



A King's Ransom

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The author of five bestselling novels, including *Under Cover of Darkness* and *The Pardon*, James Grippando writes compulsively readable thrillers that could be drawn from today's headlines, only better. Now his trademark gifts are wonderfully demonstrated in a taut new tale of intrigue that will keep you guessing to the final, breathtaking scene.

Just two years out of law school, Nick Rey is on the career fast track at a hot Miami law firm when he is suddenly plunged headfirst into a dangerous bid to save his father. Matthew Rey has been kidnapped while on business in Columbia's exotic port city of Cartagena. The ransom demand of three million dollars is far more than the Rey family can ever hope to raise.

Fortunately, Matthew had purchased an insurance policy to protect against just such a threat. Unfortunately, the kidnapers seem to know all about the policy, and the insurance company, suspecting fraud, is refusing to pay out. With nowhere to turn, Nick links up with Alex, a beautiful, street-smart woman who may be the only person capable of negotiating with Matthew's abductors. But Nick soon discovers that the gravest dangers to him and his family are not the kidnapers and their guns, but the men in suits: lawyers, to be exact, at a powerful firm with something to hide, and they will stop at nothing to keep Nick from unleashing the truth.

A King's Ransom Details

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Author : James Grippando

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From Reader Review A King's Ransom for online ebook

Kelly says

I loved this book! The story was completely captivating from the very beginning. I stayed up until 4 AM one night because I just had to know what happened. My sleep is very valuable with two young children so the book definitely deserves 5 stars if I lose sleep over it.

I loved the touch of "lawyer" mixed with adventure and love story! It was perfect. I sometimes don't really like lawyer books because it gets to mundane. This book was a perfect mix.

I loved how the author bounced back and forth between Mathew and Nick. It made the story more interesting to hear from two different characters.

The book is somewhat predictable, but the twist at the end keeps the reader intrigued.

No swearing and no sex.

Tal says

This book definitely fell short of a 4 a A LOT! The overall theme, settings, and pace saved the book,

Ellen says

Audio book read by George Guidall who did a great job. I really liked this novel of race-against time suspense. Matthew Rey is kidnapped in Columbia and his son, Nick, must try to rescue him by dealing with the FBI and the insurance company that holds Matthew's kidnapping policy. Told between alternating narrations of Matthew and Nick, we experience both sides.

Christy Tiffin says

Why do I read this guy???.....all I every give him is a 2!

Robin says

a fast paced novel about a kidnapping in Columbia. interesting and believable

William says

Audio book narrated by George Guidel

Solid entertainment and a glimpse into South American kidnapping

As far being a mystery or thriller, I give it a "D" because I could just about see everything ahead of time. I would love to play poker with the author (just kidding, but do you get my point?)

The writing style seemed good so I'll try another Grippando

Deb says

matthew ray is working on his fishing boats in columbia when they are suddenly attacked by thugs with automatic weapons. despite killing one of them, matthew is taken captive--one of the many people who are abducted for ransom in columbia. his son, lawyer nick ray, is shocked and angered by his father's abduction, especially when both the fbi and the insurance company he had kidnap and ransom insurance with refuse to help him. they accuse nick's father of drug smuggling, insurance fraud, and conspiring with the kidnappers. the only people who seem to be willing to help nick are alex cabera, a hostage negotiator from columbia, and jenna--his ex-fiance. they must find out the truth behind how matthew's kidnappers knew he had insurance and come up with the money for his release--before it's too late.[return]grippando writes a taut thriller that kept my interest throughout the entire book as i listened to it. narrator george guidall was excellent as always, affecting the personas of columbians and americans with equal ease.

Searight says

Probably a 2 1/2 star book. The hostage scenes were really well done but there was a lot of filler. And there was a story line that went nowhere, I don't know why it was even in the book. Plus lots of driving around which is not very exciting to read.

Kevin Bachovchin says

This book is about Nick Rey's father Matthew being kidnapped in Colombia. This book describes the relationship between the father and the son, Matthew's desperate attempts to save his father, and the struggles of Matthew and the other people who were kidnapped. I really got into the book, cared very much about the characters, and felt outraged at times, which is the sign of a good book. James Grippando is a very versatile author, able to write well about many different subjects. I actually read this book in January of 2013, shortly after I returned from a vacation in Colombia.

Lara says

Fundamentally I like this book. There were just a couple of things that did not work for me. For example...I don't know any 25 - 26 year old man who's first reaction to finding out his MOTHER is pregnant is...well, I guess you did have me at 18! WHAT?! No freak out...no "oh my" my parent still have sex?! That did not

work for me. As the story moved on I understood why she was pregnant and how it really added to the conflict and motivation in the story. But....his reaction was all wrong. It took me a little bit to get into the story but once I was fully submersed I enjoy it. The plot moves quickly and has a million little (and some HUGE) twists and turns. The ending is good and a tiny bit unexpected. I kind of wish I could give half stars..I would give this 3 and half. James Grippando has gotten to be a better writer...this is one of his earlier works. I enjoyed it. And recommend his books and this one as well...if you don't care about the one flaw I found in it.

Daniel says

An American business man is kidnapped in Columbia. The victim took out ransom insurance, but the kidnappers seem to know all the details of the policy. The victims son runs into problems when he goes to the insurance company and from there the story begins.

The son is a lawyer, none too bright, but he still takes on the insurance company, his employer and the FBI. Of course there's a girl, in fact a couple of them and this all makes for interesting reading.

Deb says

Matthew Ray is working on his fishing boats in Columbia when they are suddenly attacked by thugs with automatic weapons. Despite killing one of them, Matthew is taken captive--one of the many people who are abducted for ransom in Columbia. His son, lawyer Nick Ray, is shocked and angered by his father's abduction, espically when both the FBI and the insurance company he had kidnap and ransom insurance with refuse to help him. They accuse Nick's father of drug smuggling, insurance fraud, and conspiring with the kidnappers. The only people who seem to be willing to help Nick are Alex Cabera, a hostage negotiator from Columbia, and Jenna--his ex-fiance. They must find out the truth behind how Matthew's kidnappers knew he had insurance and come up with the money for his release--before it's too late.[return]Grippando writes a taut thriller that kept my interest throughout the entire book as I listened to it. Narrator George Guidall was excellent as always, affecting the personas of Columbians and Americans with equal ease.

Lailah B says

In the James Grippando-author of best selling books such as "The Pardon", "Gone Again" and "A Death in Live Oak"- book, "A King's Ransom", fisherman and cartagena seafood boat businessman Matthew Rey goes on a fishing trip that take a turn for the worst. As he and his crewmates are fishing, their boat is invaded by nicaraguan gang members looking for loot in which Matthew is kidnapped. Matthew's lawyer son and Matthew's wife must find a way to receive \$3,000,000 in exchange to save and release Matthew from the hands of his kidnappers. Matthew recruits Alex, another lawyer and former gang member who can help Nick Rey with his street smarts on how to get Matthew Rey back to his family. And even with lawyers, insurance companies and untrustworthy business partners trying to stop the pair, they will stop at nothing to save the beloved fisherman.

Even though this book has received no awards, I highly recommend it to those interested in action-packed and suspenseful books. It gave many details and descriptions and it was as if I was reading about an actual real life situations involving real lawyers, kidnappers and real scenarios in general. The only thing I didn't

like was how big the paragraphs were but also how short the chapters were. Grippando is a great writer who provides detail and bring reality into his pieces as well.

This book can be related to issues involving kidnap and ransom situations, in which it would be hard to handle the situation and be hard to deliver the kind of ransom to the demanding kidnappers. A person who has gone or is going through this situation would be able to relate, also people who have trouble with solving cases in the courts.

I give this book a five star rating because it drew me in, and consumed most of my time in a good way. I loved the details and how it put me on the edge of my seat, too.

Susan says

Nick Rey is climbing the ladder at a huge law firm in Miami. His Dad is a partner in a small fishing company. They aren't close. And then his Dad is kidnapped on a trip to Columbia and everything changes. This is one of the best books I've read in a while. The author swaps chapters reporting from the son's voice (in the 1st person) and the father's voice (in the third person) which not only makes it easy to read it adds a special creepiness that only enhances the story.

Martin says

May 2 1/2...better editing would have made this more enjoyable.
Much that was in the book did nothing to enhance one's enjoyment.
