



The Corsican Caper: A novel

By Peter Mayle

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The Corsican Caper: A novel By Peter Mayle

Here is Peter Mayle at his effervescent best—his master sleuth, Sam Levitt, eating, drinking, and romancing his way through the South of France even as he investigates a case of deadly intrigue among the Riviera’s jet set.

Billionaire Francis Reboul is taking in the view at his coastal estate, awaiting the arrival of vacationing friends Sam Levitt and Elena Morales, when he spies a massive yacht whose passengers seem a little too interested in his property. The yacht belongs to rapacious Russian tycoon Oleg Vronsky, who, for his own purposes, will stop at nothing to obtain Reboul’s villa. When Reboul refuses to sell, Vronsky’s methods quickly turn unsavory. Now it’s up to Sam—he’s saved Reboul’s neck before—to negotiate with an underworld of mercenaries and hit men, not to mention the Corsican mafia, to prevent his friend from becoming a victim of Vronsky’s “Russian diplomacy.”

The dire situation doesn’t stop Sam and Elena from attending glamorous fêtes where the wines and starlets alike sparkle, and enjoying sumptuous meals—from multicourse revelations to understated delights like the first asparagus of the season, on which one must make a wish. But as Sam’s sleuthing draws him closer to the truth of Vronsky’s schemes, he realizes Reboul might not be the only one unable to enjoy the good life for long.

Brimming with entertaining twists, sparkling scenery, and mouthwatering gustatory interludes as only Peter Mayle can write them, *The Corsican Caper* is a one-way ticket to pleasure, Provençal style.

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Editorial Review

From Booklist

The Russians Are Coming, The Russians Are Coming! could be an alternate title for this third in Mayle's Provence caper series. An uncouth Russian capitalist, Oleg Vronsky has a history of getting what he wants, which often requires those standing in his way disappearing in the process. But Vronsky can't obtain what he wants most: the ocean villa of Francis Reboul, the refined billionaire who has figured in other Caper mysteries. Fortunately, Reboul's friend Sam Levitt arrives for a visit just in time to set in motion his own investigation into Vronsky. What floats this novel are the bubbles from the champagne that always seems to be chilled and waiting, along with Mayle's usual airy descriptions of French wines and meals. The caper is a little light on plot, and Mayle doesn't brief new readers about Sam Levitt (a former lawyer, wine connoisseur, and sleuth). Also, for Mayle, the meal and scenery descriptions are fairly thin this time. Still, fans of the series will stick around for the ambience, even though much of it comes from Levitt's girlfriend reading aloud from a guidebook. --Connie Fletcher

Review

“A light frolic of suspense....I...enjoyed every moment of an escape into the world of champagne for lunch and a snack of escargot and caviar.”

—*Suspense Magazine*

“What floats in this novel are the bubbles from the champagne that always seems to be chilled and waiting, along with Mayle's usual airy descriptions of French wines and meals.”

—*Booklist*

“Readers who want to engage by proxy in the lives of Europe's mega-wealthy will...appreciate this frothy bit of fun from bestseller Mayle.”

—*Publishers Weekly*

“Richly descriptive...smooth as the most decadent dessert.”

—*Kirkus*

“A delightful confection.”

—*I Love a Mystery*

“Cracking open The Corsican Caper...is the next best thing to being there....Bon appétit!”

—*Examiner.com*

About the Author

Peter Mayle is the author of thirteen previous books, seven of them novels. A recipient of the Légion d'Honneur from the French government for his cultural contributions, he has been living in Provence with his wife, Jennie, for twenty years.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Luis Martin:

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