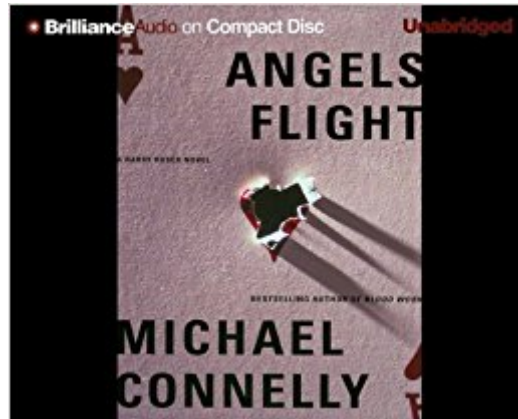




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Angels Flight (Harry Bosch)



Synopsis

The man most hated by the LAPD - a black lawyer who has made his name by bringing lawsuits alleging racism and brutality by police officers - has been found murdered on the eve of a high-profile trial. The list of suspects includes half the police force. And Harry Bosch is the detective chosen to lead the investigation. The political dangers of the case are huge. If it's not investigated fairly, the public outcry could make the Rodney King riots look tame. But a full investigation will take Bosch into the ugliest corners of law enforcement. To make matters worse, Bosch's wife, Eleanor, has disappeared. Bosch fears she has left him - or succumbed to her gambling addiction. He's not sure which would be worse. *Angels Flight* reads in a white heat. It continues to up the ante of the series that is "raising the hard-boiled detective novel to a new level - adding substance and depth to modern crime fiction." (Boston Globe)

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Michael Connelly, whose novel *The Poet* won the 1997 Anthony Award for Best Mystery, is already recognized as one of the smartest and most vivid scribes of the hard-boiled police procedural. Now, with his much-anticipated sixth Harry Bosch novel, *Angels Flight*, Connelly offers one of the finest pieces of mystery writing to appear in 1998. Bosch is awakened in the middle of the night and, out of rotation, he is assigned to the murder investigation of the high-profile African American attorney Howard Elias. When Bosch arrives at the scene, it seems that almost the entire LAPD is present, including the IAD (the Internal Affairs Division). Elias, who made a career out of suing the police,

was sadistically gunned down on the Angels Flight tram just as he was beginning a case that would have struck the core of the department; not surprisingly, L.A.'s men and women in blue become the center of the investigation. Haunted by the ghost of the L.A. riots, plagued by incessant media attention, and facing turmoil at home, Bosch suddenly finds himself questioning friends and associates while working side by side with some longtime enemies. Angels Flight is a detective's nightmare scenario and is disturbingly relevant to the racially tense last decade of the 20th century. Amidst the twists and turns of his complex narrative, Connelly affirms his rightful place among the masters of contemporary mystery fiction. --Patrick O'Kelley --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Connelly's novel follows series hero Harry Bosch's investigation into the murder of an African-American defense attorney who made a career of courtroom victories at the expense of the Los Angeles Police Department. This installment in the series is especially dark, and narrator Peter Giles's reads in a voice that echoes with the dry croaking of a lifelong smokerâ "something that establishes a noirlike mood from the get-go. The narrator ably matches Bosch's downbeat mood, shifting from anger at having to deal with racism, not just in his city but within the ranks of the LAPD, to weariness, sadness, and frustration at his inability to stop the disintegration of his marriage. Giles sands some of the roughness from his voice and pitches it slightly higher for the book's female characters, like the detective's soon-to-be-separated wife and his partner, Kiz Rider. But there's still an edge rough enough to remind us we're not listening to an Agatha Christie cozy. A Grand Central paperback. (June) --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Harry Bosch and his teammates, Jerry Edgar and Kiz Rider, inherit a murder case loaded with booby traps that could have far reaching consequences for the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD). A prominent black attorney, Howard Elias, is murdered while a passenger on the Angels Flight trolley. Elias has been working on a legal defense for a man accused of kidnapping and murdering a young girl in a terrible manner. Elias's murder fans the flames of racial hatred causing riots and looting in different parts of the city. Many people believe that members of the LAPD were responsible for his death. The situation reminded me of Rodney King who was beaten severely in 1991 by the LAPD which resulted in terrible race riots. The parents of the murdered girl are quite wealthy. The father, Sam Kincaid, owns many car dealerships around the Los Angeles area and uses bizarre advertising techniques to bring in business. He reminded me of an actual Southern California car dealer, Cal Worthington, whose slogan set to music was, "Go See

Cal, Go See Cal. Several more murders ensue and the FBI is brought in to help the LAPD. Besides having to work with the FBI and other unfriendly police departments, Harry Bosch has a personal problem which causes minor distractions at times; his wife Eleanor is unhappy with their marriage and is threatening to leave him. This area of the story is a rather weak one and we never learn exactly what Eleanor's real problem is. Altogether it's a fascinating story with a complex plot that will keep you turning pages until the surprise ending unfolds.

These novels are as engrossing as anything I have read. Each one wraps me in the contemporary noir of L.A. crime drama. I finish one and pick up another. The series turned me on to three books and has the same feel as the books to me. I hope Michael Connelly is writing faster than I can read cause I don't know what I will do when I read the last one. Start over I guess.

There are few angels to be found in Michael Connelly's brooding twisted *Angels Flight*. Outwardly the investigation of the murder of a prominent black lawyer on the edge of a case which would blacken LA's Police Department the story looks into his flaws as well as the unsavoury aspects of some of LA's finest. The tale has many turns and twists and new characters emerge throughout the book. As lead detective in the case Bosch is in the middle of all the mud and a strikingly downer of an ending. Connelly successfully makes us feel the need for a long hot shower after reading *Angels Flight*.

I've been reading Harry Bosch books but out of order, which is OK as they really don't need to be read in order as some other series do. That's one of the great things about the series. I'm now reading the earlier books and really am amazed at how great Michael Connelly is. Each book I've read is 4/5 stars. Amazing. Now I will admit that I've enjoyed other Harry books a bit better than *Angels Flight*, but it was still a great story and kept me page turning to the end.

Michael Connelly has to be one of the finest thriller and detective authors ... his work cannot be put down once the reading is initiated. Collecting all of his books, slowly but surely... Harry Bosch is a finely tuned character with a true sense of realism, conflicts, successes and disappointments. Also, the Bosch TV series is also a winner, perhaps because of the fine lead actor and the fact that Connelly is an executive producer of the series.

The book was OK and could have been much better if the ending would have been more involved or engaged with the main character. I am never impressed when books provide poor examples about how political impact results in poor outcomes. While I understand the tease I would prefer an ending that sends hope and grace. This ending did not. It was a sad book overall and the ending just added to that feeling.

Angels Flight finds Harry Bosch handed a politically-charged double murder that seems likely to ignite another Rodney King verdict-style riot regardless of the outcome. Not only is the case likely a career ender but Harry's recent marriage to former FBI agent Eleanor Wish is looking more and more like Chernobyl. The story, as always with Connelly, is tightly written and leaves little time for you to catch your breath. Some characters from Trunk Music reappear. Unfortunately, the ending disappoints in a lot of ways and after a masterful build up leaves you feeling the resolution of the investigation and Harry's marital difficulties are more of an afterthought than a destination.

Overall this was a really good book. An actual whodunit vs we know who it is halfway through and the rest of the book is Harry trying to prove "his gut" right. With the backdrop of a city on the verge of renewed rioting over one of the murders, Harry's team must solve this fast....but someone is working to sabotage them....Will the city go up in flames because of it? Worse still, Bosch has been pulled into the political arena and media spotlight where words are twisted, backstabbing's the norm. He can't trust ANYONE on his huge task force, except his two partners Rider and Edger.....time is ticking. Check, I couldn't put this book down and normally, I've figured SOMETHING IF NOT WHO, BUT I WAS WAAAAAY OFF BASE HERE. This is a fast-paced, well done book I would recommend to anyone. Happy Reading!

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