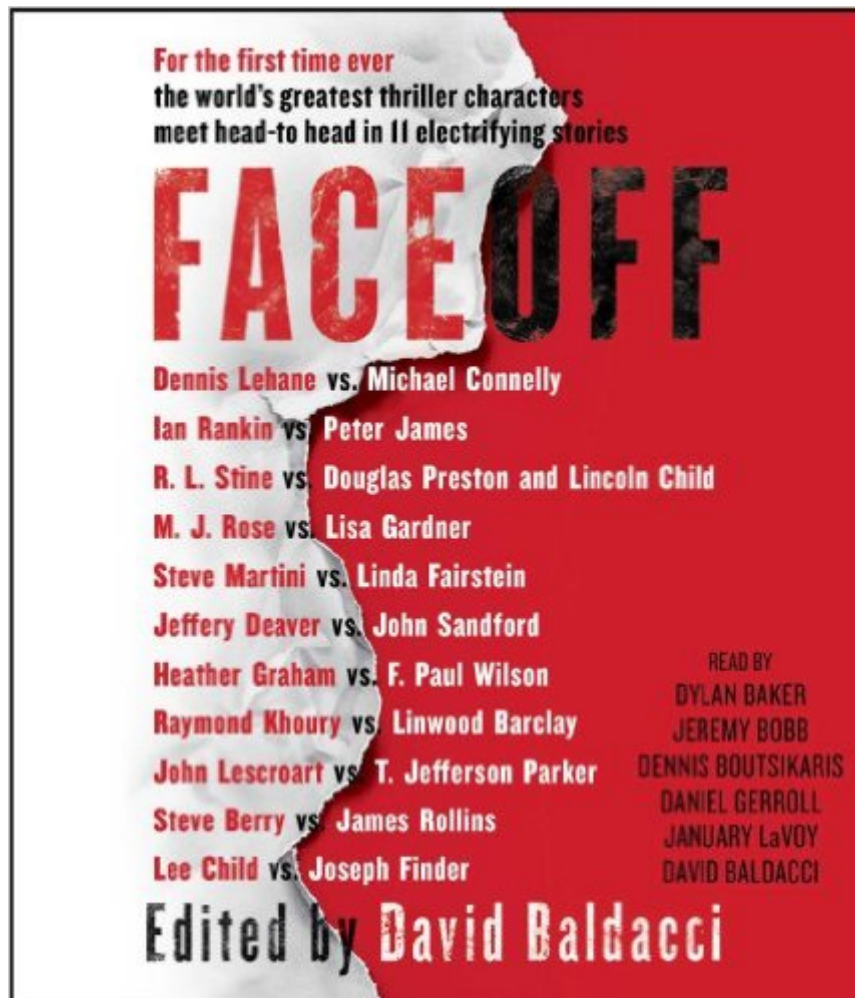


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# FaceOff



## Synopsis

Edited by #1 New York Times bestselling author David Baldacci and including stories by Michael Connelly, Lee Child, Jeffery Deaver, and more, this one-of-a-kind anthology pulls together the most beloved characters from the best and most popular thriller series today. Worlds collide! In an unprecedented collaboration, twenty-three of the world's bestselling and critically acclaimed thriller writers have paired their series characters—such as Harry Bosch, Jack Reacher, and Lincoln Rhyme—in an eleven-story anthology curated by the International Thriller Writers (ITW). All of the contributors to FaceOff are ITW members and the stories feature these dynamic duos: Patrick Kenzie vs. Harry Bosch in "Red Eye," by Dennis Lehane and Michael Connelly; John Rebus vs. Roy Grace in "In the Nick of Time," by Ian Rankin and Peter James; Slappy the Ventriloquist Dummy vs. Aloysius Pendergast in "Gaslighted," by R.L. Stine, Douglas Preston, and Lincoln Child; Malachai Samuels vs. D.D. Warren in "The Laughing Buddha," by M.J. Rose and Lisa Gardner; Paul Madriani vs. Alexandra Cooper in "Surfing the Panther," by Steve Martini and Linda Fairstein; Lincoln Rhyme vs. Lucas Davenport in "Rhymes With Prey," by Jeffery Deaver and John Sandford; Michael Quinn vs. Repairman Jack in "Infernal Night," by Heather Graham and F. Paul Wilson; Sean Reilly vs. Glen Garber in "Pit Stop," by Raymond Khoury and Linwood Barclay; Wyatt Hunt vs. Joe Trona in "Silent Hunt," by John Lescroart and T. Jefferson Parker; Cotton Malone vs. Gray Pierce in "The Devil's Bones," by Steve Berry and James Rollins; Jack Reacher vs. Nick Heller in "Good and Valuable Consideration," by Lee Child and Joseph Finder. So sit back and prepare for a rollicking ride as your favorite characters go head-to-head with some worthy opponents in FaceOff—it's a thrill-a-minute read.

## Book Information

Audio CD: 10 pages

Publisher: Simon & Schuster Audio; Unabridged edition (June 3, 2014)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1442370041

ISBN-13: 978-1442370043

Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 0.9 x 5.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 12 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.9 out of 5 stars — See all reviews (608 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #407,459 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #7 in Books > Books on CD >

Authors, A-Z > ( D ) > Deaver, Jeffery #20 inÂ Books > Books on CD > Authors, A-Z > ( C ) > Connelly, Michael #25 inÂ Books > Books on CD > Authors, A-Z > ( B ) > Baldacci, David

## Customer Reviews

I really enjoy short-story anthologies, both in the thriller/mystery and sci-fi genres. You get a lot of bang in a small package with a short story; a full story, usually with a punch ending, in a one-sitting read. This collection was put together by the ITW (International Thriller Writers) group and edited by David Baldacci. ITW has published thriller anthologies before, some of which I've read, and I really enjoyed them. Usually, the stories are a mix from both established and new writers, affording us an opportunity to see our "usual" heroes in a different venue and/or context, as well as allowing us to become acquainted with upcoming talent. The decision was made that for this anthology, all the contributors would be established thriller writers of series, and that they'd be paired up so that each of the 11 stories would be written by two of the authors, 22 authors in all. The idea would be that we readers would get to see our "favorite" series characters interacting with each other, in addition to solving the crime or whatever. Sounded highly intriguing to me. This could be something very groundbreaking. Unfortunately, I think it's a complete fizzle, for a host of reasons. First of all, 22 authors. I read a lot of thrillers, but I was only truly familiar with the works of 12 of these people, which means that the characters of the other 10 authors were complete strangers to me. Therefore whatever "gimmick" they were bringing to the party flew completely past me. I suspect this is going to be the case with most readers, with the exception of maybe a few people with so much time on their hands that all they do is read thriller novels.

Thrillers, I had no idea some of the writers I followed were known as Thriller Writers. I always thought they were police procedural/mystery writers, but, now I know. In 2004, two thriller writers, Gayle Lyndsey and David Morrell initiated a group of fellow thriller writers. This began in Toronto, and today there are 2,500 members of the International Thriller Writers. They meet every July in New York City, at the Thrillerfest. They have no membership fees. They sustain their group by creating books that are sold to publishing houses, and the money is used to sustain the group. This book, 'Faceoff' is their latest creation. This year the book is edited by David Baldacci. There are eleven short stories, each co-written by two authors. My two favorite stories follow: The first of the stories was written by Dennis Lehane vs. Michael Connolly, with Patrick Kenzie vs Harry Bosch. The story entitled, 'Red Eye', is one of the best. Right away we are caught up in a complex mystery with both detectives on the scene with their own point of view. The second, Ian Rankin ( my all time

favorite writer) vs. Peter James, their alter egos, John Rebus vs. Roy Grace, 'In The Nick Of Time'. This pairing could have been tricky, but they pull it off. The other nine short stories are just as well written with the two pairings. The authors are: RL Stine vs. Douglas Preston, M.J. Rose vs. Lisa Gardner, Steve Martini vs. Linda Fairstein, Jeffrey Deaver vs. John Sanford, Heather Graham vs. F. Paul Wilson, Raymond Khoury vs. Linwood Barclay, John Lescroart vs. T. Jefferson Parker, Steve Berry vs. James Rollins, and Lee Child vs. Joseph Finder. Outstanding thriller writers that are very well known. No short cuts were taken, the writing in every short story is exemplary and satisfying.

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