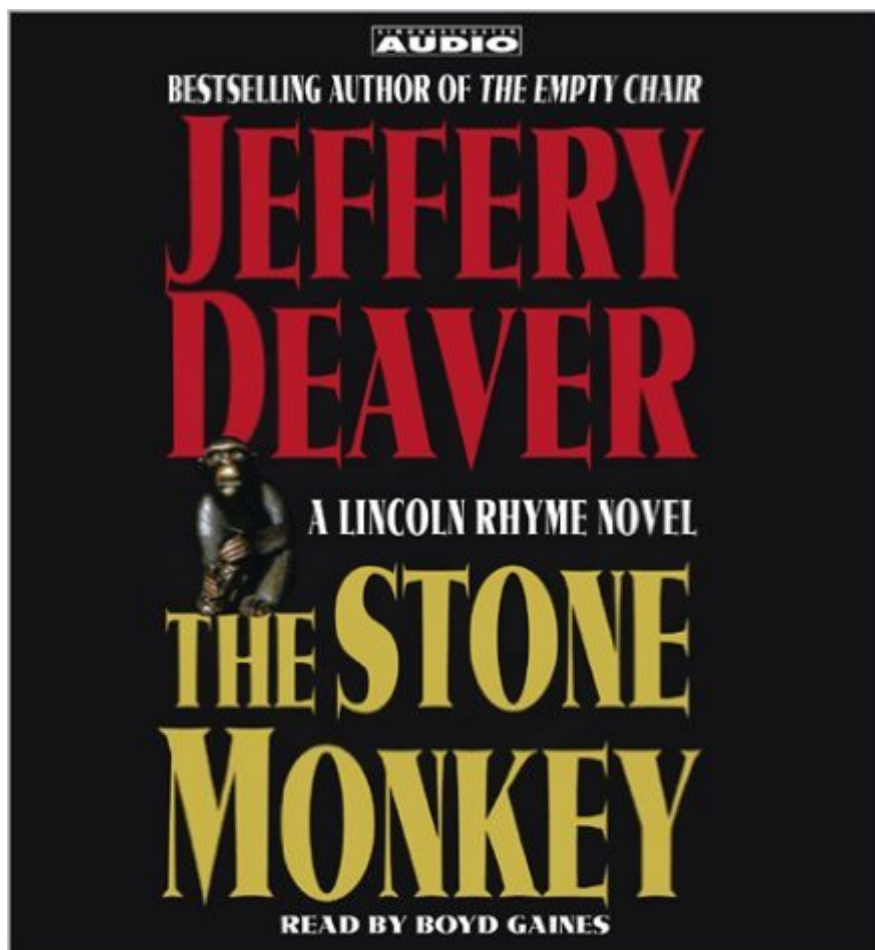


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# The Stone Monkey (Lincoln Rhyme Novels)



## Synopsis

A famed criminologist, paralyzed from the neck down, Rhyme compensates for his physical disability with his brains -- and the arms and legs of his brilliant and beautiful protégé, Amelia Sachs. The awe-inspiring duo returns in *The Stone Monkey*. Recruited to help the FBI and the Immigration and Naturalization Service perform the nearly impossible, Lincoln and Amelia track down a cargo ship headed for New York city carrying two dozen illegal chinese immigrants, as well as the notorious human smuggler and killer known as "the Ghost." But when the Ghost's capture goes disastrously wrong, Lincoln and Amelia find themselves in a race against time. They must stop him before he can track down and murder the two surviving families who have escaped from the ship and vanished deep into the labyrinthine world of New York City's chinatown. Over the next harrowing forty-eight hours, the Ghost ruthlessly hunts for the families, while Rhyme struggles to find them before they die. Amelia pursues a very different kind of police work -- forming a connection with one of the immigrants that may have consequences going to the core of her relationship with her partner and lover, Lincoln Rhyme. *The Stone Monkey* abounds with Deaver's famous trademarks: wholly unexpected plot twists, and breakneck pacing, reminding us once again why People hailed him as the "master of ticking-bomb suspense" and Publishers Weekly called him the "most clever plotter on the planet."

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

THE STONE MONKEY is by far the best in Deaver's Lincoln Rhymes series. The main plot line

revolves around Lincoln's effort to stop THE Ghost, a notorious Chinese "snakehead" (human smuggler) from killing what's left of two dozen illegal Chinese immigrants. When the coast guard zeroed in on the ship carrying the "undocumented," The Ghost had dynamited the ship, killing most everyone on board, except for two families and an undercover cop who manage to make it to shore. This is the best of the series because of the research Deaver did on Chinese culture, specifically smuggling of human cargo. The book is generously sprinkled with such terms as "ju-jia" or piglets, the derogatory term for the people in the hold of the ship; "Meiguo," Chinese for Beautiful Country or America, and "bangshou," the lieutenant who helps The Ghost accomplish his task. The book is also replete with solid characterization, the best of which is Sonny Li, a Chinese detective disguised as one of the illegals. He clashes with Lincoln by smoking unfiltered Camels at crime scenes and by taking a much more humanistic approach to crime detection, as opposed to Lincoln's emphasis on the evidence. Li's favorite expression is "Ten Judges of Hell" in reference to the Chinese myth that the judges of hell keep a record of everyone who has ever lived, their faults and good points. I've had problems with Deaver's loosey-goosey approach to plotting in the past; however, in this work, he manages to keep it real for the most part, except for one minor glitch where he has the Ghost switch places with one of the Chinese dissidents. The dissident has police protection, since the Ghost is out to kill all of the survivors, but that doesn't stop Deaver from having him sneak out and get involved in a gun battle or two.

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