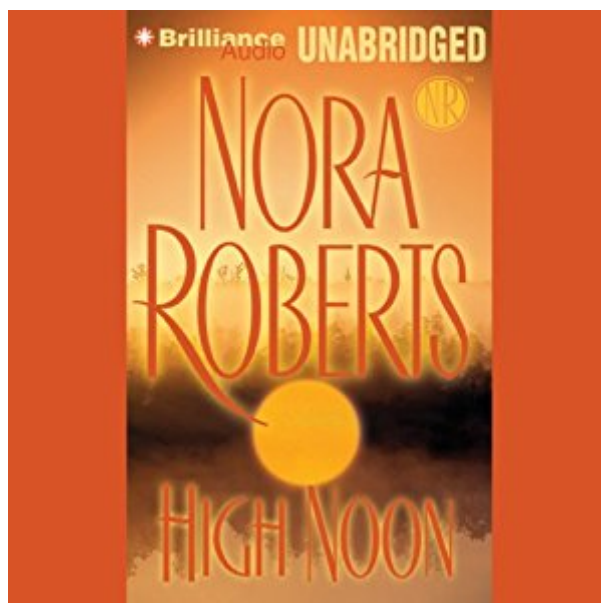


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# High Noon



## Synopsis

Police Lieutenant Phoebe MacNamara found her calling at an early age, when a violently unstable man broke into her family's home, trapping and terrorizing them for hours. Now she's Savannah's top hostage negotiator, who puts her life on the line every day to defuse powder-keg situations. Phoebe knows when to reach out and when to pull back - and when to jump in and take action, even if it means risking everything. It's satisfying work - and sometimes those skills come in handy at home when Phoebe deals with her agoraphobic mother, still traumatized by the break-in after all these years, and her precocious seven-year-old daughter, Carly. It's exactly that heady combination of steely courage and sensitivity that first attracts Duncan Swift to Phoebe. After watching her talk one of his employees off a roof ledge, he is committed to keeping this intriguing, take-charge woman in his life. Phoebe's used to working solo, but she's finding that no amount of negotiation can keep Duncan at arm's length. When she's grabbed by a man who throws a hood over her head and brutally assaults her - in her own precinct house - Phoebe can't help being deeply shaken. And when threatening messages appear on her doorstep, she's not just alarmed but frustrated. How do you go face-to-face with an opponent who refuses to look you in the eye? Now, with Duncan backing her up every step of the way, she must establish contact with the faceless tormentor who is determined to make her a hostage to fear - before she becomes the final showdown. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I just replaced my paper copy of this book with the Kindle version and reread it. It had been quite a while since I originally read it, so I wasn't sure if I would still like it. I'm happy to say that it was a thoroughly enjoyable book. I read some of the negative reviews, and while some criticisms may be valid, I didn't find anything in the book that detracted from my enjoyment. I've visited Savannah several times, but am not very familiar with its geography and police department. I suppose mistakes made in the book would irritate someone who is familiar with those areas, but they didn't bother me. I have been irritated by authors who place ports in landlocked cities and commit other major faux-pas, but I can live with minor glitches. As for Savannah not having full time hostage negotiators, I allow literary license in fiction, as long as it isn't too egregious. In this case, it added to the story and I could easily suspend disbelief. I liked Phoebe, Duncan and their friends and family. Sometimes when reading fiction, I just want to relax and escape from real life. Maybe the characters were not realistic, but it was nice to imagine that such loveable characters exist. Who wouldn't want to meet a man like Duncan, or have such loving and supportive family and friends? Romance readers love heroes who are vampires, shape shifters, demons, ghosts, time-travellers, super heroes, royalty, and a myriad of other types of heroes, so why not a multi-millionaire with a heart of gold? Also most people who read romances expect a bit of fantasy like love at first sight and I love that particular scenario. I know it isn't realistic, but I don't read romances for realism. Since this book is romantic suspense and not a straightforward romance, I expect some violence and language. I didn't feel either was over done and I enjoyed the element of suspense. There was a good amount of tension but not so much as in a thriller. I enjoyed the chapters that presented the villain's point of view and motivation, which added depth to the story. Those chapters managed to reveal a lot about the villain without revealing his or her identity. There were flaws that I considered to be minor and which did not detract from the story. I absolutely hated 'Black Hills', so I am not a non-judgmental reader of Nora Roberts' books. Was this book a classic literary masterpiece? No, and it didn't pretend to be. It was a nice romantic suspense book that allowed the reader to escape for a few hours and to immerse himself or herself in a world where there is love at first sight, multi-millionaires with a heart of gold who are perfect heroes, close-knit loving family and friends, a place where good triumphs and where there is a happily ever after. I read books by authors like Tolstoy and Dostoyevsky when I want realism and expect a tragedy, or I read the news. This book was excellent for its purpose of entertaining a reader and allowing the reader to escape from reality for a few hours. I recommend this book for readers who like romantic suspense and Nora Roberts. It may not be her very best book, but it is definitely one of her better ones.

Every time I think I have a favorite book by Nora Roberts, I read a new one and that becomes my favorite. This book is amazing ! I could not wait to get home from work every day just to dive back into it.....IMPOSSIBLE to put down like everything else by her. Thank you Nora Roberts for another fabulous story.

From 2007, this book features one of the author's kick-a\$\$ heroines who is also a damsel in distress on multiple occasions. It's a win-win for readers who like romantic suspense with a guaranteed happy ending after all sorts of mayhem. Phoebe is a hostage negotiator in Savannah. She has a lot to juggle in daily life, including an agoraphobic mother, an ex-husband who doesn't care about their child, and an insubordinate cop with a serious anger management problem. Then she meets Duncan. He's laid back where she's tightly wound. He's rich, having won a multi-million dollar lottery. And he's gorgeous and willing to fight for her. Then there's Carly, the 7-year-old daughter, Essie, the mother, Ava, the family friend (female), Dave, the family friend (male), Carter (the brother) and his wife Josie, Duncan's friend Phin and his wife and mother...lots of characters. And a fair amount of plot, as it becomes clear that someone's out to get Phoebe and possibly people around her. Is it Arnie Meeks, the bad cop with pull in the department? Is it someone else? Who and why? Set in Spring and Summer, the Georgia heat is almost a character as well. If you've never read a book by Nora Roberts, this is a pretty good place to start. It has some of her trademark witty banter between Phoebe and Duncan to offset the steadily increasing suspense if you don't like too much heart pounding, and it has passionate interludes if you do.

Lieutenant Phoebe MacNamara is woman, a mother, and a terrific daughter. But she is also one of the best hostage negotiators around. Her record speaks for itself. She also teaches the cops in her precinct about hostage negotiations and how to handle the situations. One cop has an issue with female superiors. When Phoebe is attacked in a stairwell at police headquarters, handcuffed and violated, She strongly suspects this cop and sets about to prove it. The cop is suspended. Little things keep happening that are blamed on this cop. Dead animals found on Phoebe's front porch. Her boss is caught in an explosion. None of this makes sense. Meeks (the cop who attacked her) is not the type of cop to do this type of aggression. Duncan is a multimillionaire who meets Phoebe when she is called to talk down one of his employees down from wanting to jump off a roof of a building. He was fired for embezzling from Duncan. Duncan is immediately attracted to Phoebe and wants to pursue it. Phoebe has enough on her plate as a divorced mother with an agoraphobic

mother and a high stress job. The last thing she needs is the complication of a relationship. This book slowly builds the suspense to its surprising conclusion. There are lots of memorable characters in here, and lots of humor. A very good book worth reading.

Not awful but not particularly good either. I won't review the plot as it's already been done. However, the plot is the biggest problem I have because it was weak at best, nonexistent at worst. Most of the book was about Ben, Phoebe and her family with some hostage rescue taking place. It was towards the end that it came out she was being stalked by a killer, not who had harassed her off and on throughout the book. Also, all the people being in the same place, and not knowing each other, at the end of book was totally unbelievable. Duncan was too good to be true. Rich, handsome, athletic, smart honest, brave, etc. And loving Phoebe's dysfunctional family (hers tops mine in the dysfunctional which is hard to believe) and wanting to take on their problems from the beginning isn't very realistic.

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