



## Hostage

*Kristina Ohlsson, Marlaine Delargy (Translator)*

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**Hostage** Kristina Ohlsson , Marlaine Delargy (Translator)

Investigative analyst Fredrika Bergman tackles a new case—this time involving the US government—in the next pulse-pounding book in Kristina Ohlsson’s internationally acclaimed crime series.

Shortly after a crowded New York-bound Boeing 747 takes off from Stockholm, a bomb threat is found in one of the aircraft’s lavatories. The demands are directed at both the Swedish and US governments.

Police superintendent Alex Recht teams up with the energetic and often abrasive Eden Lundell from the security service’s counterterrorism unit to deal with the hijacking. Fredrika Bergman, who is currently working at the Justice Department, returns to the police force to act as a liaison between the government and the police.

The investigation team soon realizes that the plot behind the hijacking is far more complex than they initially thought, and they also must battle against the US government’s fear of a new terrorist attack. Now it’s a race against time as Fredrika, Alex, and Eden search for possibilities to save the plane and its passengers. Will they find a solution before the plane runs out of fuel?

## Hostage Details

Date : Published November 10th 2015 by Atria/EEmily Bestler Books (first published 2012)

ISBN : 9781476734033

Author : Kristina Ohlsson , Marlaine Delargy (Translator)

Format : Paperback 387 pages

Genre : Mystery, Crime, Thriller, Fiction, European Literature, Swedish Literature, Scandinavian Literature



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## From Reader Review Hostage for online ebook

### Zelly says

Recension: ZellysBokhylla

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### Gisela Hafezparast says

In my opinion not as good as the previous books. It took my quite a long time to get interested in the story, but this is also due that I don't tend to like "secret service" stories and FBI and CIA agent's tend to bore me. The new character of the Swedish secret service, Eden for me was an incredibly unlikable character, the sort of self-obsessed, self-important and ruthless woman I can't stand. However, about half-way through when Fredericka Bergmann and Alex Recht took over the "solving of the problem" again, the book took on pace and direction and it then turned into an interesting read. Still don't think it was a very believable scenario, but not bad.

The library already sent me the last book of the series and this seems to be more of a traditional crime detection story, so we'll see how it develops.

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### Heather says

Ms. Ohlsson is a gifted writer, has unique knowledge of foreign relations, and she developed characters very well. I appreciated the depiction of strong women characters, but her obvious anti-American bias (including snide comments about Americans) was distracting. I won't read another of her works.

P.s. Badmouthing all Americans and American military people and actions, given the significant market for titles that the US could provide, is unwise from a business standpoint. So I just guess that she must just dislike the United States of America.

Well, good luck with that.

added later:

ps: Anyone who has done even a modicum of traveling knows that every country has every type of human imaginable: every country has kind, sweet people, and grouchy, cranky, busy people, and it is LAZY to paint one group of citizens with the same brush .... just look at Louise Penny's 'Three Pines', and her diverse group of unique individuals, who are hilariously described and developed .... even the nastiest of the bunch is a hoot, and arguably the most interesting! Anyway, this author's writing still bugs me, months later. I'm a proud American in a 'touristy' area - and am blessed to meet and see families from all over the world - and I love it. I look forward to having free time to travel - when my kiddos head to college - so I can return the favor to visit the UK, Australia, NZ, Asia, Africa..... and my ancestor's homelands in France, Scotland, Ireland, etc..... !!!!!

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### **Gretel says**

I appreciate that Ohlsson wanted to try something new in this series, I feel as if it was just *too* different from the other books. I'm disappointed, because the previous book *The Disappeared* was a fantastic read. *Hostage* takes place in a very short timeframe, but it didn't feel tense or nailbiting. I think Ohlsson put too much detail into what is meant to be a fast-paced book, and the pilot being Alex's son is just too much of a coincidence.

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### **Eurocrime says**

3.5 stars. Bit repetitive at times.

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### **Dawn G says**

As a big fan of this author and her character Frederika Bergman, I was extremely disappointed in this book. I can appreciate Ohlsson's desire to write about such a relevant topic which she addresses in her Afterward. I can also appreciate the long, arduous process of gathering intelligence both domestically and internationally, and the diplomacy involved in sharing it with foreign governments. What I can't understand is how an author I love (3 previous books earned 5 stars from me) can write about a topic I find absolutely riveting and make it so boring and flat that I find it almost painful to read. How many different ways can one character say something doesn't feel right and what kind of spouse wants his wife who works for the country's security services to come home and throws the children up in her face when she is dealing with an international crisis? REALLY?? I found all the characters, even Frederika, EXTREMELY monotonous. I still consider Ms. Ohlsson to be one of my favorite authors when she sticks to domestic crime.

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### **Liz Barnsley says**

A really excellent thriller this one – I am aware now that there are previous novels in this series featuring Fredrika Bergman and Alex Recht but sadly these had passed me by – however in this case I have started “late” at the right point, this novel being a slight change in direction from the previous – and introducing (I believe) Eden Lundell, a character I fell in love with. I will certainly go back and read the others, however for the next reader, starting here will give you no problems whatsoever.

A series of bomb threats brings Alex Recht into contact with Sapo, the Swedish intelligence service and also back together with previous partner Fredrika Bergman – when the threats pass with no actual explosions, everyone is relieved if somewhat confused – however the real danger has just taken off from Stockholm and is en route to New York...

This is a novel of many twists and turns and some absolutely edge of the seat moments throughout...Alex has a particular reason for being determined to bring the plane down safely, but he is embroiled in political motivations and secrecy involving many agencies across a divide of many countries, so he has his work cut out for him. It is all very exciting, eminently readable and one of those page turners that keeps you burning the midnight oil...

I particularly liked the intricate plotting, the depth of the characters and the seamless way the author immerses you into the story – playing on some emotional issues with relation to the fight against terrorism, human rights and the issue of “how far is too far” it is an intelligently drawn novel that makes you think about those issues whilst at the same time being absolutely entertained and enthralled. The scenes on board the endangered flight are realistically scary, the mystery element is terrifically well written so you are never quite sure what is what and there is absolutely no promise of a happy ending so you barely get a chance to draw breath.

As I said earlier I loved Eden as a character – I am hoping that her story will continue – I also enjoyed the interpersonal relationships of the main protagonists from the series, the pragmatic look at work versus family and all in all it really was a very very good read with some tightly drawn characters and a very stimulating storyline.

Highly Recommended especially for fans of Scandinavian Fiction.

Happy Reading Folks!

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### **Kelly says**

“Paradijsoffer - Kristina Ohlsson”

5??

Het hele verhaal speelt zich af in een korte tijdspanne, namelijk de tijd van een vlucht van Zweden naar Amerika.

Veel mensen zijn betrokken geweest in het onderzoek rond terrorisme.

Ik was verbaasd, kwaad, teleurgesteld, opgelucht, droevig en verward.

Als je zoveel emoties kan teweegbrengen in amper 332 pagina's, dan ben je in mijn ogen een topschrijfster!  
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Dit is deel 4 in de Fredrika Bergman & Alex Recht-serie. En wees maar zeker, dat ik de volgende delen ook zal lezen! ??

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### **Jenny says**

Hostage is about what happens when a Swedish plane with 400 passengers was highjacked between Stockholm and New York and how it affected everyone who was involved. The highjackers demanded that the Swedish Government must revoke the decision to deport a Moroccan Man. The Swedish government set up a task force that included Police Superintendent Alex Recht, Fredrika Bergman and Eden Lundell. Unbeknown to Police Superintendent Alex Recht at first that his son Erik is involved. Erik Recht is the co-pilot of the highjacked plane. Readers of Hostage will follow Police Superintendent Alex Recht, Fredrika Bergman and Eden Lundell investigation and see how the crew of the highjacked plane handle the situation.

Hostage is the first book I have read by Kristina Ohlsson and translated by Marlaine Delargy. I did enjoy reading Hostage. However, I founded it a little bit slow for me. I am not sure if I will read another one of

Kristina Ohlsson books Hostage was well written by Kristina Ohlsson and Marlaine Delargy did an excellent job of translating the text into English. I did not like the way Kristina Ohlsson portraited her characters for me they seem too unbelievable and a little bit weak. The twists and turns of Hostage were done well by Kristina Ohlsson.

Readers of Hostage will learn about law enforcement in Sweden. Also, to start to think about what would you do in the same situation.

Even though I found Hostage slow, I still recommend the book to other readers.

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### **Elza says**

Du kan läsa fler recensioner från mig här =)

Det här är fjärde delen i Kristina Ohlssons deckarserie om Fredrika Bergman och Alex Recht och den boken i serien jag gillade minst.

En fullsatt Boeing 747 lyfter från Stockholm och flyger mot New York. Kort efter start hittas ett hotbrev på en av flygplanets toaletter. Krav riktas mot både den svenska och amerikanska regeringen, om de inte infrias kommer planet att sprängas. Ett av kraven från kaparna är att regeringen ska ompröva sitt beslut att utvisa en man som Säpo bedömt vara en säkerhetsrisk. Regeringen ställs inför valet att rädda livet på de fyrahundra passagerare som hålls gisslan på tiotusen meters höjd eller att fullfölja utvisningen.

Jag gillar inte skönlitterära böcker om terrorism, de blir oftast stereotypiska och klyschiga. När Ohlsson nu även blandar in amerikaner i sin berättelse blev jag bara frustrerad än intresserad. Boken är dessutom seg vilket är ovanligt för Ohlssons böcker om Fredrika Bergman. I de tidigare böckerna händer det otroligt mycket och jag sitter på helspänn men i Paradisoffer lunkade historien fram istället för att rusa fram.

Ohlsson skriver fortfarande otroligt bra och berättelsen flyter på men jag tycker hon fokuserade för mycket på onödiga detaljer om jobbet istället för karaktärerna. Som jag har sagt förut så är just karaktärerna i den här serien det starkaste elementet till att berättelserna fungerar.

En annan sak i boken som gjorde att jag inte riktigt fastände för historien var hur splittrade karaktärerna var. Fredrika Bergman var inte kvar vid polisen och Alex Recht verkade inte riktigt närvarande. Ohlsson presenterar även en ny karaktär, Eden Lundell, in i berättelsen. Hon var olikt alla de andra karaktärerna vilket var en härlig fläkt i berättelsen men tyvärr fick jag ingen riktigt sympati för henne.

Jag är fortfarande nyfiken på de andra böckerna i serien och kommer att fortsätta läsa om Fredrika Bergman och Alex Recht.

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### **John Johnstone says**

The name hostage is a little misleading it should be Hijack, but maybe the author had a reason for this, if so I missed it. Hostage or Hijack this is a very good novel full of action, thrills and cliff hanging moments. The

story starts with what is almost the ending as the author describes the events leading up to that point. After a slow start the pace picks up and we meet the central character Eden Lundell head of the Security Services counter-terrorism unit in Stockholm. Eden who has previously worked for MI5 is tasked to catch terrorists responsible for the four bomb threats targeted at Stockholm and the subsequent hijacking of a flight to USA. With only scraps of evidence to work with the team of specialists try to piece together the reasons behind these actions and get the aircraft safely on the ground.

Very exciting and feels like "real time" story telling which has been expertly translated into English. Kristina Ohlsson finishes chapters on cliff hangers and you have to read on through one two more chapters before returning to that key moment to find out what happened. Frustrating but very exciting to read.

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## **Booklunatic says**

4 Sterne

Erstmal muss ich erwähnen, wie mutig und innovativ ich es von Ohlsson fand, ihr übliches Erzählschema und das von Ermittlerkrimi-Reihen generell - ein Mord ist passiert, das etablierte Team macht sich an die Aufklärung, im Zuge dessen geschehen weitere Morde - zu durchbrechen. Nicht nur ist Ohlssons Ermittler-Team nach dem letzten Fall auseinandergebrochen und nur 2 der ehemaligen Team-Mitglieder treffen in neuen Positionen wieder aufeinander, auch die kriminalistische Ausgangssituation ist eine gänzlich andere: kein Mord, sondern eine terroristische Bedrohung.

Jetzt aber zur Umsetzung: Man merkt, dass die Autorin sich bestens mit der Materie auskennt, über die sie hier schreibt. Das Szenario, die verschiedenen Institutionen (wie z. B. die Säpo), deren Vorgehensweise, alles wirkt logisch und authentisch dargestellt. Und ja, es ist auch spannend. Aber, ich muss gestehen, für mich fiel es in Sachen Spannung doch gegenüber dem starken Vorgänger "Sterntaler" ein wenig ab. Dennoch immer noch ein packender Krimi, dessen überraschende Wendung am Schluss mich wiedermal kalt erwischt hat. Die Vorfreude auf den nächsten Bergman/Recht-Krimi ist groß, zum Glück liegt er bereits hier...

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## **Mackey says**

Wow! I really liked this book! I've read the three previous books in the series and this one was an exciting turn of events. In the past, the primary character -Fredrika Bergman - was a criminal investigator. Now she is working for the Swedish Justice Department where she is able to once again team up with Alex Recht.

A plane heading for the US is hijacked and demands are made to both Sweden and the US. Working against the clock and with international agencies that don't always have the same agenda, Fredrika is searching for the common thread between the two demands that will lead to the mastermind behind the hijacking and toward a peaceful solution.

I found it fascinating to read about a terrorist incident from another country's perspective. Ohlsson worked in this field before becoming an author and her knowledge was apparent; her criticism of the US quite valid. I highly recommend this book !

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## **Bookread2day says**

Hostage is a work of fiction. The story bears no resemblance to actual circumstances. The author Kristina Ohlsson writes fiction novels to entertain readers. On Flight 537 with four hundred passengers takes off from Stockholm, thirty feet up heading towards New York has a bomb threat on board. To add to matters the plane is running out fuel. Police cars and other emergency vehicles are lined up next to one of the runways. A whole fleet of ambulances and fire engines. No one knows how this drama will end.

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## **Fred Shaw says**

Hostage, a Fredrika Bergman and Alex Recht audio book #4, Dreamscape Media production.

By far this is the most suspenseful story in the series. It's 2008, the pilot of a jumbo jet leaving Stockholm headed for New York receives a note that there is a bomb on board with the hijacker's demands. There are 400 people on board with citizens from multiple countries including Sweden and the U.S. The hijacker demands the Swedes release a Moroccan prisoner soon to be deported and the closure of a secret CIA facility. To add to the tension, the pilot is cooperating with the hijackers and he is possibly part of the plot. Officials from Sweden and the U.S. begin the dance of sharing "relevant" information, and each country holds something back, keeping cards close. This "game", infuriates both sides, and of course, the reader. It becomes a race against the clock as the jet burns fuel, to either meet the hijacker's demands, land the plane in another country other than the U.S. or shoot it down. Eric Recht, son of Alex Recht is the copilot of the SAS jet. What a nail biter.

Excellent story!

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