



The Zoo Job

Keith R.A. DeCandido, Electric Entertainment

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A new novel based on the hit TV series *Leverage*...

**The rich and powerful take what they want.
We steal it back for you.**

THE ZOO JOB

Marney Brillinger is in trouble. The zoo that has been in her family for generations is failing, and when she makes a deal with a Malanian priest to loan her two exotic black rhinos for a special exhibit, they never arrive. Now, she's on the hook for hundreds of thousands of dollars to the priest, who was planning to use the money for sick children.

Desperate, she turns to Nate Ford and his team for assistance. But finding two very large lost animals is no easy feat when the search involves duplicity—both international and close-to-home—and the unwelcome arrival of Nate's nemesis, Interpol agent James Sterling.

With Sterling around, if the team isn't careful, they just might end up in cages of their own . . .

The Zoo Job Details

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From Reader Review The Zoo Job for online ebook

Linn D. says

Now that was a good Leverage novel

Jennifer Urbanek says

If you enjoy the TV series, you will enjoy this book. This book has the energy and the flashbacks that make the show so wonderful. The book is well-written and pivots around aiding a local zoo in getting the black rhinos that they paid a small hospital clinic for. This book does a very good job of getting inside of Parker's head.

Nicole says

Not as impressive in terms of capturing the characters' unique voices as the *Serenity* novelisation by the same author; but the Eliot Spencer sections were quite good, while the parts involving Parker and a monkey were very cute and so easy to picture.

One of my favourite lines from an Eliot sequence: "[Eliot] should no longer have been surprised that Sophie had a miniskirt in her purse. He was convinced that the purse was like that stupid phone booth thing on that TV show Hardison liked: bigger on the inside than the outside." (pg 248)

The plot was appropriately twisty, and there were some neat tie-ins to past jobs/various episodes of the show. Good light reading.

Kara says

This book takes full advantage of its format to pull cons on the reader that wouldn't work in the original visual medium of the television show, but absolutely fit the style of the show. At times it feels like the author is trying a little too hard to tie in the story to the show's continuity. I felt like it was wrapped up very suddenly. One of the nice things about a book is not having to worry about actor availability, meaning many fan favorites made their way into the story. As fun as it was to see them, I would have liked to have gotten more from the original character Elizabeth.

Becky Galambos says

Based on the tv show Leverage, this book is great - for the most part, it captures the characters' unique voices. I especially loved the section of Sophie's purse.

Robert Greenberger says

The second novel based in Leverage covers far more serious territory than the first outing. The series allows for such wide shifts in tone and it is good to see the same thing in the novels. Keith does a lovely job giving everyone something to do and keeps them nicely in character. He stretches a bit to mention or use a few too many aspects from the show but they do not slow down a tightly plotted caper. Good dialogue, nice action. Well done, sir.

Linda Kidd says

Great book!! I really enjoyed reading this book and envisioning my favorite actors and actresses playing out the parts in the book. Great read!!

kriszeth sthemphick says

better than the first, especially since it reads like an actual episode from the series, though i am miffed at nate. i mean, for a mastermind he really tells sophie something really stupid at the end.

Amy says

Based on the writing, this books gets about a 1. The writing is terrible. But, if you love the Leverage characters and are in serious withdrawal, it can be fun if you can get past that. But that's a big IF.

To start with, I don't think the author likes the Leverage characters or it's fan base, since apparently he thinks we're stupid and can basically be bought off with some reminiscing. I understand that authors will often do a bit of explaining on past events just in case the reader has forgotten an important or influential plot point. This isn't that. The author made sure to reference as many past episodes and plot points as possible. Half the book is reminiscing. For the most part, it's completely irrelevant. Not to mention the fact that it's lazy writing. It allowed him to take up half the book with re-hash instead of rounding out the story. It also comes off as "See, see I did watch the series", while he still gets some major character points wrong. I mean, you want to really understand some of the character traits, watch the damn commentary. Also, you don't need to give a 3 page back story to every random person we run across. They're side background characters. You want to give them a 2 sentence cute round out to make them more interesting, fine. But seriously, giving that much back story to characters that don't need it is just another BS trick to fluff out the book without working on hard things like plot or character development.

Minor spoilers ahead: (view spoiler)

So ... yeah, next time get a better writer. Hell, get one of the show writers for goodness sake. In the meantime, I'm going to go re-watch old episodes or go watch *The Librarians*. I might know what's going to happen, but at least I don't have to wade through bad writing.

Linda says

This was OK, but when the team is working on different continents (North America and Africa), some attention should be paid to the difference in time zones.

Tina Marie (Highlandress) says

I absolutely loved this book. It was well written and flowed just like you were watching an actual episode. I really loved the additional background on the characters. I can't wait for the next one!!!

Jen says

This felt like the least strong of the 3 *Leverage* tie in novels. While the show absolutely (and occasionally egregiously) take advantage of the "here's this thing you don't know that happened", this novel used that mechanic in seemingly every storyline with each character and it felt a little too much. The bad guy story itself felt a little generic too. The characters were pretty well written. I felt I could "hear" Nate and Sophie and Eliot and Parker and Hardison but it wasn't very exciting.

Filip says

This one was a definitive improvement over the previous one. At first I found the changing timelines confusing but I quickly got used to it and it followed the *Leverage* series style pretty well. The con - or rather a series of short cons - was very nice.

I also liked the humour and as in the case of the previous book it follows the characters' distinctive voices (it is a very distinctive voice...) pretty well. I also liked the referring to the series in the characters of Zoe and, of course, Sterling.

All in all a short but very nice read.

Angie says

I loved *Leverage*. It was a fun popcorn-on-a-late-night kind of show. And to a degree, so was this book. There were times I felt like I was watching an episode--certain moments were spot on. It was a nice, light and airy caper, and I did enjoy.

However, I will say that the writing wasn't top notch. There was a lot of telling rather than showing, and a lot of the narrative was spent reminding readers (most of whom were viewers of the series) about stuff and things that happened on the show. This type of filler got to be a little grinding after a while.

Still, it was fun to see the crew again, and I appreciated the appearances from the likes of Taggart and McSweetin. Overall, it was a likable little book, and it makes me want to binge-watch the series again.

Laura (acquariusgb) says

Another great book based on the TV-Show Leverage.

It was structured differently from the first book, here you really got the feeling of an episode including the flashbacks, but it could have had more characters personal interaction like the first one.

I really like it. It had all you wanted in a Leverage episode: Sterling, Sophie as Annie Croy, our two favourite FBI agents...

Love the continuity from the show, you could tell the author was familiar with the show.

It's a must read book if you're fan of the show and like me you're still disappointed that it got cancelled!
