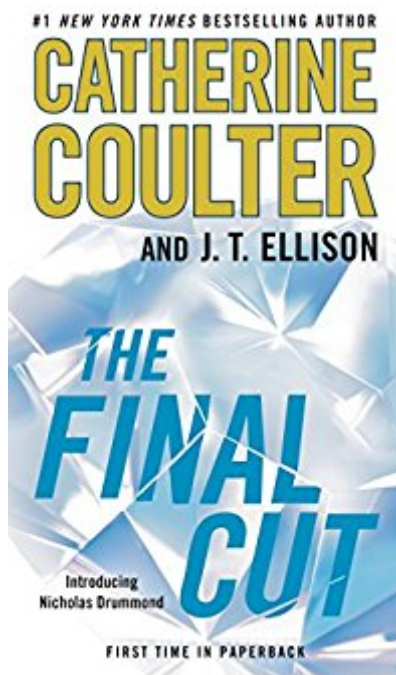


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The Final Cut (A Brit In The FBI, Book 1)



Synopsis

From Catherine Coulter, the #1 New York Times-bestselling author of the FBI Thriller series, and J.T. Ellison, bestselling author and ITW Award winner, comes the first book in a brilliant new international thriller series featuring a new hero: American-born, UK-raised Nicholas Drummond. Scotland Yard's new chief inspector Nicholas Drummond is on the first flight to New York when he learns his colleague, Elaine York, the remainder of the Crown Jewels for the Jewel of the Lion exhibit at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, was found murdered. Then the centerpiece of the exhibit, the infamous Koh-i-Noor Diamond, is stolen from the Queen Mother's crown. Drummond, American-born but raised in the UK, is a dark, dangerous, fast-rising star in the Yard who never backs down. And this case is no exception. As Special Agents Lacey Sherlock and Dillon Savich from Coulter's bestselling FBI series don't hesitate to help Drummond find the cunning international thief known as the Fox. Nonstop action and high stakes intensify as the chase gets deadly. The Fox will stop at nothing to deliver the Koh-i-Noor to the man who believes in its deadly prophecy. Nicholas Drummond, along with his partner, FBI Special Agent Mike Caine, lay it on the line to retrieve the diamond for Queen and country.

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Customer Reviews

This is a good start to an entertaining easy-reading new series jointly written by successful authors Catherine Coulter and J.T.Ellison. The combination has worked seamlessly to produce an interesting mixture of FBI and Scotland Yard. The series introduces Detective Chief Inspector (Sir?) Nicholas Drummond of New Scotland Yard. Nicholas is not your run of the mill British DCI. He was born in the US but brought up in England by his father, a hereditary Baron. He is very close to his American Uncle, a very respected former senior FBI officer. Nicholas is a cosmopolitan character with a varied career, including a testing time in the intelligence service before joining Scotland Yard. He is a world away from the regionally orientated fictional Inspectors Grace and James who would have some difficulty working with the FBI. Nicholas' police and personal partner, Detective Inspector Elaine York, is in New York to oversee security for the Queen Mother's Crown (which features the famous Koh-I-Noor diamond) while it is on exhibition at the Metropolitan Museum. On hearing that she has been found dead under suspicious circumstances Nicholas immediately flies to New York. Because of his Uncle's contacts he is able to work with the FBI on the case. While Nicholas partners with FBI Agent Michaela (Mike) Caine to work on the case they are given assistance by Coulter's FBI characters Savich and Sherlock. Mike is an attractive, efficient, motivated and respective FBI agent and they join forces pretty easily. (Why are so many fictional female FBI agents so attractive - I'm sure this isn't so in real life). The authors' can't resist giving the enigmatic Nicholas a bit of a James Bond image - handsome, rich and well connected. He drops by his house on the way to the airport to pick up his "go bag" from his butler. Later on in New York when he has to attend a classy reception for the exhibition at the Met is asked by Mike if he has a tux - "my tux is in my bag, I never leave home without it." The case is really about the career of the Fox who has been commissioned to steal the diamond. While the Fox is well known as one of the world's most successful art and jewel thieves few people know that the Fox is a young woman. She is a woman of patience and has spent two years planning to steal the Koh-I-Noor diamond by inserting herself into the security for the exhibition. The case is also about the reason why someone commissioned her to steal the diamond. Nicholas and Mike end up chasing the Fox all the way around Europe to get the answers and face a wide range of dangers during the chase. This is a good start to a new escapist series which I expect to become very popular. If you like easy reading, page-turning escapist thrillers without the really dark side of extreme violence then this is the book for you.

This is one of the rare books that I finally just quit reading rather than finish, because it was just too painful. The book started out decently and the plot is potentially interesting, but the writing was very poor. I found myself flipping back and re-reading parts to try to make sense of things, the dialog was awkward, it just didn't flow. When I can't stay immersed in a story because I'm so distracted trying to figure out what the author is attempting to say, it's time to give up. Catherine Coulter's core characters like Sherlock were wedged in here and there but it felt very forced. I'm a Catherine Coulter fan, but really regret buying this book. It feels like she sold her name for someone else's series, not like she was a participating author.

The dialogue was awkward. In a couple of places I was pulled out of the story because the dialogue didn't make sense. Sherlock & Savich were just cardboard cut-out cameos. They could have been left out of the story altogether if the authors hadn't been trying to make this a spin-off series. There was no chemistry between the Mike and Drummond. For most of the book, he was still focused on the ex-girlfriend who was murdered. The ending for the "gray" thief where she plans to return to the boyfriend who guards the crown jewels is unrealistic. Forgiven for her past crimes or not, the British are not going to let her near the jewels.

I got through the book, but I don't think I'll be picking up any others from the series. I'm a fantasy and sci-fi reader, but this book is more fantasy than some things I've read. Everyone's awesome or attractive, and at the top of their field. There were hardly any obstacles to the hunt, every infraction in the chase smoothed out... I just couldn't care about the characters. I don't need it to be dark and gritty, but there's got to be some real challenge to the events that unfold.

I loved this book, it is based on a true to life diamond the Koh-i-Noor (look the history up on Wikipedia I did). While the part of the diamond that belongs to the Crown Jewels is on display at a Museum in New York, the diamond is stolen, Yikes! The agent from Scotland Yard who was there to protect the diamond is found murdered, along with a former Russian mobster. Many questions abound, then the new Scotland Yard agent sent to investigate to crime arrives. Things really start to heat up and the investigation heads to Europe, looking for an Art thief known as the Fox. Meanwhile back in New York Savich and Sherlock are also helping to work on the case. More murders abound! I think is one of Catherine Coulter's best books, full of suspense a true to life legend, action galore, betrayal and a little love. What's not to love!

I wasn't sure I would like Mr. Drummond, since, I am such a big fan of Sherlock and Savich. The story was smooth and exciting as always. And, I do like Drummond and Mike. Although, I hope Sherlock and Savich is used more in future books. Or, Drummond and Mike have their own series of books. That would be awesome. What do you think Catherine? LOVE, LOVE, LOVE your books, keep, the, coming. Recommend to everyone! Gave 5 stars, would give more if I could. Love the history of the diamond. Loved the mystery. Love Catherine Coulter!!!

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