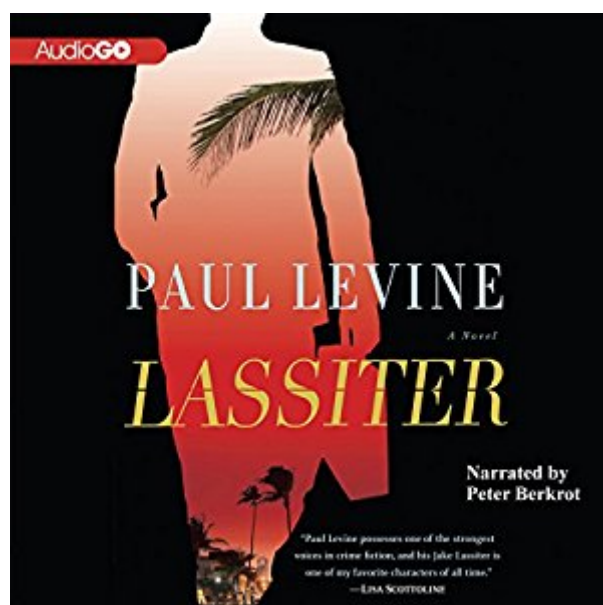


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Lassiter: A Novel



Synopsis

Last seen in 1997's *Flesh & Bones*, Jake Lassiter is a hero unlike any other in the courtroom. Booklist called him "one of the most entertaining series characters in contemporary crime fiction." The former Miami Dolphin is still swimming with sharks in his latest, boldest novel of suspense yet. Amy Larkin is in town, looking for her sister Krista, who vanished without a trace almost two decades earlier. She seeks out Lassiter because he's the last person to have seen her alive. Lassiter volunteers to investigate, and his search for Krista's fate will take him into the underworld of Miami's pornography industry, into the dangerous lives of his friends, and, of course, into the courtroom, where Lassiter's bareknuckle style makes him a formidable opponent.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The long awaited Lassiter arrived on my iPad at the stroke of midnight and I immediately began reading. Levine eased us into the drama, introducing us to the cast of characters who would soon be alive in our minds as he continued to crank up the tension. Jack Lassiter was hunky and honorable and "O so Jake" as he tried to right wrongs in his own heroic way. At the 60% mark, this story had me up and at 'em until the very end. There was no stopping for food or sleep -- plot twists and turns and surprises until the very end. And then the satisfied sadness of finishing this great jaunt. Only to await the next novel by Paul Levine. A great read.

Save your money. Graphic descriptions about porn. Way over the top and eventually boring. Plot

was predictable. Knew the ending long before the closing scenes. Not an author I will buy again.

Lassiter is my first exposure to this series by Paul Levine, but I don't think it will be my last. Jake Lassiter is a defense attorney in Miami, but don't try to compare him to Michael Connelly's Mickey Haller. Whereas Haller is a more cerebral attorney, Lassiter (at least in this book) is far more inclined to rely on his former NFL toughness to shake down a former client or get information from a possible source. Reader's looking for tense courtroom drama won't find it in this book. Instead, the story focuses much more on Lassiter the person, but I was particularly pleased that the author didn't require me to have an extensive background of his previous books to enjoy this one. The story has a little of everything: sex, porn stars, drugs, an old school mafia connection, a couple of interesting courtroom scenes, a fairly intriguing storyline, and (significantly) a satisfying conclusion. This isn't a book that leads you to a "wow", but it's peaked my curiosity to reading more about Jake Lassiter.

Fun, and well written but often too crass and crude. I'd read another review that said the main character, Jake, was a lot like Harlan Corbin's character of Myron Boltair. I would agree but Myron is much more likable and classy. The amount of gratuitous porn scenes and language was way over the top. At first it was funny but then it went too far and detracted from a great storyline with a fantastic ending. I will still try another book from this author.

Too much sexual descriptions that did not move the story along very well

Amy Larkin accuses former bench-warming linebacker turned lawyer Jake Lassiter of abetting her then teenage sister Krista into running away from home. Jake knows more than he lets on as to what happened eighteen years ago when Krista vanished into the South Florida sex business and eventually became a porn star. Jake feels a Krista inquiry could prove redemptive so he begins a cold case investigation. He soon finds Miami's affluent involved in what happened to Krista. As he learns more of the truth, Jake fears she was murdered while those rich males once involved with Krista refuse to cooperate with the lawyer. When one of the men he considers as a prime suspect is shot the Miami police charge Amy with the homicide. Lassiter defends Larkin in which client and attorney distrust one another while the State of Florida has an eyewitness to the lethal shooting. Before *Solomon vs. Lord*, Paul Levine had Jake Lassiter as his star protagonist (see *Flesh and Bones* and *Night Vision*); now after a decade away, the second stringer has a first seat case. The story line is fast-paced and fun to follow, but turns superb in the courtroom as client-attorney

privilege means nothing since neither trusts the other. Lassiter's return is a reason for legal thriller fans to rejoice. Harriet Klausner

Mr. Levine's Lassiter series books are a 'fun' read. Very entertaining for the most part. Sometimes it seems that his knowledge of, or his interpretation of courtroom proceedings seem to stray from a real life scenario to fit his line of humor. But this is what his Lassiter series is about..... fun and humorous to read. I recommend his books to anyone looking for relaxation and a humorous story line mixed with a 'mystery' type of plot.

This was the book that brought the low-rent attorney Jake Lassiter back after a protracted absence. Part of that time, Levine was in California doing TV scripts and cranking out the Solomon vs. Lord novels, which were somewhat "watered down" and seemingly aimed at a more commercial market. He also wrote some very good stand-alone thrillers. But we missed Jake! Levine is back in Miami now, where he belongs. He seems to write best when he's in his hometown. Lassiter has all the elements fans have always expected from Levine: an incredibly fast-moving plot, with twists and turns all the way to the conclusion; sleazy bad guys and questionable good guys; and loads of the Miami gonzo that made all the original Lassiter books so enjoyable. The erudite and lovable old coroner, Charlie Riggs, is missing from this story, but Jake's crusty old "Granny" and his sassy nephew Kip are here, although they don't play major roles. Jake Lassiter is, without doubt, Levine's greatest creation. Jake is truly EveryMan, neither a saint nor a sinner. He'll bend the rules beyond their legal boundaries whenever necessary to win a case, but he also has a moral code that is absolute and universal. We like Jake; we relate to him; we're with him all the way as he claws his way through the impenetrable jungle of the Miami legal system. We can sense that Levine was having fun as he wrote this book. I think he came back to Jake not just to please his fans, but because Jake is his biggest inspiration. As a long time reader of Miami Noir, I think Levine's Lassiter books are as good as it gets. Wherever he chooses to go in the future, I hope he will keep Jake in his repertoire.

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