



Eleven on Top

Janet Evanovich

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Stephanie Plum is thinking her career as a fugitive apprehension agent has run its course. She's been shot at, spat at, cussed at, fire-bombed, mooned, and attacked by dogs. Stephanie thinks it's time for a change. So she quits. She wants something safe and normal. But the kind of trouble she had at the bail bonds office can't compare to the kind of trouble she finds herself facing now...

Stephanie is stalked by a maniac returned from the grave for the sole purpose of putting her into a burial plot of her own. He's killed before, and he'll kill again if given the chance. Caught between staying far away from the bounty hunter business and staying alive, Stephanie reexamines her life and the possibility that being a bounty hunter is the solution rather than the problem. After disturbingly brief careers at the button factory, Kan Klean Dry Cleaners, and Cluck-in-a-Bucket, Stephanie takes an office position in security, working for Ranger, the sexiest, baddest bounty hunter and businessman on two continents. Tempers and temperatures rise as competition ratchets up between the two men in her life -- her on-again, off-again boyfriend, tough Trenton cop Joe Morelli, and her boss, Ranger. Can Stephanie Plum take the heat? Can you?

Eleven on Top Details

Date : Published June 20th 2006 by St. Martin's Press (first published June 1st 2005)

ISBN : 9780312985349

Author : Janet Evanovich

Format : Paperback 321 pages

Genre : Mystery, Fiction, Humor, Womens Fiction, Chick Lit, Romance

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From Reader Review Eleven on Top for online ebook

?Dani? ?Touch My Spine Book Reviews? says

This was a good plum novel a little bit different than the previous books in the series. I really didn't expect the ending and that was surprising but got to live Stephanie Plum!:)

Shelley says

There really isn't much to say about these books. They follow a formula and require minimal effort and brain power, perfect for stressful baseball postseason reading when your favorite team is trying to kill you with heart attack baseball. These books are comfort food without the calories, carbs, and sugar.

Linda Dobinson says

Eleven On Top, 5 easy, no-brainer stars. This is the second Stephanie Plum novel I have read and it is official - I am in love with Stephanie Plum, and I am not even gay!

Stephanie is a sassy, kick-ass bounty hunter who wants to put the bad guys behind bars, preferably without the aid of a gun - I get where she is coming from I don't like guns either.

In this book she has quit her job because she has had enough of being shot at, kidnapped, stalked, firebombed, spat at, cussed at, run off the road and rolled in garbage. Well you would! Unfortunately for Stephanie, her friends and the manic who is trying to kill her won't let that happen.

I love the banter between Stephanie and the two men in her life - Joe Morelli: 'six feet of lean, hard muscle and hot Italian libido' (p8) and Ranger: 'hot and mysterious and oozes testosterone' (p74).

Stephanie and Joe Morelli -

"I need happy food."

"You should have called," he said hooking his finger into the neckline of my white tank, pulling the neck to take a look inside. "I have just the thing to make you happy."

I have co-habited with Morelli from time to time and I knew this to be true. "I have stuff to do this afternoon and doughnuts take less time."

" Cupcake, I haven't seen you in weeks. I could set a new land speed record for getting happy."(p9)

Stephanie and Ranger -

'I crawled under the covers and pulled the quilt over my head. I was almost asleep when the quilt was yanked back. I let out a shriek and stared up at Ranger.

"What the heck are you doing? I yelled at him, grabbing the quilt.

"Visiting, Babe."

"Did you ever think about ringing a doorbell?"

Ranger smiled down at me. "That would take all the fun out of it."(p17)

It is just as well that Stephanie burns calories with Joe physically, and mentally with Ranger because this girl eats. Personally I love a character that eats. Stephanie seems to know every bakery and fast food outlet in New Jersey. She wolfs down doughnuts - who knew there were so many varieties - cake, takeaways and, of course, her mum's excellent cooking usually with cake for desert.

Food leads me to Lula, Stephanie's co-worker/friend - 'a size-sixteen black woman squashed into size-ten leopard-print spandex. And the weird thing is, in her own way, Lula looks pretty good in the animal spandex.' (p3) I love Lula, she is one funny character and I enjoy the way they bounce off each other.

I was glad to see that Stephanie's gun-toting Grandma Mazur was still there as, like Lula, she is a big personality - every family should have a Grandma Mazur.

This whole book is a laugh from start to finish and I recommend it.

Punk says

A Stephanie Plum "Mystery." Stephanie quits her job as a bounty hunter, yet, despite this, continues to fail at common sense. Lula gets promoted and somehow proves to be even worse at the job than Stephanie. Morelli is hot and strangely calm. Ranger is hot and doing his best to save Stephanie from herself. Bob eats things he shouldn't, then does a lot of hunching and vomiting and crapping.

Look. It's a hundred degrees here. I wanted something mindless, and I knew Evanovich would deliver. I wasn't even mad when Stephanie intentionally shot a guy in the foot for no reason. I barely cared when Mama Macaroni starting shooting up the dry cleaners with an automatic weapon. I didn't blink when Stephanie's apartment was broken into for the nth time and she kept going back inside. It's just that hot.

Two stars. Stephanie blunders around, accidentally solves the crime, is in mortal peril for the last six pages (two of which are the bad guy explaining how he did it, because Stephanie didn't actually figure that part out), is rescued, the end. Until next time.

Bunny says

I let someone at a library sale convince me to pick up a couple of her books, once she learned I'd never read the author. She handed me what felt like ten, and I discretely put a few back when she wasn't looking.

Reading the back cover of this book, I kind of think I should've put this one back, too. Giving it a shot.

Color me shocked. I **loved** this character.

I'm not exactly known for my grown up taste in books, nor for my appreciation of anything that comes close to "chick lit" (GOD, I hate that term). So, I really was expecting to hate this.

Skimming the other reviews, I see a lot of complaints that the Stephanie Plum series is formulaic. Well, I read James Patterson, and let me tell you. Formulas are used for a reason.

Stephanie Plum is a fantastic character. She's smart, effing hilarious, with just the right amount of imperfect, the right amount of self deprecation. She's not "the greatest bounty hunter this little town's ever seen", she

doesn't like carrying a gun. She doesn't swoon over the two men she's involved with. No love triangle? No woe is me, what shall I do? No, "No, no, Stephanie, you must choose!"

Why was I not reading these before?

So, there you go. I'm a Janet Evanovich fan. Woo.

Jerry B says

Shake the other ten in a bag, dump out a bit at a time, & you get 11 !!

We hate to say it, as some of the other ten were definitely amusing, but there's not much smile factor left in Plum et al that we haven't heard or seen before. While there is a smidge of a plot (four small business owners are missing, and Steph keeps getting threatening notes and cars bombed), one can almost predict the rest: Lulu can't get her bond jumpers, so eats fast food; Steph shacks up with Morelli (again) but hankers after Ranger all book; Grandma Mazur and the rest of the clan have a wedding cake food fight; Steph's several cars burn up or blow up; Bob the Dog tinkles on the lawn (wow!), etc.

"Eleven" smacks of one of those books any of us could have written -- just take snippets out of each of the other ten, slap 'em together in almost random order and you wouldn't be far off. One rather poignant scene, almost depressing actually, saw Stephanie spending a (rare) quiet moment thinking (rare!) how useless her life has been -- she realizes she's not good at anything, has no hobbies or interests, and has no idea what to do with her love life or her future. She fantasizes she can play the cello, then actually tells her family she can (despite being unable to even recognize one!), which leads to what little fresh hilarity the book has on display.

Maybe Evanovich has just run out of steam with this set. Maybe that explains the attempt to diversify manifested in the largely ho-hum "Metro Girl". Maybe the old joke about 1000 monkeys with typewriters could do just as well is right on. Maybe we're just "Plum" full of this series. Sorry, but from our reading we just didn't get that much entertainment, let alone go out "On Top"!

CupcakeBlonde says

Joe Morelli is right. Stephanie Plum is a danger magnet. Because even when she quits her job as a bounty hunter she is still wrecking havoc all over town. With no income she needs a new job and manages to go through three different ones in three days after being fired for being late, shooting up a cleaners and burning down the Cluck-a-Bucket. So what else can she do but work for hot bounty hunter extraordinaire Ranger? With a nice safe desk job, right? But that still doesn't keep her out of trouble (or Morelli and Ranger) As an added bonus Steph gives up sweets and turns into a sex-crazed maniac...much to the glee and soon dismay of her two would-be suitors. One of my favorites of the series!

And my favorite part...

"When I came back Morelli was asleep with his head on the table. I put a mug of coffee in front of him, and he opened an eye.

'You have to open both eyes,' I said. 'You're going to work today. Laski's picking you up in five minutes.'
'That give me five minutes to sleep,' Morelli said.
'No! Drink some coffee. Get some legal stimulants into your system.' I danced in front of him. 'Loook at me. I'm wearing a gun! And look at this short shirt. Are you going to let me go to work like this?'
'Cupcake, I haven't got the energy to stop y ou. Anyway, maybe if you look slutty enough, Ranger will take up some of the slack in the bedroom before you make a permanent cripple out of me. Maybe you should wear that shirt with the neckline that lets your boobs hang out.' Morelli squinted at me. 'Why aren't you tired?'
'I don't know. I feel all energized. I always thought I couldn't keep up with you, but maybe you've just been slowing me down all these years.'
'Stephanie, I'm begging you. Eat some doughnuts. I can't keep going like this.'"

CLASSIC!!

Jessica says

There is only so much a girl can take. And this girl has had enough! Enough of chasing bad guys, wrestling them to the ground, having them shoot at her and always ending up covered in garbage. So Stephanie Plum quits her job as a bounty hunter. She quickly finds out there are other jobs she is much worse at! She can't seem to keep a job. She temporarily works at the button factory, a fast food place, a dry cleaners, before landing a gig at a security company, with the very good looking Ranger as her boss. Assuming bad guys would stop coming after her once she left the bond enforcement world, she tries very hard to ignore the notes and gifts left for her by someone who she believed was dead. This girl cannot get away from danger and destruction... it keeps creeping up on her.

While spending time trying to figure out what to do with her life, Stephanie also dwells on her sister's wedding, which she is dreading due to the vegetable dress she has to wear, and at which she has somehow volunteered to play the cello (not even sure what a cello is!); she nurses a wounded cop back to health; helps Lula out in her new career as a bounty hunter; and goes through a sugar detox.

Fun book. Quick and easy read. Perfect to read at the beach or by the pool. Looking forward to the next one.

Chy says

Okay, so I promised myself this had to be the last one for a while. And it was a great one to end on. Got to see Plum try to leave the bounty-hunter business behind and, of course, it was just one glorious disaster after another.

I still get mad about her, "He's sexy, oh no *he's* sexy" stuff. I realize it's a tension-building love triangle...thing. I guess I just don't get into those when the one stuck in the middle stays (mostly) in a relationship. You're in a relationship, you chose to be in it and do seem to enjoy it; so, like, stop letting the other guy kiss you.

In spite of that, though, I love everybody in these books. And I love following them around, and this book was, to me, a lot more about following everyone around and 'hanging out with them' than about the mystery plot.

Which is cool. And I haven't been mentioning the mystery plot of each one as I've gone along, but they're almost always mapped out well, with some cool red herrings. I've figured some things out, but it doesn't make me hate the plot or anything when I do. I could do without Evanovich's tendency to have the "bad guy" sum up all his motives and actions at the end of the book, when Plum's "getting him to talk," though. Yanno? But it hasn't been too particularly irritating, either, probably because I tend to kind of skip over those paragraphs of dialogue.

Heh.

Anyway, definitely there are problems with the books, but they are still hella entertaining.

And, as I said, this was a good one to stop on. But here's the deal. There's a preview of the next book at the end, in the form of that book's first chapter. And when I got to the end of that preview, I had to throw the book out in the yard. Somehow, I felt that doing that would keep me from going back on my promise to stop on Eleven on Top, at least for now. Because, dude. DOOOD.

(When it started to sprinkly outside, I hurried to rescue the book. It's fine.)

Winter Sophia Rose says

Romantic, Sexual Tension, Suspense & Funny!!! A Fun Read! I Loved It!

Tilly Slaton says

The Stephanie Plum series by Janet Evanovich is incredible.

Fun characters. Exhilarating mystery. Crimes to be solved. Lusts to be sated.

Eleven on Top is a neat book. It is however, not on my top picks for this series. Nonetheless, the novel is amazing and I enjoyed every minute of it.

Old men disappear and an old enemy keeps trying to blow Stephanie away. She has an idea who is behind the threats, but as Morelli and Ranger keep explaining to her, she has no evidence and is working based of 'supposedlies" ...

Stephanie quit her job and suffers through other career options. The fragile and intense team effort between Ranger and Morelli becomes interesting when Stephanie accepts an office job by Ranger.

Stephanie is one of my favorite characters ever. She is hilarious and is followed closely by Lula in the badass contest.

I've been stalked by crazed killers, taunted by naked fat men, firebombed, shot at, spat at, cussed at, chased by humping dogs, attacked by a flock of Canadian honkers, rolled in garbage, and my cars get destroyed at an alarming rate.

Ranger is my sexy devil. I could snuggle in his bed and never get enough.

Ranger is the mystery man. He's a half head taller than me, moves like a cat, kicks ass all day long, only wears black, smells warm and sexy, and is percent pure perfectly toned muscle. He gets his dark complexion and liquid brown eyes from Cuban ancestors. He was Special Forces, and that's about all anyone knows about Ranger.

Mrs. Plum and Grandma Mazur finally have their special moment. If you have read the books in order, you will appreciate Mrs. Plum being licked silly from drinking and instigating a cake food fight with her mother and pulls in Stephanie and her father.

"Excuse me?" my mother said. "No control? Did you say I had no control? I am the queen of control. Look at this family. I have a daughter in Disney World with oogly woogly smoochikins. I have a granddaughter who thinks she's a horse. I have a mother who thinks she's a teenager." My mother turned to me. "And you! I don't know where to begin."

"That's it," Grandma said, narrowing her eyes. "Eat dirt and die!" And Grandma scooped up a wad of cake and icing and smushed it into my mother's face.

"I can't see!" my mother shrieked. "I'm blind." She was wobbling around, flailing her arms. She lost her balance and fell against the table and into the cake.

I recommend this book to everyone with a mature mind Some vague sexual content and interesting semi mild violent scenes.

~Happy reading!

James says

4 out of 5 stars to Eleven on Top, the 11th book in the "Stephanie Plum" cozy mystery series by Janet Evanovich. This book was one of the more funny in the series, particularly for two reasons:

Stephanie is being chased by someone who came back from the grave. She thought the person was dead, but it's not true... and someone has a grudge. The humor that comes along with this one makes it worth the read.

Stephanie, of course, needs more money. And she takes on multiple additional jobs besides being a crack detective. And she has the most hilarious jobs... gets fired in the funniest ways... and her two careers intersect to such a point that you will almost lose control from laughter.

It's worth it just to see what the average human will take in a dead-end job to try and keep above water. It's

not a funny topic in real life, of course, but the author's style of writing and the way the character just leaps off the page, is hilarious.

Forget substance. Forget imagery. Forget great language. This is just an opportunity to laugh for 3 to 4 hours. It helps to have read a few books in the series so you know who each of the characters are... but even if you're new to the series, it'll still be a fun one.

About Me

For those new to me or my reviews... here's the scoop: I read A LOT. I write A LOT. And now I blog A LOT. First the book review goes on Goodreads, and then I send it on over to my WordPress blog at <https://thisismytruthnow.com>, where you'll also find TV & Film reviews, the revealing and introspective 365 Daily Challenge and lots of blogging about places I've visited all over the world. And you can find all my social media profiles to get the details on the who/what/when/where and my pictures. Leave a comment and let me know what you think. Vote in the poll and ratings. Thanks for stopping by. *Note:* All written content is my original creation and copyrighted to me, but the graphics and images were linked from other sites and belong to them. Many thanks to their original creators.

Cyndi says

Even when she decides she's going to dump the job and get another, Steph still tries hard at every job she gets. Even fast food. Anyone who has ever worked in that industry knows how hard that can be. Love how, in the end, she doesn't let the alpha boys in her life to stop her. Steph takes the bad guy down herself.

Re-read again. 5/24/16

Reread—May 2018

Steph is once again cohabing with Morelli. But Ranger is getting closer. She decides she has had enough crap as a bounty hunter and she quits.

Every job gets worse and worse. And funnier. Finally she ends up working for Ranger while they hunt the bad guy.

Someone is terrorizing Steph (again, right?) It gets a bit scary a few times, but luckily she has Ranger. Oh, and Morelli.

Elle's Book Blog says

:: 5 Gut-Busting Stars ::

Oh man do I love reading the Stephanie Plum series. Janet Evanovich consistently writes books that keep readers hanging on the edge of their seats (while laughing out loud). In *Eleven on Top*, Stephanie Plum finally decides she has had enough of bounty hunting. She is tired of being stalked, abused, and scared of all the crazies she has to get. So, she hops from one job to another- the button factory, cluck-in-a bucket, and more! But, do these jobs actually keep her safe? NOPE! Someone is out to get her again. Maybe it's not the apprehension job that keeps her unsafe after all.

With hilarious hijinks, white whales smothering smoochie-umpkins, viewings at Stiva's, and grandma Mazur's gossip, Eleven on Top becomes yet another favorite read of mine. I simply cannot get enough of this series. When I need a break from drama filled book I know this is the series that I go to. Therefore, I highly recommend this book AND the entire series. I adore it!

Jilly says

This was shaping up to be a 3-star book for me because Stephanie decides to stop being a bounty hunter and goes from stupid job to stupid job in her search for something different. I was pretty meh on that part because she didn't quit for the right reasons. She has literally been tortured in past books, but that didn't make her reevaluate her career choice. If someone had me tied down and was burning me with a hot poker I would consider the button factory then, but she didn't even slow down or have PTSD after that (a few books ago).

even a warm poker would have me running for the hills!

She quits because she is tired of being shitty at her job, basically. Because she is always getting thrown in trash and getting her clothes dirty and crap in her hair. That's the reason. It just didn't feel real. It felt like the author just wanted to change things up for a bit so let's watch Stephanie bumble through silly jobs instead for a book.

yeah, that's a problem too..

But, I had to add a star because I fell completely in love with Ranger in this book. He's always been sexy and mysterious, but in this one he shows so much more. He really cares about Stephanie, and I think they would make a better couple than her and Morelli. She can't stand the boring monotony of everyday life that Morelli wants to provide. She goes crazy trying to fit into that mold. She needs the danger and constant movement of Ranger's life. And, Ranger needs her for some levity in his life or else he would be just too intense. Like a fire that burns too bright. He would just blind all of us. And, he's so hot that he's already burning up the pages. I get hot flashes when I'm reading his dialogue. (No, it's not menopause! Shut up!)

More like spontaneous combustion..

Ranger and Morelli already have a time-share plan when it comes to Stephanie's safety. They seem to tag-team it when she is in danger - which is most of the time. And, it seems that Morelli is even considering time-sharing in other areas when it comes to her:

"Look at the short shirt. Are you going to let me go to work like this?"

"Cupcake, I haven't got the energy to stop you. anyway, maybe if you look slutty enough, Ranger will take up some of the slack in the bedroom before you make a permanent cripple out of me..."

See? Now that would be Stephanie having her cake and eating it too. She loves cake!

mmmm, cake...
