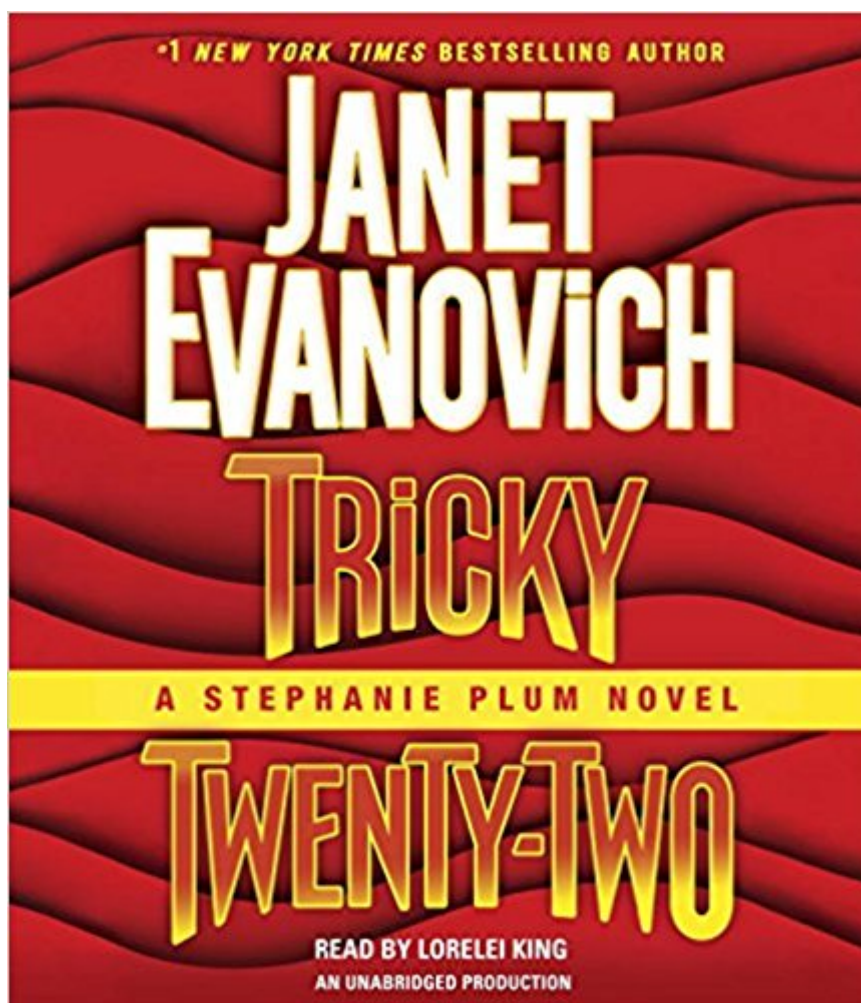




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# Tricky Twenty-Two: A Stephanie Plum Novel



## Synopsis

#1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER    Something big is brewing in Trenton, N.J., and it could blow at any minute.    Stephanie Plum might not be the world's greatest bounty hunter, but she knows when she's being played. Ken Globovic (aka Gobbles), hailed as the Supreme Exalted Zookeeper of the animal house known as Zeta fraternity, has been arrested for beating up the dean of students at Kiltman College. Gobbles has missed his court date and gone into hiding. People have seen him on campus, but no one will talk. Things just aren't adding up, and Stephanie can't shake the feeling that something funny is going on at the college—and it's not just Zeta fraternity pranks.    As much as people love Gobbles, they hate Doug Linken. When Linken is gunned down in his backyard it's good riddance, and the list of possible murder suspects is long. The only people who care about finding Linken's killer are Trenton cop Joe Morelli, who has been assigned the case, security expert Ranger, who was hired to protect Linken, and Stephanie, who has her eye on a cash prize and hopefully has some tricks up her sleeve.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Janet Evanovich is the #1 New York Times bestselling author of the Stephanie Plum series, the Fox and O'Hare series, the Lizzy and Diesel series, the Alexandra Barnaby novels and Troublemaker graphic novel, and How I Write: Secrets of a Bestselling Author.

Like a lot of us, I was hoping for Ranger, Ranger and more Ranger. I was excited when Morelli

seemed to remove himself from the picture. But that didn't happen. This is just the same story line with different cases to solve. I'm not wasting any more money on this series.

I've been hanging on to this series for the last few years in hopes that it would return to its former glory (right around book 12 or 13) but sadly this is the end. To be honest, I was expecting to be disappointed but when Evanovich opened the story with the conflict between Morelli and Stephanie I had some hope that this story was not copied and pasted from the last 10 books. Maybe something other than Stephanie's inability to choose between two sexy, at-odds, law enforcement men would not be the focus of the book! Maybe for once, one of the guys will step up and draw the line or Stephanie will put her big girl panties on and choose. It was endearing and understandable in the beginning but now the theme of indecision is tired if not dead. The story ends the same way it has ended for the few books. Morelli doesn't change at all and I was kind of excited and intrigued by what he could be up to if we wasn't a police officer or with Stephanie Plum. Ranger has zero charisma in this book which is a waste of his mysterious and thrilling background. The plot of the book was ridiculous. Stephanie used to get involved in hilarious adventures that were plausible because she was so clumsy and desperate and in New Jersey, the Capital of Weirdness. I think Evanovich is running out of stories for our bounty hunter because she for the last two books (SPOILER ALERT) she has been using terrorism and now bioterrorism. These are serious crimes on a national level. It's not funny because Stephanie is so far out of her depth that there is no way for her to actually stay ahead. The villain is also, for lack of better word, stupid. I miss the gangbangers, the deadly funeral directors, and psychotic gamers. In the past, Trenton and the people living there, provided a rich environment for crazy criminals but now it is a dull background with boring and predictable interactions. Lula and the gang of supporting characters can't help this book. I'm pretty sure that Lula has actually been copied and pasted for the last 5 books. Vinnie isn't remotely funny. Grandma can't even make me laugh! I feel like we have been beat over the head with these character traits for the last few books. The only thing we know for sure is Lula is a big woman with a lot of personality, big appetite, and promiscuous outlook on life. Come on, this woman is a former ho! In the beginning she at least had spark and fire but I can't remember the last time she had development. Lula's lack of development is a huge loss. Grandma likes funerals, men and big guns. We get it. Ranger and Morelli are hot and Stephanie can't choose between them. Fine we get it but it's Plum's loss. Stephanie hasn't changed at all. I'm not saying she has to be a badass bounty hunter or become better at everything but she has to make choices. Choices drive a character's development and she has made none of them. She literally muddles through crises as

they come up and then goes back to whatever she was doing before . After 22 books and countless adventures she would make a bad mentor to anyone in the bounty hunting business. She could have been hilarious in a teaching role. Sadly I bought this book in Kindle format at 13.99. For the first time I wish I could I could return a Stephanie Plum book.

I can honestly say this is the last time I am fooled. Same old recycled scenes, with mistakes on basic tenets of the series. Rangeman is in a 7 story building (not 9 story), Ranger's office is on the 5th floor (not the 3rd). I'm tired of this. Just STOP, Janet. The fanfiction writers are much better and they put MUCH more effort into their writing. DO NOT BUY this book if you are a BABE. Ranger is barely in it. Only thing I can figure is Evanovich has enough money now and is tired of writing. She really killed a good series. I AM DONE.

I was surprised. After the last 5-6 books I was expecting to walk away feeling cheated of my hard earned money. I was left wondering if Janet even wrote this book. Why because on one hand it was better than the dribble passed on to us in the last few but there was some facts changed from the previous story's almost like the author couldn't remember what they have previously written. While the story was better and I did see some growth in Stephanie the love triangle is dead, she starts the book and ends it the same as the previous 12, with Morelli. Now she is making Ranger out to be a lecher, granted a dang hot one but never the less a lecher. It left me feeling like Janet is betraying one of the main characters and dragging this out for just a little more money. Even though it was better than the last one I wish I had waited and borrowed it from the library for free. RIP Ranger

Another hilarious romp through the streets of Trenton with Stephanie Plum and the characters who inhabit her world. Most of our favorites are back, if only in cameo; Joe Morelli, Bob the dog, Ranger, the big blue Buick, and of course Lula and Grandma Mazur. And of course, there is the usual assortment of FTAs. This time Morelli's murder cases, Ranger's security detail for the partner of the first murder victim and then the partner's widow after he becomes the second murder victim, and Stephanie's fraternity boy bond jumper somehow all come together into a single adventure.

There's a difference between having maturity and being mature. I'm not ready to be mature. I don't want to see the AARP magazine stuffed in my mailbox. Joe Morelli (pg. 207) Oh Joe honey, I hear ya. It's a sad day when the AARP

magazine replaces Cosmo in your mailbox “ trust me, I know. But here’s the thing you and Stephanie have been going around in circles since 1994. Now I know that time moves at a different pace in the land of Plum, but even so you two haven’t made much progress since High School, and before you know it you’ll be staring at a 40 year old man in the mirror. Isn’t it about time you grew up just the teeniest bit? If you’ve been keeping up with the Plum series then Tricky Twenty-Two will feel eerily familiar. And that’s because it just more of the same. Same cars getting annihilated, same break-up then make-up tango with Morelli, same platonic sleep-overs at Ranger’s place, same Lula scarfing down fried food. There’s absolutely nothing new here, even the big zit on Stephanie’s chin has made an encore appearance. So why do I keep reading these books? Good question, and one I ask myself every single time I finish a Plum novel. I think it’s a combination of hope and nostalgia. Nostalgia for a series that I adored way back in the day and hope that I’ll catch a glimpse of the magic that made the early books so special. Alas, my hopes were dashed with this one; no magic to speak of here, but it did bring back memories (mostly because the plot was recycled). I’m going for three stars with this one “ it was OK for what it is. Keep your expectations low and you won’t be disappointed.

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