elvis cole and joe pike

Elvis Cole and Joe Pike: The Dynamic Duo of Detective Fiction

elvis cole and joe pike are names that resonate deeply with fans of modern detective fiction. Created by author Robert Crais, these two characters have carved out a unique niche in the world of crime novels, blending sharp wit, relentless determination, and a strong sense of justice. Their partnership is more than just a working relationship; it's a compelling exploration of friendship, loyalty, and the complexities of human nature wrapped in gripping mystery and suspense. If you've ever wondered what makes these two such unforgettable figures, this article delves into the essence of Elvis Cole and Joe Pike, their dynamic, and why they continue to captivate readers worldwide.

The Origins of Elvis Cole and Joe Pike

The story of Elvis Cole and Joe Pike begins in the mind of Robert Crais, an acclaimed writer who brought these characters to life in the late 1980s. Elvis Cole first appeared in the novel *The Monkey's Raincoat* (1987), marking the start of a series that would span decades and dozens of books. Joe Pike, on the other hand, was introduced a bit later but quickly became an essential counterpart to Cole.

Elvis Cole: The Charismatic Private Investigator

Elvis Cole is a Los Angeles-based private detective known for his sharp intellect, unyielding optimism, and a somewhat philosophical approach to life's darker moments. With a background that includes a stint in the military and a deep understanding of human nature, Cole blends street smarts with a kindhearted demeanor. He's often described as charming, witty, and surprisingly empathetic for a man who deals with the harsh realities of crime daily.

His investigative style is methodical but adaptable, often relying on intuition as much as facts. Elvis's humor serves as a counterbalance to the often grim cases he takes on, making him a relatable and engaging protagonist.

Joe Pike: The Silent Enforcer and Loyal Friend

Joe Pike, in contrast, is a man of few words but immense presence. A former Marine sniper and security expert, Pike is the muscle and tactical mind behind the duo. His stoicism and no-nonsense attitude provide a perfect foil to Cole's more conversational and easygoing nature.

Pike's loyalty to Cole is unwavering, and their friendship forms the emotional core of many stories. Though he rarely expresses his feelings openly, his actions speak volumes — often protecting Cole from physical danger and navigating the darker, more violent aspects of their cases.

The Chemistry Between Elvis Cole and Joe Pike

One of the most compelling aspects of Robert Crais's work is the undeniable chemistry between Elvis Cole and Joe Pike. Their relationship transcends typical detective partnerships, offering readers a glimpse into a deep and complex friendship forged through shared experiences and mutual respect.

Complementary Strengths

Elvis and Joe complement each other's strengths and weaknesses perfectly. Where Elvis relies on charm, negotiation, and a keen sense of observation, Joe brings tactical expertise, physical prowess, and a calm under pressure that keeps them both grounded. This balance allows them to tackle a wide range of cases, from white-collar crimes to violent confrontations.

Trust and Loyalty in the Face of Danger

Throughout the series, their trust in each other is tested repeatedly. Whether it's navigating treacherous criminal networks or confronting personal demons, Elvis and Joe have each other's backs. This loyalty adds depth to their characters and makes the stakes feel more personal and urgent for readers.

Exploring the Themes in Elvis Cole and Joe Pike Novels

Robert Crais's novels featuring Elvis Cole and Joe Pike are rich with themes that resonate beyond the typical crime story. They explore morality, justice, and the blurred lines between right and wrong.

The Moral Ambiguity of Justice

Both Cole and Pike often find themselves operating in morally gray areas. The law doesn't always provide clear answers, and their sense of justice sometimes requires bending the rules. This nuance adds realism to the stories and invites readers to consider the complexities of crime and punishment.

Friendship and Redemption

At its heart, the relationship between Elvis Cole and Joe Pike is about redemption and the power of friendship. Both characters carry personal scars, and their bond helps them heal and navigate a world that can be unforgiving.

Why Elvis Cole and Joe Pike Stand Out in Detective Fiction

In a crowded genre filled with hard-boiled detectives and noir heroes, Elvis Cole and Joe Pike stand out for several reasons.

Rich Character Development

Rather than relying solely on plot twists and suspense, Robert Crais invests heavily in character development. Readers get to know Elvis and Joe intimately — their fears, hopes, and motivations — which makes their adventures all the more engaging.

Realistic and Gritty Storytelling

The novels are praised for their realistic portrayal of Los Angeles and the criminal underworld. The gritty details, combined with fast-paced storytelling, immerse readers in a believable and thrilling world.

Blend of Humor and Intensity

Elvis Cole's witty banter often provides moments of levity amidst otherwise tense and serious situations. This blend of humor and intensity keeps the narrative balanced and enjoyable.

Tips for New Readers Entering the World of Elvis Cole and Joe Pike

If you're new to the series, diving into the world of Elvis Cole and Joe Pike can be an exciting journey. Here are a few tips to get the most out of their stories:

- **Start with The Monkey's Raincoat:** This is the first book featuring Elvis Cole and sets the tone for the series.
- **Read in Order:** While many books can be enjoyed individually, reading chronologically helps develop a deeper understanding of character arcs.
- Pay Attention to Character Interactions: The dialogue and interactions often reveal important insights into the characters' motivations.
- **Enjoy the Setting:** Robert Crais's vivid depiction of Los Angeles adds atmosphere and context that enrich the stories.

The Cultural Impact of Elvis Cole and Joe Pike

Beyond the books themselves, Elvis Cole and Joe Pike have influenced the detective genre and inspired other writers and media. Their dynamic has been praised for bringing fresh energy to private investigator stories, emphasizing character-driven narratives with emotional depth.

In addition, Robert Crais's success with these characters has contributed to the popularity of crime fiction set in Southern California, a region that serves as a vibrant and complex backdrop for their cases.

For readers who appreciate character-rich mysteries with a mix of suspense, action, and heart, Elvis Cole and Joe Pike offer a compelling literary experience. Their partnership, grounded in trust and complementary skills, continues to captivate audiences and define a beloved corner of detective fiction. Whether you're a longtime fan or new to the genre, exploring their stories is a journey well worth taking.

Frequently Asked Questions

Who are Elvis Cole and Joe Pike?

Elvis Cole and Joe Pike are fictional private investigators featured in a popular series of mystery novels written by Robert Crais.

What is the relationship between Elvis Cole and Joe Pike?

Elvis Cole and Joe Pike are partners and close friends who work together as private investigators, with Cole providing the witty, talkative personality and Pike being the tough, silent enforcer.

In which book series do Elvis Cole and Joe Pike appear?

Elvis Cole and Joe Pike appear in the 'Elvis Cole and Joe Pike' detective series authored by Robert Crais.

What are the defining characteristics of Elvis Cole?

Elvis Cole is known for his charm, wit, and keen investigative skills, often acting as the more talkative and personable half of the duo.

How is Joe Pike portrayed in the Elvis Cole series?

Joe Pike is portrayed as a stoic, strong, and highly skilled former Marine who provides muscle and tactical expertise to complement Elvis Cole's investigative work.

Have any Elvis Cole and Joe Pike novels been adapted into films or TV shows?

As of now, there have been no official film or television adaptations of the Elvis Cole and Joe Pike novels.

What is the setting for most Elvis Cole and Joe Pike stories?

Most Elvis Cole and Joe Pike mysteries are set in Los Angeles, providing a gritty and atmospheric backdrop for their investigations.

Additional Resources

Elvis Cole and Joe Pike: A Deep Dive into Robert Crais's Iconic Detective Duo

elvis cole and joe pike stand as one of the most compelling partnerships in contemporary detective fiction. Created by acclaimed author Robert Crais, these two characters have captivated readers for decades, blending sharp wit, intense loyalty, and gritty realism into a series of novels that have redefined the private investigator genre. This article explores the dynamic between Elvis Cole and Joe Pike, examines their development across the series, and analyzes their impact on crime literature and popular culture.

The Genesis of Elvis Cole and Joe Pike

Robert Crais introduced Elvis Cole in his debut novel *The Monkey's Raincoat* (1987), establishing him as a Los Angeles-based private investigator with a knack for combining street smarts with a strong moral compass. Joe Pike, initially a background character, emerged as a pivotal figure in subsequent books, evolving into Cole's enigmatic partner. Their relationship, grounded in mutual respect and contrasting personalities, forms the backbone of the series.

The narrative foundation rests on the classic detective archetype but diverges through nuanced characterization. Elvis Cole is portrayed as a witty, approachable, and somewhat philosophical PI, while Joe Pike is the stoic, nearly silent enforcer with a military background. This juxtaposition creates a balanced dynamic that appeals to a broad audience.

Character Analysis: Contrasts and Complements

Elvis Cole: The Everyman Detective

Elvis Cole's appeal lies in his relatability. He is an ordinary man thrust into extraordinary situations, relying on intelligence, intuition, and empathy rather than brute force. His background as a former police officer enriches his investigative skills, and his sense of humor adds levity to otherwise tense

scenarios.

Key traits of Elvis Cole include:

- Empathy and moral clarity
- Sharp deductive reasoning
- Approachable and conversational style
- Occasional vulnerability, humanizing the character

Joe Pike: The Silent Protector

In stark contrast, Joe Pike embodies the archetype of the strong, silent type. His military and law enforcement experience lend him an imposing presence and tactical expertise. Pike's reticence and professionalism often serve as a foil to Cole's more verbose personality, highlighting their complementary strengths.

Defining aspects of Joe Pike include:

- · Stoicism and physical prowess
- Expertise in combat and surveillance
- Unwavering loyalty to Cole
- An aura of mystery and implacability

This polarity between Cole and Pike enriches the narrative fabric, allowing Robert Crais to explore themes of friendship, justice, and redemption through multi-dimensional characters.

Literary Style and Thematic Elements

Crais's writing style is notable for its crisp dialogue, atmospheric descriptions of Los Angeles, and tightly plotted mysteries. The interplay between Elvis Cole and Joe Pike transcends typical procedural storytelling, injecting emotional depth and character-driven suspense into the genre.

Recurring themes in the series include:

- 1. Loyalty and trust: The evolving partnership between Cole and Pike exemplifies enduring friendship amid adversity.
- Morality in a corrupt world: The characters often navigate ethically complex situations,

reflecting on justice versus legality.

3. Isolation and connection: Both detectives grapple with personal demons and the search for belonging.

The balance between action sequences and introspective moments sets these novels apart from conventional crime fiction, appealing to readers seeking both thrills and thoughtful character studies.

Impact and Reception in Crime Literature

Since their inception, Elvis Cole and Joe Pike have become fixtures in modern detective fiction, influencing a generation of writers and readers. Their stories have been praised for revitalizing the private eye genre by blending classic noir elements with contemporary sensibilities.

Critics often highlight:

- The realistic portrayal of Los Angeles as a multifaceted backdrop
- The depth of character development over multiple installments
- The seamless integration of humor and suspense
- The series' ability to maintain freshness across more than twenty novels

Moreover, the series has garnered several awards and nominations, underscoring its critical acclaim and popularity within the mystery community.

The Evolution of Their Partnership Over Time

Initially, Elvis Cole operated solo, with Joe Pike introduced as a secondary character. Over time, Pike's presence grew, and he became an indispensable part of the investigative team. This evolution reflects a deliberate narrative choice by Robert Crais to deepen relational dynamics and expand storytelling possibilities.

Their partnership is marked by:

- Increasing interdependence in solving complex cases
- Shared history that informs their interactions and decision-making
- Mutual protection, often placing themselves in harm's way for one another
- Gradual revelation of Pike's backstory, adding layers to his otherwise reserved character

This progression not only enriches the reading experience but also allows the series to explore themes of trust and sacrifice more profoundly.

Comparisons with Other Detective Duos

Elvis Cole and Joe Pike invite comparisons to other famous detective partnerships such as Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson, or Cormoran Strike and Robin Ellacott. However, their dynamic is distinct in that it combines a modern, urban sensibility with a blend of humor and grit, avoiding the more formal or formulaic tropes typical of earlier detective fiction.

In comparison:

- Unlike Holmes and Watson, Cole and Pike operate in a more morally ambiguous world.
- Their Los Angeles setting offers a vibrant, realistic urban landscape rather than a stylized or historical backdrop.
- Their personalities are less archetypal and more grounded in contemporary issues and emotional complexity.

These factors contribute to the duo's enduring appeal and relevance in a crowded genre.

Audience and Market Appeal

The Elvis Cole and Joe Pike series appeals to a diverse readership:

- Fans of traditional detective and noir fiction
- Readers seeking character-driven mysteries with emotional depth
- Those interested in vivid portrayals of Los Angeles culture and geography
- Consumers of crime fiction who appreciate a blend of action, suspense, and humor

The series' longevity and consistent publication schedule have also helped cultivate a loyal fan base, with many readers eagerly anticipating each new installment.

Adaptations and Multimedia Presence

While primarily known as a literary phenomenon, Elvis Cole and Joe Pike have also found their way

into other media formats. Discussions about television or film adaptations have surfaced periodically, underscoring the cinematic quality of Crais's storytelling. The vivid characterizations and intricate plots lend themselves naturally to visual storytelling.

Potential advantages of adaptations include:

- Bringing the characters' dynamic to a broader audience
- Showcasing the atmospheric Los Angeles setting through visual media
- Expanding the series' cultural footprint beyond traditional print readers

Challenges include capturing the nuanced interplay between Cole's wit and Pike's stoicism, which is central to the books' charm.

Elvis Cole and Joe Pike encapsulate the essence of modern detective fiction: complex characters navigating a morally gray world with intelligence, courage, and loyalty. Their enduring partnership offers not only gripping mysteries but also a profound exploration of friendship and justice in contemporary society. Whether through the pages of Robert Crais's novels or potential future adaptations, their story continues to resonate, marking them as icons in the landscape of crime literature.

Elvis Cole And Joe Pike

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elvis cole and joe pike: The Promise Robert Crais, 2015-11-10 'One of the most entertaining thrillers of the year... THE PROMISE is filled with suspense, surprises and ably-drawn characters. ... putting him in the company of such greats as James Lee Burke, Sue Grafton, Stephen King and Elmore Leonard. THE PROMISE shows once again why he belongs there' WASHINGTON POST Loyalty, commitment, the fight against injustice - these are the things that have always driven Elvis Cole and Joe Pike. If they make a promise, they keep it. Even if it could get them killed. When Elvis Cole is hired to locate a woman who may have disappeared with a stranger she met online, it seems like an ordinary case - until Elvis learns the missing woman worked for a defence contractor and was being blackmailed to supply explosives components for a person or persons unknown. Meanwhile, in another part of the city, LAPD officer Scott James and his patrol dog, Maggie, enter an abandoned building to locate an armed and dangerous thief, only to discover far more than they expected. Soon, Scott and Maggie find themselves targeted and, as their case intertwines with Elvis and Joe's, join forces to follow the trail of the missing woman as well. From inner-city drug traffickers to a shadowy group of Afghan war veterans with ties to a terrorist cell, the people they encounter on that trail add

up to ever-increasing odds, and soon the four of them are fighting to find the woman not only before she is killed ... but before the same fate happens to one of them.

elvis cole and joe pike: Elvis Cole & Joe Pike Robert Crais, 2007

elvis cole and joe pike: Elvis Cole and Joe Pike Robert Crais, 2022-04-26 The #1 New York Times-bestselling author invites you into a conversation with his two most popular characters—one well-liked and the other, not so much. In this short piece, Robert Crais brings us into the world of quirky and likable Los Angeles PI Elvis Cole and his friend Joe Pike, a survivor and an enigmatic man of few words. The discussion revolves around the choices they've made, the obstacles they've overcome, the things that drive them to be who they are, and the hope that keeps them persevering through the darkness. It's a fresh look at this "superb series" (Kirkus Reviews), and a fascinating visit with its "whip-smart" author (Booklist), who has also written for such television classics as Cagney and Lacey and Hill Street Blues. "Cole and Pike make a terrific pair." —Seattle Times

elvis cole and joe pike: Stalking the Angel Robert Crais, 2011-04-20 Meet Elvis Cole, L.A. private eye . . . he quotes Jiminy Cricket and carries a .38. He's a literate, wisecreacking Vietnam vet who is determined never to grow up. The blonde who walked into Cole's office was the bestlooking woman he'd seen in weeks. The only thing that kept her from rating a perfect "10" was the briefcase on one arm and the uptight hotel magnate on the other. Bradley Warren had lost something very valuable—something that belonged to someone else: a rare thirteenth-century Japanese manuscript called the Hagakure. Just about all Cole knew about Japanese culture he'd learned from reading Shogun, but he knew a lot about crooks—and what he didn't know his sociopathic sidekick, Joe Pike, did. Together their search begins in L.A.'s Little Tokyo and the nest of notorious Japanese mafia, the yakuza, and leads to a white-knuckled adventure filled with madness, murder, sexual obsession, and a stunning double-whammy ending. For Elvis Cole, it's just another day's work. Praise for Stalking the Angel "Stalking the Angel is a righteous California book: intelligent, perceptive, hard, clean."—James Ellroy "Out on the West Coast, where private eyes thrive like avocado trees, Robert Crais has created an interesting and amusing hero in Elvis Cole."—The Wall Street Journal "Devotees of the rock 'em, sock 'em school should find [Stalking the Angel] tasty."—The San Diego Union

elvis cole and joe pike: The Last Detective Robert Crais, 2010-12-16 'THE LAST DETECTIVE is literally a thrill-a-minute read. Crais is on top form, which, believe me, is about as good as it gets. Don't miss it' INDEPENDENT ON SUNDAY 'The narrative is taut, the menace palpable, the suspense unbearable' DAILY TELEGRAPH Elvis Cole has got a problem to solve - and this time it's personal. Elvis Cole's girlfriend, Lucy, is out of town, and she has left her young son Ben in Elvis's care. Elvis and Lucy have had a few problems lately - not least over his job as a private investigator. But at last things seem to be getting better. Then Ben disappears. One minute he's playing his computer game in Elvis's house; the next he has vanished. Elvis looks everywhere, but he just can't find Ben; and neither can Lucy when she arrives. Then Elvis receives a phone call about Ben - and realises that something from his own past has come back to haunt him...

elvis cole and joe pike: The Promise Robert Crais, 2015 Elvis Cole and Joe Pike are joined by Suspect heroes LAPD K-9 Officer Scott James and his German shepherd, Maggie, in the new heart-stopping thriller from #1 New York Times-bestselling author Robert Crais. Loyalty, commitment, and the fight for justice have always driven Elvis Cole and Joe Pike. If they make a promise, they keep it. Even if it could get them killed. When Elvis Cole is secretly hired to find a grief-stricken mother, he's led to an ordinary house on a rainy night in Echo Park. Only the house isn't ordinary, and the people hiding inside are a desperate fugitive and a murderous criminal with his own dangerous secrets. As helicopters swirl overhead, Scott and Maggie track the fugitive to this same house, coming face-to-face with Mr. Rollins, a killer who leaves behind a brutally murdered body and enough explosives to destroy the neighborhood. Scott is now the only person who can identify him, but Mr. Rollins has a rule: Never leave a witness alive. For all of them, the night is only beginning. Sworn to secrecy by his client, Elvis finds himself targeted by the police even as Mr. Rollins targets Maggie and Scott. As Mr. Rollins closes in for the kill, Elvis and Joe join forces with

Scott and Maggie to follow a trail of lies where no one is who they claim -- and the very woman they promised to save might get them all killed.

elvis cole and joe pike: The Watchman Robert Crais, 2008-01-29 Working as a bodyguard for a spoiled federal witness, Joe Pike hatches a desperate plan to disappear with the woman in the underworld of Los Angeles and turn on her would-be killers, an effort in which he enlists the help of private investigator Elvis Cole.

elvis cole and joe pike: Free Fall Robert Crais, 2010-12-23 Corruption, conspiracy and a cop in trouble - only Cole and Pike can help. Elvis Cole is just a detective who can't say no, especially to a girl in a terrible fix. And Jennifer Sheridan qualifies. Her fiancé, Mark Thurman, is a decorated LA cop with an elite plainclothes unit, but Jennifer is sure he's in trouble - the kind of serious trouble that only Cole can get him out of. Five minutes after his new client leaves the office, Cole and his partner, the enigmatic Joe Pike, are hip-deep in a deadly situation as they plummet into a world of South Central gangs, corrupt cops and conspiracies of silence. And before long, every cop in the LAPD is gunning for a pair of armed and dangerous killers - Cole and Pike.

elvis cole and joe pike: The Monkey's Raincoat Robert Crais, 2010-12-16 A fantastic Joe Pike and Elvis Cole novel from the bestselling author of L A REQUIEM 'I can't wait for the next Robert Crais!' Bill Clinton 'Robert Crais - and Joe Pike - will have you by the throat' INDEPENDENT 'A modern master of crime fiction' Gregg Hurwitz When quiet Ellen Lang enters Elvis Cole's Disney-deco office, she's lost something very valuable - her husband and young son. The case seems simple enough, but Elvis isn't thrilled. Neither is his enigmatic partner and firepower Joe Pike. Their search down the seamy side of Hollywood's studio lots and sculptured lawns soon leads them deep into a nasty netherworld of drugs and sex - and murder. Now the case is getting interesting, but it's also turned ugly. Because everybody, from cops to starlets to crooks, has declared war on Ellen and Elvis.

elvis cole and joe pike: The Forgotten Man Robert Crais, 2010-12-16 'One of today's best detective series' LA TIMES The minefield of Elvis Cole's past is coming back to haunt him - with a vengeance... Six months after nearly losing everything to the men who kidnapped his girlfriend's ten-year-old son, Elvis Cole is slowly coming back to life - when he receives an ominous phone call from the LAPD. An unidentified body has been found in a seedy Los Angeles alley. The only clue the cops have is a packet of newspaper articles about the past exploits of Elvis Cole - and the fact that before the man died, he said he was Elvis's father... Joe Pike is the only person who can help Elvis navigate his past. As they investigate, Elvis is haunted by the fact that, at last, he might have found his father. But with each clue they uncover, a troubling picture emerges about the dead man. And as Elvis and Joe approach his true identity, they unwittingly walk straight into a hornet's nest.

elvis cole and joe pike: A Dangerous Man Robert Crais, 2019-07-18 As explosive as Michael Connelly and as addictive as Lee Child, A Dangerous Man has 'the smoothest writing and best storytelling you'll ever read' DAVID BALDACCI 'Slick and enjoyable' SUN 'Top-notch fun noir' SUNDAY TIMES CRIME CLUB (starred review) DESPERATE MEN ARE DANGEROUS . . . Joe Pike wasn't looking to save someone's life on the day he left the bank. But when he saw Isabel, a young teller, being forced into a car by two men, he had no choice but to chase them down. Not long after being released on bail, the men are found dead and Isabel is missing. After his handling of the men, Pike is a prime suspect, along with Izzy - was this an abduction gone wrong? Or did it go exactly how she planned? Convinced that her life is in danger, Pike involves Elvis Cole in a search for the truth, and for Izzy. But they're not the only ones desperate to find her - and desperate men are dangerous. Why Crais is the King of Crime . . . 'Just keeps getting better and better' David Baldacci '[Crais] expertly delivers his customary modern-day riff on the 1940s hardboiled idiom' Guardian 'Outstanding' Publishers Weekly (starred review) 'Another rewarding page-turner by one of the most reliable storytellers in modern crime fiction' Daily Mail 'Crais is a whip-smart writer...This is one of the very best entries in a long-running and still first-rate series' Booklist on A Dangerous Man (starred review) 'Cleverly plotted, stylishly written' Washington Post 'If you've always wished Lee Child's Jack Reacher had a little more balance in his life - but the same formidable talents - you'll

love Joe Pik . . . Crais never loses control of his clean, clear prose or his ability to sketch fully fleshed characters in a few scenes . . . A taut, exceptional thriller' Kirkus on A Dangerous Man (starred review)

elvis cole and joe pike: Racing the Light Robert Crais, 2022-11-01 *On Reader's Digest's list of 30 new books we can't wait to read in 2022* Private investigator Elvis Cole and his enigmatic partner, Joe Pike, are back on the case in this brilliant new thriller from #1 New York Times bestselling author Robert Crais. Adele Schumacher isn't a typical worried mom. When she hires Elvis to find her missing son, a controversial podcaster named Josh Shoe, she brings a bag filled with cash, bizarre tales of government conspiracies, and a squad of professional bodyguards. Finding Josh should be simple, but Elvis quickly learns he isn't alone in the hunt—a deadly team of mysterious strangers are determined to find Josh and his adult film star girlfriend first. With dangerous secrets lurking behind every lead, Elvis needs his friend Joe Pike more than ever to uncover the truth about Josh, corrupt politicians, and the vicious business cartels rotting the heart of Los Angeles from within. And when Elvis's estranged girlfriend, Lucy Chenier, and her son, Ben, return, he learns just how much he has to lose...if he survives. Written with the heart, humor, and relentless suspense for which Crais is famous, Racing the Light delivers Elvis Cole's most dangerous case yet.

elvis cole and joe pike: *Lullaby Town* Robert Crais, 2010-12-16 The road to fame is paved with danger... as Cole and Pike are about to find out. Peter Alan Nelsen is a super-successful movie director who is used to getting what he wants. And what he wants now is to find the wife and infant child he dumped on the road to fame. It's the kind of case that Cole could handle in his sleep, except that when Cole actually finds Nelsen's ex-wife, everything takes on nightmarish proportions - a nightmare which involves Cole with a nasty New York mob family and a psycho killer who is the son of the godfather. And when the unpredictable Nelsen charges in, an explosive situation blows sky-high.

elvis cole and joe pike: The First Rule Robert Crais, 2010-03-30 'Crais just gets better and better . . . Crais's novels are as appealing as chocolate eclairs and just as satisfying. Trouble is, like cream cakes, I want to eat them all at once' INDEPENDENT ON SUNDAY 'A nerve-racking, switchbacking tale of guilt and redemption...so good it gives you goosebumps' EVENING STANDARD Joe Pike is out for revenge and no cop, no bad guy, no one alive, is going to stop him. Frank Meyer had got out of 'the life' safely. He had put an end to his mercenary days, turned over a new leaf and settled down with his wife and children. It had been a hard decision but, encouraged by his boss and friend Joe Pike, he had walked away. Ten years later, a group of armed men break into his Los Angeles home and brutally gun down him and his family. It's a vicious, cold and professional job. The crew leave no trace behind except the bodies. But they have made one catastrophic, and almost certainly terminal, mistake - Joe Pike. Because Pike is now determined to hunt down and eliminate everyone involved in the attack, one by one. And it doesn't matter that, as he starts to investigate, he discovers that these criminals are bigger and better organised than he ever could have imagined, because they are about to learn the first rule: Don't make Joe Pike mad...

elvis cole and joe pike: Lullaby Town Robert Crais, 2019

elvis cole and joe pike: The Monkey's Raincoat Robert Crais, 2011-03 A fantastic Joe Pike and Elvis Cole novel from the bestselling author of L A REQUIEM When quiet Ellen Lang enters Elvis Cole's Disney-deco office, she's lost something very valuable - her husband and young son. The case seems simple enough, but Elvis isn't thrilled. Neither is his enigmatic partner and firepower Joe Pike. Their search down the seamy side of Hollywood's studio lots and sculptured lawns soon leads them deep into a nasty netherworld of drugs and sex - and murder. Now the case is getting interesting, but it's also turned ugly. Because everybody, from cops to starlets to crooks, has declared war on Ellen and Elvis.

elvis cole and joe pike: Sunset Express Robert Crais, 1996-04-01 When a wealthy entrepreneur is accused of murdering his girlfriend in Los Angeles, wisecracking private eye Elvis Cole is hired to prove that the evidence was tampered with and becomes suspicious about the

defense attorney's motivations. Tour.

elvis cole and joe pike: A Dangerous Man Robert Crais, 2019-08-06 A brilliant new crime novel from the beloved, bestselling, and award-winning master of the genre--and Joe Pike's most perilous case to date. Joe Pike didn't expect to rescue a woman that day. He went to the bank same as anyone goes to the bank, and returned to his Jeep. So when Isabel Roland, the lonely young teller who helped him, steps out of the bank on her way to lunch, Joe is on hand when two men abduct her. Joe chases them down, and the two men are arrested. But instead of putting the drama to bed, the arrests are only the beginning of the trouble for Joe and Izzy. After posting bail, the two abductors are murdered and Izzy disappears. Pike calls on his friend, Elvis Cole, to help learn the truth. What Elvis uncovers is a twisted family story that involves corporate whistleblowing, huge amounts of cash, the Witness Relocation Program, and a long line of lies. But what of all that did Izzy know? Is she a perpetrator or a victim? And how far will Joe go to find out?

elvis cole and joe pike: Indigo Slam Robert Crais, 2014-02-18 Life in the California sun suits Elvis Cole -- until the day a fifteen-year-old girl and her two younger siblings walk into his office. Then everything changes. Three years ago, a Seattle family ran for their lives in a hail of bullets. Hired by three kids to find their missing father, Elvis now must pick up the cold pieces of a drama that began that night. What he finds is a sordid tale of high crimes and illicit drugs. As clues to a man's secret life emerge from the shadows, Elvis knows he's not just up against ruthless mobsters and some very angry Feds. He's facing a storm of desperation and conspiracy -- bearing down on three children whose only crime was their survival . . .

elvis cole and joe pike: L. A. Requiem (Waterstones Mmp) Robert Crais, 2013-01-01 They killed the only one who ever cared and now they're going to pay. A reckoning has come to the City of Angels... Karen Garcia is missing and her father doesn't trust the cops - he wants someone he knows on the case. So he enlists the help of Elvis Cole and Joe Pike. It seems that Karen is the latest victim of a distinctive serial killer and the police are determined to pin her death, and four others, on the witness who found her body. Cole doesn't believe the man has the guts to murder, and with his partner and the police at each other's throats, it's down to him to find the connection that will reveal the killer. But nailing the murderer means choosing between the two people he cares most about...

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