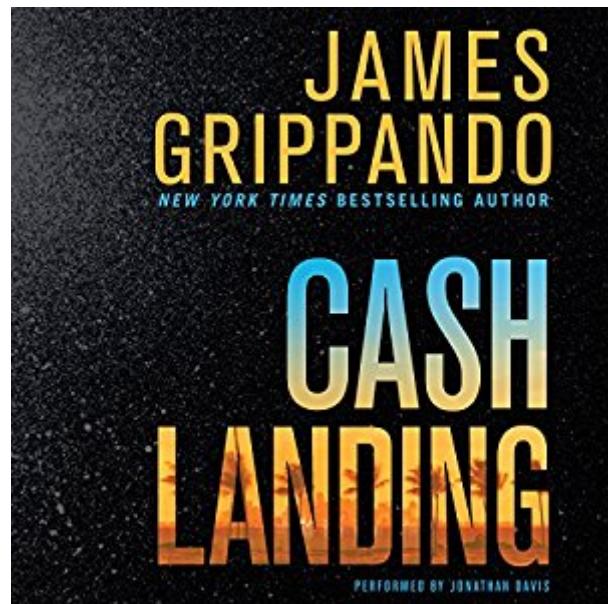


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Cash Landing: A Novel



Synopsis

The New York Times best-selling author of *Cane* and *Abe* and *Black Horizon* blends *Goodfellas* and *Elmore Leonard* in this wild, suspenseful caper inspired by actual events, in which a band of amateur thieves pulls off one of the biggest airport heists in history with deadly consequences. Every week a hundred million dollars in cash arrives at Miami International Airport, shipped by German banks to the Federal Reserve. A select group of trusted workers moves the bags through customs and loads them into armored trucks. Ruban Betancourt has always played by the rules. But the bank taking his house and his restaurant business going bust has driven him over the edge. He and his wife deserve more than life has handed them, and he's come up with a ballsy scheme to get it. With the help of an airport insider, he; his cokehead brother-in-law, Jeffrey; and two ex-cons surprise the guards loading the armored trucks and speed off with \$7.4 million in the bed of a pickup truck. Investigating the heist, FBI agent Andie Henning, newly transferred to Miami from Seattle, knows the best way to catch the thieves is to follow the money. Jeffrey's drug addiction is as conspicuous as the Rolex watches he buys for dancers at the Gold Rush strip club. One of the ex-cons, Pinky Perez, makes no secret of his plan to own a swinger's club - which will allow him carte blanche with his patrons' wives. Levelheaded Ruban is desperately trying to lay low and hold things together. But Agent Henning isn't the only one on their trail, and in the mob-meets-Miami fashion, these accidental thieves suddenly find themselves way in over their heads...and sinking fast.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I have been a fan of Jim Grippando for many years. I have read most of his novels. I thoroughly enjoyed Cash Landing. It is set in Miami, Florida and is based upon one of the biggest cash heists in history. The protagonist, Ruban Betancourt and his wife Savannah are caught up in the American dream of working hard and earning considerable money with the aspirations of leading a life of luxury in a city inundated with expensive homes, cars, and yachts. Then they are caught up in trying to keep up with mortgage payments, then plunging into despair. The novel captures the Latin Beat of Miami. There are exciting twists and turns involving the bad guys, some evil, and the FBI. The book reads like a thrilling movie script. I can see Special FBI Agent Andie Henning becoming a star in subsequent novels. My wife read and loved the book and said that it should be made into a movie.

This is a great tale of a gang who pulls off a large money heist at the Miami Airport. The heist is efficiently executed. It is well planned. But crime does not pay. After the heist, all the gang members fall over each other in betrayal. They are all greedy and criminal and do themselves in. There is a dauntless FBI agent and her colleagues who are able to watch all the deceiving and find the mistakes and pick up the pieces and solve the crime. The book is fast paced. You do not know who is going to double-cross whom next? The protagonist is Ruban, a Cuban refugee and ex-con, living in Miami. You mainly see the story through his eyes. The antagonist is Andie, a competent and clever FBI agent. Like Ruban, Andie has to fight through the double-dealing and bureaucracy of the FBI and other police agencies to solve the crime and catch the gang members. There is double-dealing on both sides. You wonder how anything succeeds in life? That is what the theme of this book is about. It is well worth reading?

I was disappointed in the last few chapters of the book, though I enjoyed the first part. It ended predictably - but all in all it was pretty interesting. It did not live up to Grippando's earlier books that I have read. They were very exciting right to the end. This one pales in comparison.

Great book to read. Featuring FBI Special Agent Andie Henning after her move from Seattle. Lots of action from start to end. Lots of cat and mouse, lies, greed, mistrust, betrayal and backstabbing among some thieves after the heist. Not worth it to steal. Greed kills. Too many lies that becomes a habit kills.

The writing was fairly good and I suspect this book will appeal to a lot of novel readers. But it was

silly to me I can't get close to characters who continue to do dumb things over and over again.

I admit I hardly read anything until two years ago, when we lost the creator of my favorite FX series, Justified, and I began reading Elmore Leonard books. Once I started, I had to read all of his books, then I wanted more. I read all of Grisham's novels and searched for similar authors. I found James Grippando and read Need You Now. From there I had to read all of his and they are wonderful. I purchased his latest, Cash Landing, for the Kindle app and I could not put it down. Makes you wonder what criminals are thinking when they seem to be reasonably intelligent. Good to see Jack Swytek make an appearance at the end. Thanks again to James Grippando for furthering my newly found love of reading.

I have read all of James Grippando's books and especially enjoy the Miami and Florida settings since I have visited there often (have a sister that lives there) and have been to many of the locals mentioned in the stories. The theft premise was brilliant and the resulting fallout among theives was captivating and believable. The reinforcement that most crimes are solved thru the hard mind numbing work of sifting thru files and newspapers and interviews was artfully woven into the story. My only complaint is that I missed Jack and Theo who are the main characters in Grippando's books and the reason why I enjoy them so much.

James Grippando is one of my all-time favorites. I have read every book and have been a fan for many, many years. As usual, this book did not disappoint this reader since it contained all of the signature "Grippando" trademarks that make him such a gifted writer. I will have to say though that it was nice to finally discover just how Jack met his FBI sweetie!! Of course another Jack Swytek novel would be appreciated!!! And I would also like another book that would finish the dilemma I had at the end of Cane and Abe. But, anyway, thanks to James Grippando for so many wonderful books and the time spent enjoying them!

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