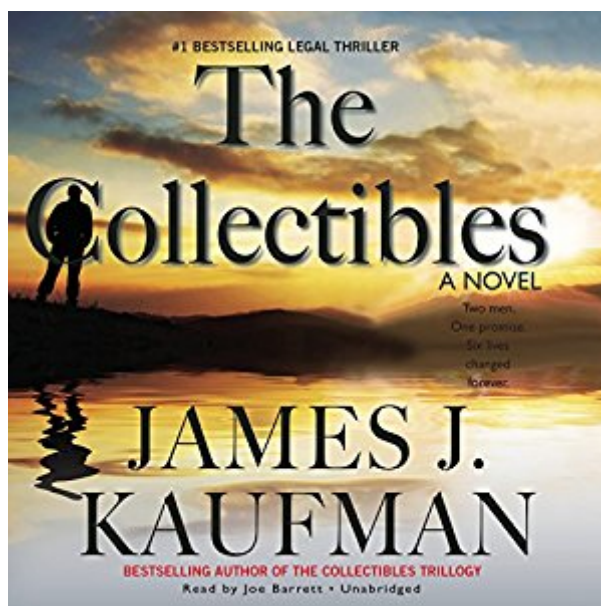


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The Collectibles: The Collectibles Trilogy, Book 1



Synopsis

In his award-winning debut novel, James J. Kaufman delivers a gripping and unforgettable story of two strong men from separate worlds - one touched by tragedy, the other by greed - brought together with unexpected results. In chronicling how their lives and those they touch are dramatically changed by their encounter, Kaufman reveals the power of relationships, the nature of love, and ultimately the meaning of life. "Do what the other fella can't. Be what the other fella ain't. And then help the other fella." Joe Hart has never let go of his uncle's words. An orphan from the unspoiled Adirondack Mountains, Joe leaves his humble beginnings and goes on to distinguish himself, first as a navy submarine commander, then as an attorney unequaled in his field. But Joe's world crashes with an unexpected tragedy. A child of wealth and privilege from New York's Upper East Side, Preston Wilson harbors a fear of financial failure. When that fear threatens to become reality, Preston tracks down the one attorney who might be able to save him. Joe reluctantly decides to help - but only after extracting a promise that Preston will fulfill an unspecified condition when called upon. Preston, desperate, agrees. Too soon, Joe calls in his unconventional IOU. The self-absorbed Preston balks when Joe tells him he must meet, earn the trust of, and care for several people. Each of Joe's collectibles - none of whom Preston would ever want to know - has a serious personal challenge. Can Preston find the integrity to make good on his promise to Joe? Does he have a choice?

Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 9 hours 42 minutes

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Unabridged

Publisher: Blackstone Audio, Inc.

Audible.com Release Date: December 28, 2015

Whispersync for Voice: Ready

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#782 in Books > Mystery, Thriller & Suspense > Thrillers & Suspense > Legal #16745

in Books > Literature & Fiction > Literary

Customer Reviews

I bought this book for two reasons – the good price, but more importantly, the great reviews! I seldom give up on a book but life is just too short! I found the main character unbelievable – just too good to be true. It started out great, but the detail that it goes into regarding business meetings was one of the most boring things I've ever read in my life and I read a lot. This book might be good if you are an accountant or business executive. It just didn't grab me. Usually I concur with reviews but definitely not this time.

I knew from the first paragraph that this wasn't going to be the audiobook for me. Perhaps, if I had read it, I might have given it a chance but hokey and corny and contrived don't go over well when read aloud. The dialogue was just awful. The narrator gave it his best but I feel the story (the first 1/3 I could force myself to listen to) was predictable and, frankly, a bit condescending. I felt a bit patronized. Anyway, this book doesn't belong in the suspense/mystery category. The only mystery to me is that it's received good reviews.

No need to read this one. I got this book with great expectations based on the reviews. At 45% I decided to check out the 1 star rating and had to agree with all of them. Very disappointing and am ready to move to something more exciting. Insult to the adult readers' intelligence, except the ones that gave it more than 3 stars. Life is too short to waste it with mundane books. On to the next great read.

I enjoyed the book because sometimes it doesn't need to be deep or profound to readjust your outlook in life. While reading this book you are reminded to look for win/win solutions when dealing with people and finances. Somebody doesn't have to lose so you can win. You also need to stop judging people when you just meet them. Everyone has a story and needs respect and love. Great life goals and we all need a little reminder now and then.

I picked this one up a little over a month ago, and just now got around to reading it - I wish I had started it sooner vs. later, as this was one of those books I couldn't put down. The character development was well-crafted, the dialogue was crisp and to the point, and the author does a great job of pulling you in similar to a Nicholas Sparks: don't be surprised if someone makes a movie out of this book and it becomes the smash hit for a summer season. Without having a spoiler, former judge Kaufman does an excellent job of getting you into the mind of the main character, and he also is able to have you visualize each of his other characters in the story to the Vegas showgirl, Tommy

the gambler, etc. When he talks about the smell and feel of fine wood, I could picture a cherry wall glistening in the main room of the boat. As an accountant, I was able to follow the business dialogue of the client's business turnaround, and I think Kaufman does a great job of boiling down a complex business matter into an easy-to-understand set of facts and circumstances for the everyday person. He also teaches you a few life lessons on the way: relationships matter vs. materialistic things. If you couldn't tell, I really enjoyed this book and I highly recommend it: here's to hoping Judge Kaufman writes more novels!

I enjoyed this book. I have downloaded literally 100s of e-books from and am a voracious reader, but this book is very special and went above and beyond my normal expectations...As a consultant myself for many years, I enjoyed the no nonsense workout parts even more so than perhaps others might in the story. Turning around companies was always lots of fun but the rewards always went to the people left behind. The desire for monetary success can overshadow the basic ethics of a situation. Sometimes, personal or moral victories win out over monetary loss. It still costs but they are remembered as victories for integrity and character. These can happen at any age when you find yourself realizing that to continue down a certain path will cause you to lose your soul. If you pay attention you can certainly learn a lot from the mistakes of others. This book was instructional in many ways. The intelligence, wisdom and depth of the characters made an impression on me and I found them to be extremely moving. I think I recognized a few of them in my own life. The people portrayed are honorable people, albeit human people, who have had hard starts, made mistakes, but are trying to get past them. No matter at what status of walk of life they do it with grace and dignity to the best that is afforded to them. The respect with which the main character Joe and all of the people in the story were given made them very real to me and really impressed me. I would like to know a man like Joe. Joe is someone who heals and sorts out the chaos rather than contributing to it. I would like to hear and learn more from him and the exemplary life he desired to live. Could there be a real man like Joe? One can hope. He is a special man. I look forward to reading the next book in the trilogy called The Concealers. This is the first book in a very long time that I truly looked forward to writing a review for. This book earned, in every way, a 5 star review.

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