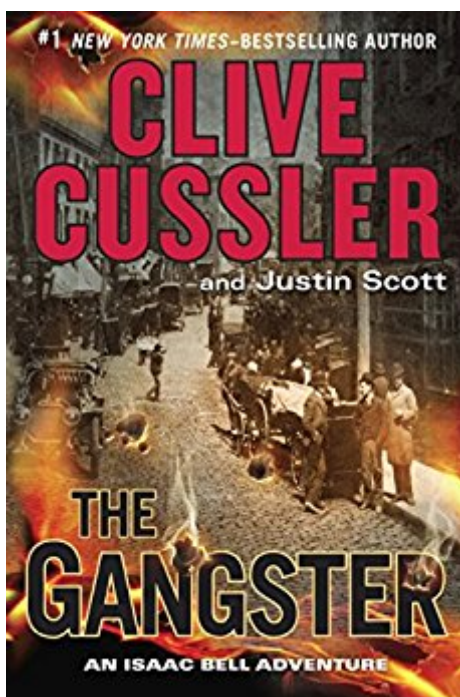


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# The Gangster (Isaac Bell Series Book 9)



## Synopsis

Isaac Bell is back in this thrilling new novel from the #1 *New York Times* “bestselling grand master of adventure Clive Cussler. It is 1906, and in New York City, the Italian crime group known as the Black Hand is on a spree: kidnapping, extortion, arson. Detective Isaac Bell of the Van Dorn Agency is hired to form a special “Black Hand Squad,” but the gangsters appear to be everywhere “so much so that Bell begins to wonder if there are imitators, criminals using the name for the terror effect. And then the murders begin, each one of a man more powerful than the last, and as Bell discovers, to his dismay, the ultimate target may be the most powerful man of all.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I have read all of the Isaac Bell books and they seem to have steadily declined in interest and enjoyment. This particular book had far too many characters to keep track. While I enjoy the regular cast of characters that appear in each book, this particular book added far too many newbies. It appears the author wanted to write a book with too many bad guys with limited character development and multiple side plots. Concentrating on the main plot would have produced a better read. I love the turn of the century era and the vivid descriptions of the environment and social

interactions. I was really looking forward to this book, but was extremely disappointed. Lastly, the ending came far too quickly for the main opponents of Bell.

Isaac Bell returns in Clive Cussler's new book, "The Gangster". The setting is New York City, circa 1906. Italian immigrants make up a large portion of the labor work force. But an organization known as the "Black Hand" has been terrorizing the immigrants. These ruthless people use extortion, kidnapping, blackmail, and sabotage to get what they want. The immigrants eventually turn to the Van Dorn agency for protection. Isaac Bell, the Van Dorn's #1 detective, is put on the case of protecting the immigrants while at the same time tracking down the leaders of the "Black Hand". Soon, a crack squad of Van Dorn detectives is on the job watching over the immigrants. But even Isaac Bell can't be prepared for what's in store, for the notorious "Gangster" who is in charge of the "Black Hand" has his sights set much higher than lowly immigrant workers. Events have been set in motion so that even President Teddy Roosevelt might be in danger. It's up to Isaac and his group of detectives to find out who the "Gangster" is before it's too late. I'm a big fan of the Isaac Bell series, and I've read each book. "The Gangster" maintains the tradition of the previous books, combining historical fiction along with a strong plot and true-to-life characters. The action is fast-paced and doesn't let up until the last page. Highly recommended.

This has to be the worst book in the series. If I had not already read the other books in the series, I would not have been able to suffer through finishing this book. Not worth the money or the time required to read!

The new installment of the Isaac Bell series is true to the characters and to the epoch technology display of the first volumes. A very interesting show of what could be done in the fields of crime investigation and fighting with a much less sophisticated technology. And also, as always, a very good thriller, that compels you to read it nonstop. Always a pleasure to read.

Like all of Clive Cussler's novels it is excellent and impossible to put down. I especially liked it because it deals with Italian immigrants in New York in the early years of 1900...my dad was from Italy and came to Ellis island at that time period or maybe a bit later and worked in the N.Y. subways when he arrived...It's not only a fun novel to read but creates a bit of historical fiction that I love...go for it even if you're not Italian and maybe Irish...p.. my dad moved to Montreal a bit later where I was born and I am ever so thankful that he moved our family to California when I was a kid to escape

those harsh winters and get back to a Mediterranean climate. You will enjoy this novel as it also gives a good and very interesting story of politics and architectural insights of the building of early skyscrapers during those early NY years. I highly recommend this novel and whether or not you like Clive you're sure to love it.

Another winner. I have been a long time reader of several of Clive Cussler's character lines. Some of gotten, well a little stale, good but not great. Issac Bell on the other hand keeps things interesting. While this one didn't have a lot of the cutting edge ingenuity of past Issac Bell stories it was full of determination, clear detailed characters set in a time where things all make sense. His long distance love's character as well as the red headed leader of the detective agency are present but more subdued in this adventure. Not enough to affect story but enough to notice. All in all, another good read. Can't wait for Issac's next adventure.

I really like the Isaac Bell series but this one was not of the same quality. Except for blowing up some buildings and people getting murdered or beat up...it was predictable. I don't buy his books anymore; I check them out at the library. His books are more expensive than some authors but the plot is so predictable that it is not worth the money. I still read them, just don't pay for them. Story reminded me of the movie Gangsters of New York with Di Caprio but protagonist wanted to assassinate the president and there were subplots swirling around that were equally boring so I can't really say it was interesting...my mind wandered.

The Isaac Bell series by Clive Cussler and Justin Scott is great reading! "The Gangster" is set in turn-of-the-20th Century New York City wherein the authors weave a story taking the reader into the Tammany Hall scandals, the rise of the Mafia and politics surrounding the Italian immigrant labor and early Irish gangs. Within this setting, Isaac Bell, a super sleuth in the Van Dorn Detective Agency, sets out to solve murders, missing money, graft, corruption and a threat on the life of Theodore Roosevelt. It is fast-paced action and written in such a way that you feel a part of the early 1900s and the bustling growing city of New York. It is an excellent use of history, fable and good versus evil resulting in a book you just cannot put down. I highly recommend the book to those who like a good adventure, great detective work and authors who are able to put the reader into the story.

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