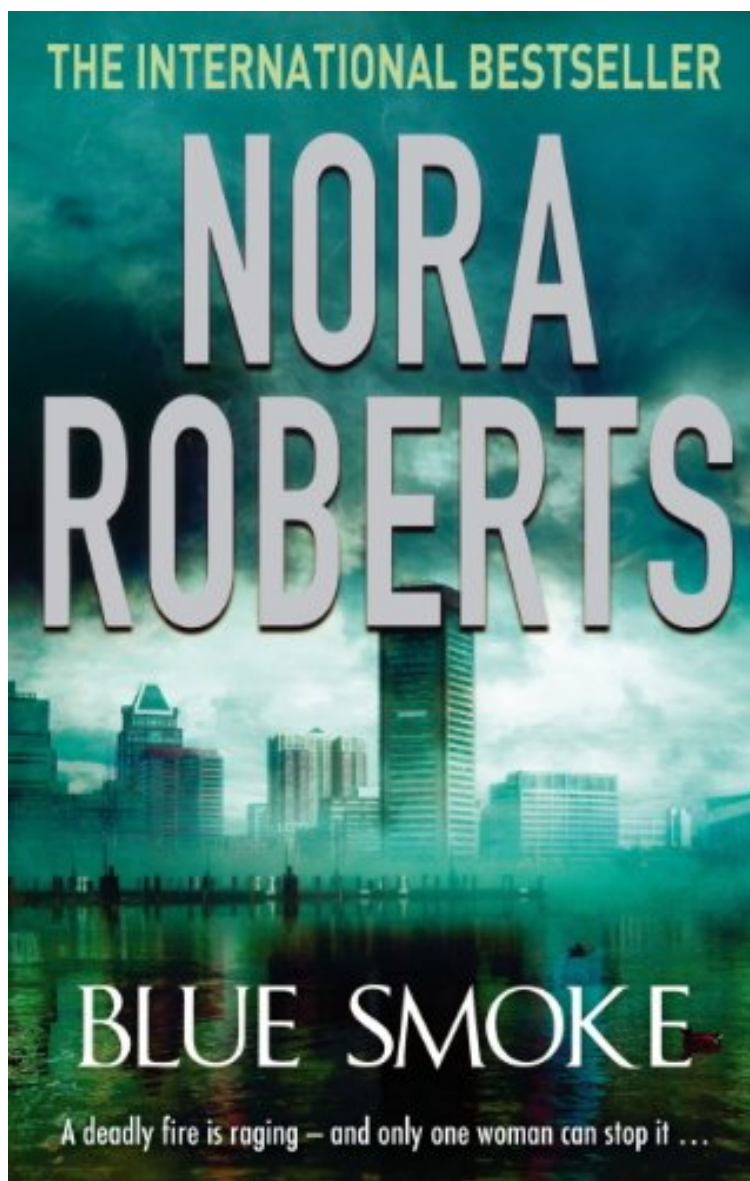


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Blue Smoke (English Edition)



Par Nora Roberts
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Par Nora Roberts : Blue Smoke (English Edition) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Blue Smoke (English Edition):

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Description : Description du produitThe blaze that night at her family's pizzeria changed young Reena Hale's life. Neighbors and relatives would help the Hales rebuild. The Baltimore authorities would arrest the arsonist responsible. But as Reena beheld the fire's brutal beauty and destructive power, her destiny began to take shape. She would understand and master its terrible force-and one day become an investigator herself. But she is not the only one fascinated by the flames. Someone else sees their power-and is obsessed not with conquering the fire but with controlling it, owning it, using it to exact vicious revenge . . . When Reena finally joins the arson unit, her strength and wits are constantly tested-although sometimes the job seems like a snap compared to her love life. But she can't always blame the men-after all, a soot-caked woman barking orders and smelling of smoke isn't the biggest turn-on in the world. Then she meets Bo Goodnight, who seems different. He's been trying to find Reena for years, and now that she is close enough to touch, he has

no intention of letting go. Nor does the man who has begun to haunt Reena's life-with taunting phone calls and a string of horrifying crimes. And as Reena tries desperately to trace the origins-of the calls, the fires, the hatred aimed in her direction-she will step into the worst inferno she has ever faced. From the incomparable Nora Roberts, *Blue Smoke* is a tale of gut-level fear, human triumph, and the bonds that carry us through our darkest times.

Reena Hale has always understood the destructive power of fire. When she was a child, her family's Baltimore restaurant was burned to the ground in a cruel arson attack. The Hale family banded together to rebuild, and Reena found her life's calling: to become an arson investigator. Reena loves her job - but the danger and crazy hours have left her unlucky in love. When she meets handsome carpenter Bo Goodnight, things look promising - until a series of suspicious fires are connected not just to each other, but to Reena herself. As danger ignites all around her, Reena must rely on hard-won experience and gut instinct to catch a man determined to burn down everything - and everyone - she loves. From Publishers Weekly Romantic suspense queen Roberts (*Blue Dahlia*, etc.) lights up Baltimore's Little Italy with this appealing story of love, family, food and arson. Eleven-year-old Reena Hale, watching her family's restaurant go up in flames, decides to become an arson investigator. The fire shapes another child's destiny, too, as Joey Pastorelli sees his father go to prison for setting the blaze. Reena's close-knit Italian family rebuilds; Reena grows up and completes police and firefighter training. Despite inheriting her mother's good looks, Reena proves unlucky in love, mainly because her beaux tend to die in fires, but her fortunes look up after she meets hunky carpenter Bo Goodnight. Bo gets along with Reena's family, friends and co-workers, and handles the demands of her career with patient humor, so nothing stands in their way except an obsessed, pyromaniac stalker determined to kill any man Reena loves. Although it does take Reena an inordinately long time to identify her nemesis, Roberts portrays investigative procedure more accurately than her many imitators. Well-sketched supporting characters with potential subplots of their own suggest that the prolific Roberts will put her feet to the fire again. Main selection, the Literary Guild and Doubleday Book Club.

(Oct.) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From AudioFile Beautiful Reena Hale, trained arson investigator and policewoman, is unlucky in love. The men in her life die tragically, often by fire. A series of fresh arson fires sets the stage for this appealing, suspenseful romance, which combines a large Italian family, their pizza restaurant, a new love interest, a mystery, and a pyromaniac with revenge on his mind. Joyce Bean delivers the goods with a cadence that matches the suspense. The secondary plot involving Reena's sister and her unfaithful husband is stellar, matching voice to mood with choking tears and harsh breathing. Bean's versatile vocal range skillfully portrays male and female parts without hesitation. G.D.W. AudioFile 2006, Portland, Maine-- Copyright AudioFile, Portland, Maine