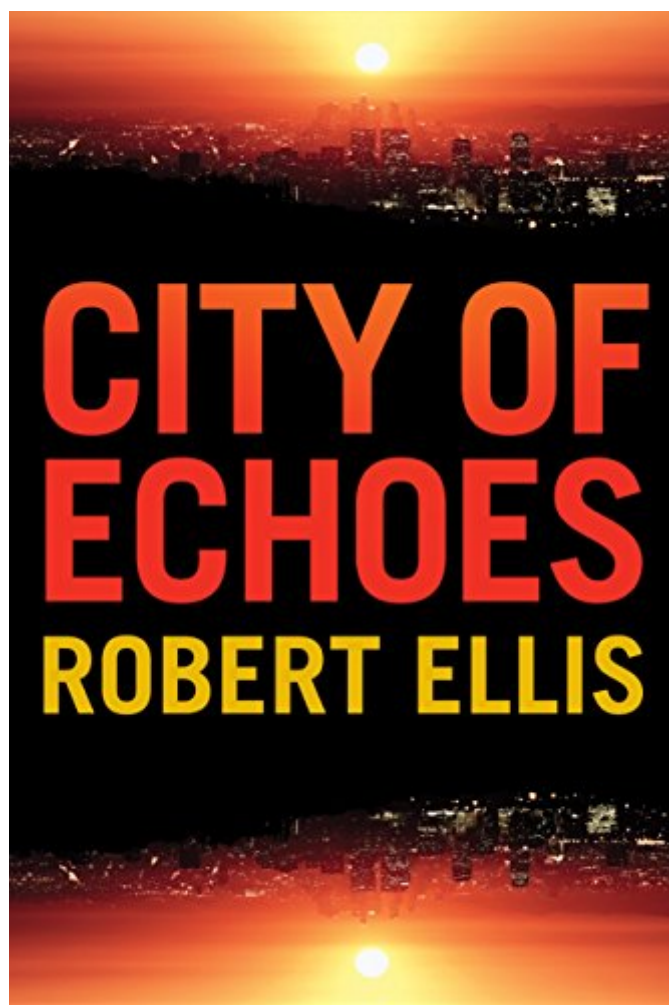


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City Of Echoes (Detective Matt Jones Book 1)



Synopsis

On Detective Matt Jones's first night working Homicide in LA, he's called to investigate a particularly violent murder case: a man has been gunned down in a parking lot off Hollywood Boulevard, his bullet-riddled body immediately pegged as the work of a serial robber who has been haunting the Strip for months. Driven by the grisliness of the killing, Jones and his hot-tempered partner, Denny Cabrera, jump headfirst into the investigation. But as Jones uncovers evidence that links the crime to a brutal, ritualized murder that occurred eighteen months prior, he begins to suspect that there's more going on beneath the surface. When Jones discovers shocking, deep-seated corruption; a high-level cover-up; and his own personal ties to the rising body count, he's no longer sure he can trust anyone, even himself.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Great to see that is offering six kindle first picks for August but the sample of "City of Echoes" hooked me a few weeks ago so it was my automatic pick. The product blurb provides an accurate plot outline and about as much as you can say without spoilers so I won't add

much to it here. Although not in the same league, much of the book had the feel of classic LA noir like Raymond Chandler (my favorite). Instead of Chandler's good guy private eye, Philip Marlowe, you have good guy cop/Afghanistan war vet, Matt Jones. Like those classic novels, there are several twists and turns with many things- and people- not as they seem. And it may be set in modern day but there is still corruption and the claustrophobic tension and paranoia of not knowing who to trust. Setting aside a day to read the kindle first book is a gift to myself every month, but at about the sixty percent mark I had to take a break from the tension for a while. But I will say that first half of the book definitely fell in the 'can't put down' category. On the down side, 'City of Echoes' did deviate from classic noir novels with the inclusion of a serial killer (I'm really tired of those) as well as more violence. And although Matt is an interesting and likeable character, there was a lack of secondary character development including some behavior that didn't ring true. I had an overall impression that it was all just too much- too many murders, over the top bad guys, some not too believable twists and turns. Although I didn't think it was egregious, there is a substantial amount of foul language that may bother some people. Once again I wish I had a ten point rating system. During the first half of the book I would have called this a solid 7 with only a couple of unrealistic behaviors of Matt and his partner keeping it from an 8 :) But the book sagged a bit after that becoming more chaotic and unrealistic. But I still liked it overall and will definitely be looking for the next Matt Jones story.

Good book with excellent characters. Like the local color as I live in Glendale and are very familiar with the locations from Hollywood to LaCanada mentioned in the book. Yes there is a Starbucks with terrible parking on Pacific ave and there is a Jack in The Box close by that it is easier to get coffee in. The placement in the book is reversed but the author must know the area. I hate simple mistakes in books. I often find silly errors like reading Elmore Leonard's books you catch him a couple times saying this or that character took the safety off a Smith and Wesson Revolver. They don't have safety. Writer ignorance. In this book, as I recall, the author makes a big deal out of murders being perpetrated by someone shooting a Glock 10mm handgun, Quite a powerful gun but the author also makes a big deal several times out of saying it was a shiny gun that reflected light in a surveillance video. No. Lock pistols are black finished and the frames and grips dead flat black polymer. Never has and never will be a shiny Glock. Other manufacturers make stainless steel pistols handsome are polished and even rarer are nickel plated pistols but all one has to do is go on the Glock web site and look up the gun to see what I'm talking about. Even YouTube video. Cops like them because they are reliable, can have large capacity magazines and are easy to shoot from

the standpoint that the safety is built into the trigger pull. Sloppy research. I guess I don't like running into this because it messes with the suspension of disbelief when involved in a story. Not hard to get right if you put a minimum of effort into it. If you don't care, just read a good book. Ellis is an excellent writer

Everything I have read by Robert Ellis has been superlative. This is a new character and I think you are going to like him as much as I do. He is a good guy and does the right thing. I felt myself rooting for him over and over throughout the story. Oh, and the story itself has so many twists and turns you are all worn out when it is done. I could not put the book down and found myself up late at night and tired the next day! This is a bit police procedural, mystery, detective story and also has such excellent character development that I just wanted to meet these people. I am thrilled that there is a second in the Matt Jones series and hope Mr. Ellis keeps this character alive and working for several more books. Great, just great reading.

Not very plausible. The disasters are thought out but not well presented, and the bureaucracy and cross-jurisdiction interaction is so-so at best. I finished it, and was disappointed in the ending as well.

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