tribute to what Vince Staten calls "the slowest of the slow foods," contributors discuss the politics, sociology, and virtual religion of barbecue in the South, where communities are defined by what wood they burn, what sauce they make, and what they serve with barbecue. Jim Auchmuty links barbecue to the success of certain Southern politicians; Marcie Cohen Ferris looks at kosher brisket; and Robb Walsh investigates why black cooks have been omitted from the accepted histories of Texas barbecue, despite their seminal role in its development. Beyond the barbecue pit, John Martin Taylor sings the virtues of boiled peanuts, Calvin Trillin savors Cajun boudin, and Eddie Dean revisits his days driving an ice cream truck deep in the Appalachian Mountains. From barbecue to scuppernongs to popsicles, the forty-three newspaper columns, magazine pieces, poems, and essays collected here confirm that a bounty of good writing exists when it comes to good eating, Southern style.

"... more spoken th'n written, like an unaltered, unfiltered, etc. recordin', read-out, etc. of monologues, dialogues, etc. distorted n' the majority swallowed by constant background noises in, of, etc. this universe captured n' decoded @ certain frequencies, raisin' the issue of distortionism to a higher level..."

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