



The Commuter

Patrick Oster

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It seemed an innocent enough idea. After Barnaby Gilbert got laid off with a nice severance, his boss suggested he take up a new hobby to fill up his free time. On his regular commuter train, Barnaby got an idea what that hobby would be. He decided to satisfy a curiosity he'd long had. An avid birder, he began tracking some regular passengers — people he'd always wondered about — to see where they went and what they did. In following a Chinese man, a schoolgirl, and a sexy woman, he used the same techniques he had to add hawks and herons to his life list. But in this quirky, tongue-in-cheek thriller, he found out pretty fast that humans were a much more dangerous species.

The Commuter Details

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Author : Patrick Oster

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From Reader Review The Commuter for online ebook

Al Fiore says

A very creative and enjoyable read - this author's characters were truly "characters". Their adventures quickly turned my pages. Barbara kept the story human and I wonder if Tesla got a dragon tattoo.

Barbara says

Enjoyed the book, but I wish it was longer. The ending was very short and quick.

Ellen Callahan says

I was a daily commuter on Metro North's Hudson Line. I wish I had the cast of characters that the author seems to have found in his daily journey. This was a quick, funny and thoroughly enjoyable read.

Ken Cook says

A intriguing read - hooked me in quickly, kept me curious and chuckling. Weaving the characters and story threads together needed a bit more of a climax to complete the tapestry, however, and the quick ending seemed to wimp out, unfortunately, in the last two pages. Still, all-in-all, a good read.

I received the book for free through Goodreads First Reads.

Rich Zahradnik says

Barnaby Gilbert, laid-off management consultant, decides on an innocent twist to his hobby of bird watching. He'll use his free time to trail his fellow commuters—see where they go, what they do. Before he knows it, he's sucked into multiple conspiracies involving prostitution, hacking and intellectual property theft. In this funny yet thrilling debut, Patrick Oster sends an innocent among the most dangerous of criminals and federal agents. They follow him, threaten him, beat him...all as he tries to offer businesslike solutions to their very criminal problems. The reader flies through the book to see if Gilbert will ever get back to his beloved birds.

Kathy says

This is a goodreads give away. This is probably closer to a 4 1/2 star than a 4. I read the book in one sitting. I

found the main character very fun to read about and the assisting characters fit well into the book. It is a subject I would never have dreamed of but made the perfect storyline. A great read.

Jessica says

Not a bad book to read.

Bonnie says

I enjoyed this quirky, whimsical mystery with an unlikely hero. It isn't "The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo", but it doesn't try to be. The characters were unusual, but believable. There is one very dark incident in an otherwise upbeat book. Other than the too-frequent typos, it was easy to read and interesting. I will definitely read more books by Patrick Oster.
