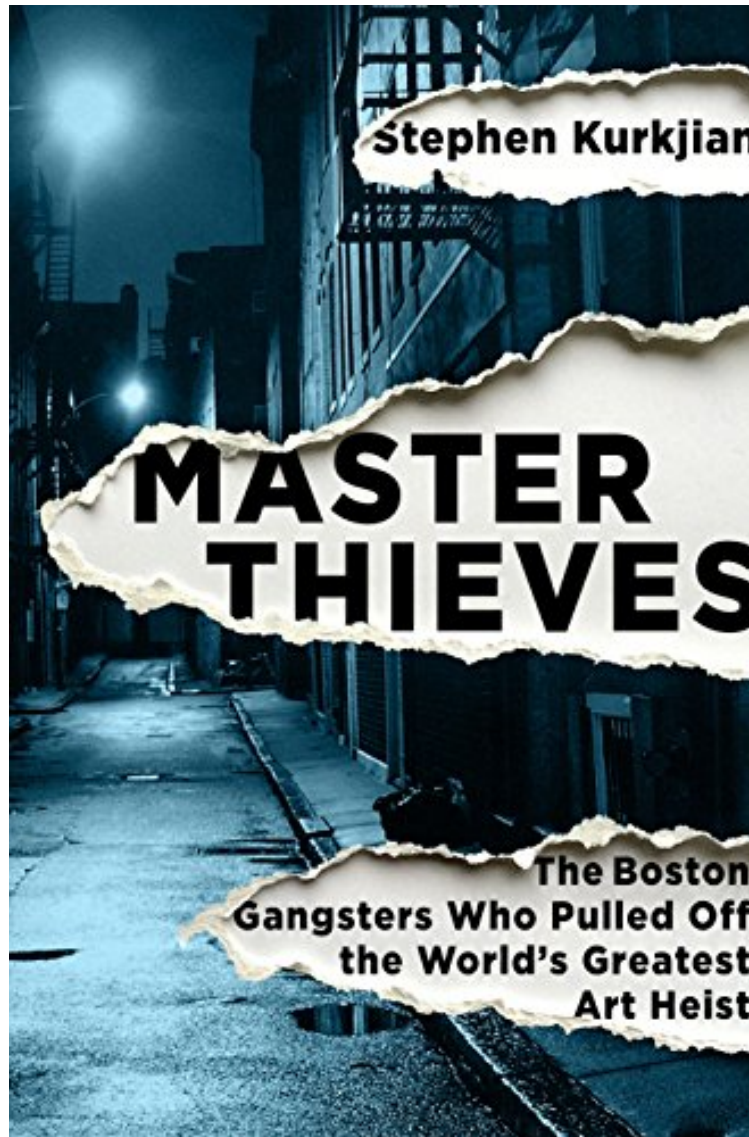


(Free read ebook) Master Thieves: The Boston Gangsters Who Pulled Off the World's Greatest Art Heist

Master Thieves: The Boston Gangsters Who Pulled Off the World's Greatest Art Heist

Stephen Kurkjian

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Stephen Kurkjian : Master Thieves: The Boston Gangsters Who Pulled Off the World's Greatest Art Heist before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Master Thieves: The Boston Gangsters Who Pulled Off the World's Greatest Art Heist:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Thoroughly enjoyed Master ThievesBy pantsI read this after reading Songini's Boston Mob (totally by chance), which turned out to be the perfect intro to learn some background on many of the characters involved in the heist. Kurkjian's in-depth knowledge of the case his personal accounts of meetings he

had with many of the key players will transport anyone who is familiar with the case or not back in time to when the heist occurred gives an insight to the people involved that will make it feel as if even you know them personally. The addition of Kurkjian's own "what ifs" just made this book even more enjoyable. Loved every word.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A Real Who Done It...By Jim BrownStephen Kurkjian developed the characters and lays the groundwork in telling this story. The author, being from Boston and working for the Boston Globe helped to add a personal dimension to Master Thieves. I recommend this book to anyone who enjoys a good crime story.8 of 10 people found the following review helpful. Frustration Reigns Supreme in This Theft With No WinnersBy Bill EmblomThis is a mystery in which there appears to be no winners. The individuals responsible for stealing several valuable paintings from the Gardner Art Museum in Boston haven't appeared to benefit from their heist. One of the three suspects is dead, another in prison, and another on the loose. The paintings themselves haven't surfaced in the past 25 years and we don't know whether they are still in hiding or damaged. They apparently haven't been sold to anyone. It may be risky for someone to hang them in their home. Despite a five million dollar reward for their safe return no one has come forth with a legitimate claim. It was known that the Gardner Art Museum had a very lax security system since 1981 and yet it wasn't until 1990 for the museum to take a hit.Author Stephen Kurkjian has followed this story since its inception and his frustration in not having this crime solved is readily apparent throughout the book. Many different theories are mentioned including the Boston mob. You would think that whoever is responsible for this theft would have achieved their objective by this time. However, frustration continues in this mystery in which even the thieves haven't appeared to have benefited and the museum and the public is denied of the enjoyment of these paintings.

In a secret meeting in 1981, a master thief named Louis Royce gave career gangster Ralph Rossetti the tip of a lifetime. As a kid, Royce had visited the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum and made a habit of sneaking in at night to find a good place to sleep. He knew the Museum's security was lax, and he gave this information to a boss of the Boston criminal underworld.It took years before the Museum was hit. But when it finally happened, it quickly became one of the most infamous art heists in history: 13 works of art valued at up to 500 milliondash;including Rembrandt's "The Storm on the Sea of Galilee." The identity of the thieves were a mystery, the paintings were never found.What happened in those intervening years? Which Boston crew landed the big score? And why, more than 20 years later, did the FBI issue a press conference stating that they knew who had pulled off the heist and what had happened to the artwork, but provided no identities and scant details?These mysteries are the story of Kurkjian's revealing book. The best and longest-tenured reporter on this case, and one of the most decorated investigative reporters in America, Kurkjian will reveal the identities of this who plotted the heist, the motive for the crime, and the details that the FBI refused to reveal. He will take the reader deep into the Boston mob, and paint the most complete and compelling picture of this story ever told.

“More than just a summation of all that's publicly known about the case—from the thieves' false mustaches to the F.B.I.'s sting operation—Kurkjian's book is an impressive attempt to solve the crime by reconsidering the evidence...What makes Kurkjian's book so gripping is [this]: an accomplished investigator's sense of open-minded humility.” —New York Times Book "Engrossing real-life crime story.” —Kirkus s“ A new look at a legendary art heist...[Kurkjian] draws on fresh evidence in Master Thieves to reveal his own chief suspect, tell the full story of the theft and perhaps hasten the missing works' return.” —The Washington Post" A cast of characters that would make Martin Scorsese swoon in admiration. There are so many crime-world figures with their fingers in this story that the book is like a GoodFellas/The Departed double feature...Kurkjian constructs a thrilling narrative...A great mystery story well told.” —The Boston Globe" Kurkjian, formerly of The Boston Globe—and one of Boston's premier investigative reporters—knows more about the Gardner robbery than anyone else, including the FBI. He covered it for years. And now he has put it all together in [Master Thieves].” —The Lowell Sun