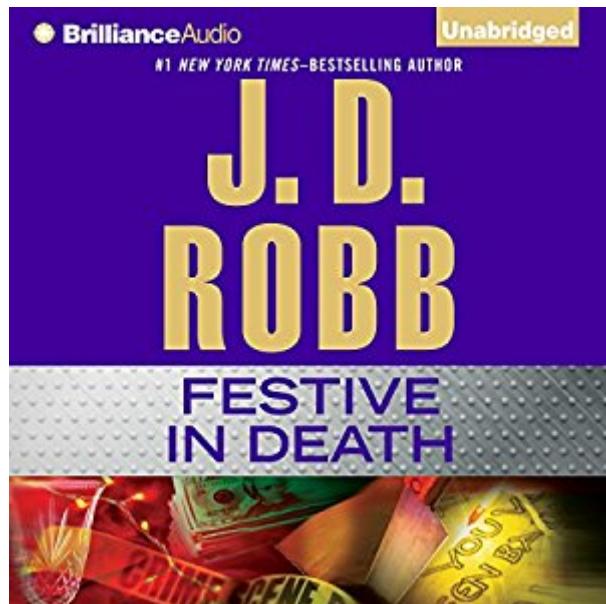


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# Festive In Death: In Death, Book 39



## Synopsis

Eve Dallas deals with a homicide - and the holiday season - in the latest from the #1 New York Times bestselling author. Personal trainer Trey Ziegler was in peak physical condition. If you didn't count the kitchen knife in his well-toned chest. Lieutenant Eve Dallas soon discovers a lineup of women who'd been loved and left by the narcissistic gym rat. While Dallas sorts through the list of Ziegler's enemies, she's also dealing with her Christmas shopping list - plus the guest list for her and her billionaire husband's upcoming holiday bash. Feeling less than festive, Dallas tries to put aside her distaste for the victim and solve the mystery of his death. There are just a few investigating days left before Christmas, and as New Year's 2061 approaches, this homicide cop is resolved to stop a cold-blooded killer.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I loved this latest J.D. Robb offering. The amount of background information given and the brief inclusion of many of the secondary characters seemed just right. In some of the previous books, Eve's backstory was repeated so often and in such repeated detail, that it became boring for someone who has followed the series from the beginning. This time, there was enough background given to inform a new reader, but not so much that it seemed like a long rehash. Similarly, the secondary characters played enough of a part to let us know how they are doing, but not so much that they detracted from the main focus of the plot. Nora Roberts has created a rich cast of supporting characters, which adds texture and helps the character development of Eve and Roark.

They can't all play a large role in every book, however, and Roberts uses them wisely; when they can support the plot, they have a larger role, and when they aren't needed for that, they get less page time. I particularly liked the way Eve's and Roark's relationship is growing and changing. The sex scenes are more gentle and Eve is a bit softer and less aggressive with Roark. She still has her hard edge with work, but her personal relationships are evolving as she gains a wider circle of good friends and as she becomes comfortable in her marriage. If Eve's character remained static, with the hard edges perfectly intact, she would seem to be more of a caricature and less human-like. The softening is just right; it reflects the positive changes she has undergone since her marriage, but leaves enough of the kick-ass Eve present to maintain the integrity of Eve's personality. I liked the plot in this book. It held my interest and kept me turning the pages. Some reviewers felt the identity of the villain was too obvious and this spoiled the story. Whether or not the villain was obvious was not a consideration for me. I enjoyed the journey from the beginning to the unmasking. How the characters interacted, how the investigation unfolded, the dialogue and the combination of investigative and personal relationships kept me engaged throughout the story. How readers will react to this book and whether or not they will like it, may depend upon what direction the reader wants the series to take. If readers like an organic type of growth, with a gradual shift to a gentler, happier Eve, they will likely appreciate this book. Those who want the character of the darker, anti-social, unhappy Eve that was introduced in the beginning of the series, will probably think this book is too light. I was very happy with this book and I recommend it. I think it was very well written and I love the way Eve is growing and evolving. There are critics who feel the book is not true to J.D. Robb's writing style and think it was not written by her. I definitely did not get that sense. It is not that she is writing out of character, but that she is writing to evolving characters. However, we don't all like the same things or view things the same way, so there will be readers who do not feel as I do.

It is a lot of the same, but still, I did not know for sure who did it until just before it was revealed. Not her best work, but not her worst either. It feels like someone else is writing part of it though.

You just keep turning page after page, and get all wrapped up in the story! Even Santa sort of shows a time or two! Even Galahad the cat, plays his own jingle bells kind of! The holidays can be a real killer!!! Party, sex, murder... what's not to keep you interested? Think the killer is someone ...but who? There are many to choose from; all with good reasons!!! Happy reading...ho ho ho!!!

I am a huge fan of the In Death series and think Dallas is amazing along with Roark but this book fell flat. It was predictable and frankly boring which makes me sad to have to admit that I did not enjoy this installment in the series

Have read all of the in d.eath series and was disappointed with this one. It just did not seem to have the pace and did not keep who the murderer was. I like the relationship with Rourke and there didn't seem to be enough of that in this story. It almost felt as though J. D. Robb was hurrying to get this book done without all the mystery. I will continue to read her in death series because for the most part she writes excellent stories for this series.

Christmas time, and Lt. Dallas has their annual Christmas party to help with, as well as another murder on her plate. At 3:00 in the morning, she has to roll out of bed to answer a 911 call from Trina, her feared hair- and skin-care consultant; the murder victim was discovered by her and a co-worker, ex-girlfriend of the victim. Investigation proves the murder victim, while a good physical-fitness trainer, handsome and charming, was also a serial rapist, resulting in many suspects for his murder. In between all the police procedures to track down the killer, Eve has to squeeze in Christmas shopping, and decorating the home she and Roarke share, due to a deal she made with Somerset about wrapping Christmas presents. She manages one-stop shopping by going back to the little boy street vendor who helped her close down an identity-theft scam, and with Mavis's help, pulls off the decorating.

I just could not get interested in this book! I normally can read a Book in several days, but I've been trying to read this for weeks and I'm still only halfway through! Finally just removed it from my collection. I've read this author before and have enjoyed the books but this one is awful (in my opinion)

Another book in LT Eve's story and of course Roarke, her richer than Colossus husband. The stories and nuances are getting monotonous. Eve and Summerset hauling insults at each other is getting childish. The series need a jolt in the arm. It is getting monotonous. We need some zingers, some angst in the relationships and between the characters.

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