

jo nesbo harry hole

Jo Nesbo Harry Hole: The Iconic Norwegian Detective in Crime Fiction

Introduction

In the realm of contemporary crime fiction, few characters have captured readers' imaginations quite like Jo Nesbo's Harry Hole. As a complex, flawed, yet profoundly compelling detective, Harry Hole has become a symbol of Scandinavian noir — a genre renowned for its dark atmospheres, intricate plots, and deep psychological insights. Since his debut, Harry Hole has evolved into a literary icon, inspiring millions of fans worldwide and cementing Jo Nesbo's reputation as one of the leading authors in crime fiction.

In this comprehensive article, we delve into the world of Harry Hole, exploring his origins, character development, significant novels, themes, and the cultural impact of the series. Whether you're a seasoned fan or new to Nesbo's work, this guide aims to provide an in-depth understanding of Harry Hole's journey through the shadowy corridors of crime and redemption.

Who is Jo Nesbo?

Before exploring Harry Hole's universe, it's essential to understand the author behind the character. Jo Nesbo is a Norwegian novelist, musician, and former stockbroker born in 1960. His writing is characterized by gritty realism, intricate plotting, and richly developed characters. Nesbo gained international fame with his Harry Hole series, which has sold millions of copies worldwide and been translated into numerous languages.

The Birth of Harry Hole: Origins and Development

Creation and Debut

Harry Hole first appeared in Jo Nesbo's 1997 novel, *The Bat*. The character was conceived as a gritty, unconventional detective with a troubled past, embodying many traits typical of Scandinavian noir protagonists: moral ambiguity, psychological depth, and a sense of existential loneliness.

Character Traits and Personality

Harry Hole is known for:

- Intelligence and Dedication: A sharp detective with a keen eye for detail.
- Flawed Humanity: Struggles with alcohol addiction, emotional scars, and personal demons.
- Moral Ambiguity: Often operates in gray areas to achieve justice.
- Isolation: Despite his skills, Harry tends to be emotionally distant, creating a complex, relatable character.

Evolution Over the Series

Throughout the series, Harry matures from a somewhat reckless detective to a more reflective, if still troubled, individual. His personal struggles and professional challenges make him one of the most layered characters in modern crime fiction.

The Harry Hole Series: An Overview

Key Novels

The Harry Hole series comprises over a dozen novels, each building on the last, weaving a tapestry of crime, corruption, and psychological complexity. Here are some of the most significant titles:

1. The Bat (1997)
2. The Snowman (2007)
3. The Leopard (2011)
4. Phantom (2011)
5. Police (2013)
6. Knife (2018)
7. The Thirst (2020)

Series Themes and Motifs

The series explores themes such as:

- Justice versus vengeance
- Addiction and redemption
- Moral ambiguity and grey areas
- Scandinavian societal issues
- Psychological trauma

Recurring motifs include:

- Dark, snowy landscapes reflecting inner turmoil
- Complex villains with psychological depths
- Personal redemption arcs for Harry

Deep Dive into Key Novels

The Snowman: The Series Breakthrough

The Snowman is arguably Nesbo's most famous Harry Hole novel, featuring a chilling serial killer who leaves snowmen at crime scenes. The book's atmospheric tension, intricate plot, and harrowing themes made it a bestseller and a cinematic adaptation, though the film received mixed reviews.

The Leopard and Phantom: Expanding the Series

The Leopard introduces Harry tackling organized crime and political corruption, showcasing Nesbo's ability to craft multi-layered narratives. Phantom continues to explore Harry's personal struggles amidst a complicated investigation.

Police and Knife: Recent Installments

Police marks a return to Harry's roots, emphasizing gritty realism and intense action. Knife explores themes of revenge and justice, featuring complex antagonists and emotional depth.

Themes and Style in the Harry Hole Series

Scandinavian Noir at Its Finest

Nesbo's Harry Hole series exemplifies Scandinavian noir, characterized by:

- Bleak, atmospheric settings
- Focus on social issues
- Deep psychological characterizations
- Moral complexity

Psychological Depth and Character Development

Nesbo invests heavily in Harry's backstory and internal conflicts, making him more than just a detective — he's a reflection of human vulnerability.

Realism and Grit

The series portrays crime realistically, with detailed procedural elements and authentic Norwegian settings, immersing readers in the cold, dark landscapes of Scandinavia.

Cultural Impact and Adaptations

Popularity and Influence

The Harry Hole series has had a significant impact on global crime fiction, inspiring adaptations, fan communities, and academic discussions about Scandinavian noir.

Film and Television Adaptations

- The Snowman (2017): A Hollywood adaptation starring Michael Fassbender, which faced criticism for its execution.
- Potential TV Series: Netflix and other platforms have expressed interest in developing Harry Hole-inspired series, reflecting ongoing popularity.

Influence on Crime Fiction

Nesbo's work has influenced many writers and contributed to the global appeal of Scandinavian crime stories, combining hardboiled detective tropes with social critique.

Why Harry Hole Continues to Captivate Readers

- Complex Characterization: His flaws make him relatable.
- Engaging Plots: Twists and psychological tension keep readers hooked.
- Authentic Settings: Scandinavian landscapes add atmosphere.
- Timeless Themes: Justice, redemption, and human frailty resonate universally.

Conclusion

Jo Nesbo's Harry Hole is more than just a fictional detective; he's a symbol of the dark, gritty, and psychologically intense world of Scandinavian crime fiction. Through his series, Nesbo has crafted a compelling universe filled with moral ambiguity, complex villains, and flawed heroes that continue to captivate readers worldwide.

Whether you're interested in unraveling intricate mysteries, exploring Scandinavian culture, or delving into psychological character studies, the Harry Hole series offers a rich and rewarding experience. As Nesbo continues to write new adventures for Harry, fans can look forward to more dark, thrilling tales rooted in the depth and complexity that define both the character and the genre.

Additional Resources

- Recommended Reading Order: Start with *The Bat* and progress through the series to follow Harry's development.
- Film Viewing: Watch *The Snowman* for a visual adaptation, keeping in mind it's different from the book.
- Author Interviews and Essays: Gain further insights into Nesbo's inspiration and writing process.

Final Thoughts

The enduring popularity of Jo Nesbo's Harry Hole series lies in its masterful blending of crime suspense, psychological depth, and social commentary. Harry's journey through darkness and redemption mirrors the complexity of human nature, making him a detective whose stories will continue to resonate for years to come. Dive into the series and experience the chilling, compelling world of Harry Hole — a true icon of modern crime fiction.

Frequently Asked Questions

Who is Harry Hole in Jo Nesbo's novels?

Harry Hole is a fictional Norwegian detective and the protagonist of a series of crime novels by Jo Nesbo. He's known for his complex personality, sharp investigative skills, and struggles with personal demons.

What is the order of the Harry Hole book series by Jo Nesbo?

The series begins with 'The Bat,' followed by books like 'The Snowman,' 'The Leopard,' 'Phantom,' 'The Thirst,' 'The Redeemer,' 'The Devil's Star,' and others, with the sequence sometimes varying depending on editions. The chronological order starts with 'The Bat' and continues through to 'Knife.'

What are some common themes explored in Jo Nesbo's Harry Hole series?

The series explores themes such as addiction, redemption, justice, psychological trauma, and the complexities of human nature, set against the backdrop of Norwegian society and criminal investigations.

Has Harry Hole been adapted into any films or TV series?

Yes, the Harry Hole character has been adapted into films, most notably 'The Snowman' (2017), starring Michael Fassbender. There have also been discussions about TV adaptations, but as of 2023, no official series has been widely released.

What makes Harry Hole a compelling character in crime fiction?

Harry Hole is compelling due to his flawed yet brilliant nature, his relentless pursuit of justice, and his deep personal struggles, which add depth and realism to the crime narratives.

Are there any new Harry Hole novels announced by Jo Nesbo?

As of October 2023, Jo Nesbo has not officially announced any new Harry Hole novels. Fans continue to await updates on future installments in the series.

How has Harry Hole impacted the crime fiction genre?

Harry Hole has become an iconic character in Scandinavian noir, influencing numerous authors and expanding the global popularity of Norwegian crime fiction through his complex character and gripping stories.

Additional Resources

Jo Nesbø Harry Hole: An In-Depth Exploration of Norway's Iconic Detective Series

Introduction: The Phenomenon of Jo Nesbø's Harry Hole

Jo Nesbø Harry Hole is more than just a sequence of crime novels; it is a cultural phenomenon that has captivated readers worldwide. As a cornerstone of Scandinavian noir, the Harry Hole series exemplifies the dark, atmospheric storytelling that has become synonymous with Nordic crime fiction.

Nesbø's intricate plots, complex characters, and social commentary have cemented Harry Hole as one of the most compelling figures in contemporary detective literature. This article delves into the origins, themes, character development, and the cultural impact of the Harry Hole series, offering an analytical perspective on why it continues to resonate with a global audience.

Origins and Development of the Series

The Birth of Harry Hole

Jo Nesbø launched the Harry Hole series in 1997 with the publication of "The Bat" (original title: Flaggermusmannen), introducing readers to a gritty, morally complex detective working in Oslo. Named after the protagonist's distinctive piercing blue eyes, Harry Hole was initially conceived as a somewhat flawed but deeply committed investigator, navigating the Norwegian criminal underworld and his own personal demons.

Evolution Over Time

Over the subsequent decades, the series expanded to include a total of 12 novels, each building upon the last in terms of complexity, depth, and scope. Notable titles include "The Snowman" (2007), which gained international acclaim, and "Phantom" (2009), often considered one of Nesbø's masterpieces. The series' evolution reflects Nesbø's growing confidence as a writer and his willingness to explore darker themes and more intricate plotting.

International Success and Adaptations

The Harry Hole series has achieved global success, translated into over 50 languages and selling millions of copies worldwide. The novels' cinematic adaptation, "The Snowman" (2017), starring Michael Fassbender, was a high-profile attempt to bring Harry Hole to the big screen, though it received mixed reviews. Despite this, the series' literary impact remains profound, influencing a new generation of crime writers and fostering a broader appreciation for Scandinavian noir.

Core Themes and Literary Style

Darkness and Morality

A defining characteristic of Nesbø's Harry Hole novels is their exploration of moral ambiguity. Harry, often battling alcoholism, personal loss, and a haunted past, embodies the flawed hero archetype. Nesbø does not shy away from depicting the darkness within human nature, often portraying violence, corruption, and societal decay in unflinching detail.

Social Critique

The series frequently serves as a mirror to Norwegian society, exposing issues such as gender violence, drug abuse, political corruption, and social inequality. Nesbø's portrayal of Oslo is vivid and atmospheric, sometimes bleak but always sharply observed.

Narrative Technique

Nesbø employs a third-person narrative style, rich in psychological insight and layered with red herrings and plot twists. His writing is characterized by a fast-paced, suspenseful rhythm, complemented by detailed character development. The novels often feature multiple viewpoints, allowing readers to gain insights into various characters' motives and backgrounds, enhancing the complexity of the storytelling.

The Character of Harry Hole

Origins and Background

Harry Hole's character is complex and multifaceted. Born and raised in Norway, he is depicted as a highly intelligent and intuitive detective, but one haunted by personal tragedies, including the death of his father and the loss of loved ones. His background as an outsider and his struggles with addiction add layers to his personality, making him both relatable and deeply flawed.

Personality Traits

- Determined and Persistent: Harry's relentless pursuit of justice often puts him at odds with his colleagues and superiors.
- Introspective and Sensitive: Despite his rough exterior, Nesbø's Harry is introspective, often reflecting on his own moral dilemmas.
- Haunted and Self-Destructive: His battles with alcoholism and his haunted past drive much of his internal conflict.

Development Across the Series

Throughout the series, Harry evolves from a somewhat disillusioned detective to a more mature, if still troubled, individual. His relationships, especially with women like Rakel Fauke, serve as emotional anchors and sources of vulnerability. The series explores his ongoing internal struggles, making him one of the most psychologically nuanced characters in modern crime fiction.

Notable Novels and Their Significance

"The Bat" (1997)

The series' debut introduces Harry Hole and sets the tone with a gritty, atmospheric depiction of Oslo's criminal underworld. It establishes Harry's investigative style—meticulous, intuitive, and relentless.

"The Snowman" (2007)

Perhaps the most famous installment, it features a serial killer who leaves snowmen at crime scenes. The novel's chilling atmosphere and intricate plot exemplify Nesbø's mastery of suspense and psychological depth. Its international success elevated the series' profile.

"Phantom" (2009)

This novel delves into political corruption and the dark history of Norway's past, blending personal and societal themes. It's regarded as a standout for its layered storytelling and societal critique.

"The Thirst" (2017)

The final published novel, which ties together many of the series' themes, focusing on morality, justice, and the consequences of violence. It offers a reflective conclusion to Harry's saga, emphasizing redemption and resilience.

Cultural Impact and Critical Reception

Influence on Scandinavian Noir

Jo Nesbø's Harry Hole series has played a pivotal role in popularizing Scandinavian noir globally. Its dark tone, moral complexity, and social commentary have become hallmarks of the genre, influencing numerous writers and adaptations.

Critical Acclaim and Criticism

While critics praise Nesbø for his storytelling, atmospheric writing, and complex characters, some have criticized the series for its violence and occasional sensationalism. Nonetheless, the novels' popularity among readers remains undeniable, with many praising Nesbø's ability to balance entertainment with social critique.

Literary Significance

The Harry Hole series is often analyzed for its exploration of morality, justice, and the human condition. Nesbø's nuanced portrayal of Oslo as a character in itself adds to the literary richness, making the series a significant contribution to contemporary crime fiction.

Conclusion: The Enduring Legacy of Harry Hole

Jo Nesbø's Harry Hole stands as a testament to the power of Scandinavian crime fiction's storytelling prowess. Through its complex characters, layered narratives, and social commentary, the series offers more than mere entertainment—it provides a mirror to society's darkest aspects while exploring the resilience of the human spirit. As Nesbø continues to write and evolve, Harry Hole remains an enduring figure—a symbol of the gritty, morally ambiguous world of modern detective fiction. His stories will likely continue to influence and inspire for generations to come, cementing his place in the pantheon of literary detectives.

Note: As of October 2023, Jo Nesbø has hinted at potential future projects, but the Harry Hole series remains a complete and impactful saga that has left an indelible mark on global crime literature.

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jo nesbo harry hole: Knife Jo Nesbo, 2019-07-09 INTERNATIONAL BESTSELLER • Brilliant, audaciously rogue police officer Harry Hole is back and in the throes of a new, unanticipated rage in this installment of the New York Times bestselling series—once again hunting the murderer who has haunted his entire career. “I can’t think of anyone who makes my skin crawl like Nesbo.”—The New York Times Book Review Harry Hole is not in a good place. Rakel—the only woman he's ever loved—has ended it with him, permanently. He's been given a chance for a new start with the Oslo Police but it's in the cold case office, when what he really wants is to be investigating cases he suspects have ties to Svein Finne, the serial rapist and murderer who Harry helped put behind bars. And now, Finne is free after a decade-plus in prison—free, and Harry is certain, unreformed and ready to take up where he left off. But things will get worse. When Harry wakes up the morning after a blackout, drunken night with blood that's clearly not his own on his hands, it's only the very beginning of what will be a waking nightmare the likes of which even he could never have imagined.

jo nesbo harry hole: Police Jo Nesbo, 2013-10-15 INTERNATIONAL BESTSELLER • In this “invigorating must-read” installment (Newsweek) of the New York Times bestselling series, Inspector Harry Hole investigates a serial killer targeting Oslo’s police officers. For years, detective Harry Hole has been at the center of every major criminal investigation in Oslo. His brilliant insights and dedication to his job have saved countless lives over the years. But as the killer grows increasingly bold and the media reaction increasingly hysterical, the detective is nowhere to be found. This time, when those he loves and values most are facing terrible danger, Harry is in no position to protect anyone—least of all himself.

jo nesbo harry hole: Phantom Jo Nesbo, 2012-03-20 The next instalment in the Harry Hole series, from the bestselling and internationally acclaimed Jo Nesbo. Summer. A boy, Gusto, is lying on the floor of an Oslo apartment. He is bleeding and will soon die. He is trying to make sense of what has happened. In order to place his life and death in some kind of context he begins to tell his story. Outside, the church bells chime. Autumn. Former police detective Harry Hole returns to Oslo after 3 years abroad. He seeks out his former boss at police headquarters to request permission to investigate a homicide. But the case is already closed; a young junkie, Gusto, was in all likelihood shot by a pal in a conflict over drugs. Harry is granted permission to visit the accused boy in prison. There, he meets himself and his own history. It's the start of a solitary investigation of the most impossible case in Harry Hole's life. And while Harry is searching, Gusto continues his story. A man walks the dark streets of nighttime Oslo. The streets are his and he has always been there. He is a phantom.

jo nesbo harry hole: The Thirst Jo Nesbo, 2017-05-09 #1 INTERNATIONAL BESTSELLER • In this electrifying thriller, Inspector Harry Hole hunts down a serial murderer who targets his victims—on Tinder. • Part of the New York Times bestselling series. The murder victim, a self-declared Tinder addict. The one solid clue—fragments of rust and paint in her wounds—leaves the investigating team baffled. Two days later, there’s a second murder: a woman of the same age, a Tinder user, an eerily similar scene. The chief of police knows there’s only one man for this case. But Harry Hole is no longer with the force. He promised the woman he loves, and he promised himself, that he’d never go back: not after his last case, which put the people closest to him in grave danger. But there’s something about these murders that catches his attention, something in the details that the investigators have missed. For Harry, it’s like hearing “the voice of a man he was trying not to remember.” Now, despite his promises, despite everything he risks, Harry throws himself back into the hunt for a figure who haunts him, the monster who got away.

jo nesbo harry hole: The Leopard Jo Nesbø, 2011 Harry Hole is back and this time he's back from very, very far away. Another gripping instalment in this prize-winning and acclaimed series by the internationally #1 bestselling crime writer in Norway. Two women are found murdered in Oslo -- both of them have drowned in their own blood. What mystifies the police is that the puncture

wounds in the victims' faces have been caused from the inside of their mouths. Kaja Solness from Homicide is sent to Hong Kong to track down a man who is the Oslo Police Department's only specialist on serial killings. The severely addicted detective has tried to disappear in the vast, anonymous city. He is on the run and haunted by his last case, the woman he loves, and creditors alike. His name is Harry Hole.

jo nesbo harry hole: Cockroaches Jo Nesbo, 2014-02-11 #1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER

• In this installment of the New York Times bestselling series, Inspector Harry Hole heads to Thailand to investigate the murder of a Norwegian ambassador. Nesbø never lets a page go by without making characters and situations vivid.—Houston Chronicle “I can’t think of anyone who makes my skin crawl like Nesbo.—The New York Times Book Review When the Norwegian ambassador to Thailand is found dead in a Bangkok brothel, Inspector Harry Hole is dispatched from Oslo to help hush up the case. But once he arrives Harry discovers that this case is about much more than one random murder. There is something else, something more pervasive, scrabbling around behind the scenes. Or, put another way, for every cockroach you see in your hotel room, there are hundreds behind the walls. Surrounded by round-the-clock traffic noise, Harry wanders the streets of Bangkok lined with go-go bars, temples, opium dens, and tourist traps, trying to piece together the story of the ambassador’s death even though no one asked him to, and no one wants him to—not even Harry himself.

jo nesbo harry hole: The Redbreast Jo Nesbo, 2008-12-23 A tale moving from the final months of World War II to the present, and from the Russian front to contemporary South Africa, follows the dual adventures of a freedom-seeking war martyr and an alcoholic police officer who is drawn into a mystery with past origins. Reprint. 25,000 first printing.

jo nesbo harry hole: Harry Hole Mysteries 3-Book Bundle Jo Nesbo, 2012-11-19 With more than seven million copies sold worldwide, and translated into over forty languages, Jo Nesbo’s Harry Hole series is an international phenomenon. Detective Harry Hole is a genuine anti-hero: a handsome loner, an alcoholic and workaholic who is tormented in his personal life even as he is revered by his colleagues for his unwavering sense of justice and proven police instincts. Harry’s self-governing, anti-authoritarian style has driven his superior officer at the crime squad in Oslo to call him “the best investigator in the department and the worst public servant.” First-class thrillers with high voltage suspense and complex plotting, *The Snowman*, *The Leopard* and *Phantom* are fascinating journeys into the world of this singular character and the dark criminal minds he pursues to the very limits of his sanity, in Oslo and beyond. “Jo Nesbo is my favorite thriller writer and Harry Hole my new hero.” —Michael Connelly “Exuberantly, ingeniously gruesome.” —The Telegraph

jo nesbo harry hole: The Leopard Jo Nesbo, 2011-03-22 Harry Hole is back and this time he's back from very, very far away. Another gripping instalment in this prize-winning and acclaimed series by the internationally #1 bestselling crime writer in Norway. Two women are found murdered in Oslo — both of them have drowned in their own blood. What mystifies the police is that the puncture wounds in the victims' faces have been caused from the inside of their mouths. Kaja Solness from Homicide is sent to Hong Kong to track down a man who is the Oslo Police Department's only specialist on serial killings. The severely addicted detective has tried to disappear in the vast, anonymous city. He is on the run and haunted by his last case, the woman he loves, and creditors alike. His name is Harry Hole.

jo nesbo harry hole: Nemesis Jo Nesbo, 2010-12-17 Grainy CCTV footage shows a man walking into a bank and putting a gun to a cashier's head. He tells her to count to twenty-five. When he doesn't get his money in time, she is executed. Detective Harry Hole is assigned to the case. While Harry's girlfriend is away in Russia, an old flame gets in touch. He goes to dinner at her house and wakes up at home with no memory of the past twelve hours. The same morning the girl is found shot dead in her bed. Harry begins to receive threatening e-mails. Is someone trying to frame him for this unexplained death? Meanwhile the bank robberies continue with unparalleled savagery. Gripping and surprising, *Nemesis* is the new thriller by one of the biggest stars of Scandinavian crime fiction.

jo nesbo harry hole: The Son Jo Nesbo, 2014-05-13 INTERNATIONAL BESTSELLER • From the author of the bestselling Harry Hole series comes an electrifying tale of vengeance set amid Oslo's brutal hierarchy of corruption. "The crime author of the moment."—The New York Times Book Review Sonny Lofthus has been in prison for almost half his life: serving time for crimes he didn't commit. In exchange, he gets an uninterrupted supply of heroin—and a stream of fellow prisoners seeking out his Buddha-like absolution. Years earlier Sonny's father, a corrupt cop, took his own life rather than face exposure. Now Sonny is the center of a vortex of corruption: prison staff, police, lawyers, a desperate priest—all of them focused on keeping him stoned and jailed. When Sonny discovers a shocking truth about his father's suicide, he makes a brilliant escape and begins hunting down the people responsible for his and his father's demise. But he's also being hunted, and by enemies too many to count. Two questions remain: who will get to him first, and what will he do when he's cornered?

jo nesbo harry hole: The Thirst Jo Nesbo, 2017-12-14 In *Police*, the last novel featuring Jo Nesbo's hard-bitten, maverick Oslo detective, a killer wreaking revenge on the police had Harry Hole fighting for the safety of the people closest to him. Now, in *The Thirst*, the story continues as Harry is inextricably drawn back into the Oslo police force. A serial murderer has begun targeting Tinder daters -- a murderer whose MO reignites Harry's hunt for a nemesis of his past.

jo nesbo harry hole: The Redeemer Jo Nesbo, 2010-03-09 In the sixth book of the Harry Hole series, Harry Hole returns in a pulse-pounding thriller like no other. A 14-year old girl is raped at one of the Salvation Army summer camps. Twelve years later, Christmas shoppers have gathered to listen to a Salvation Army carol concert when a shot rings out and one of the singers falls to the floor, dead. A press photographer has caught a suspect on one of the photos of the concert. Beate Lønn, the identification expert, is confused by how the face can change from one photo to the next. Inspector Harry Hole's search for the faceless man takes place on the seamy side of the city, among those who seek eternal—or just momentary—redemption. But when the assassin discovers that he's shot the wrong man, Harry finds his troubles have only just begun.

jo nesbo harry hole: New Harry Hole Thriller Jo Nesbo, 2019-06-11 HARRY HOLE IS BACK! READ THE OPENING CHAPTERS OF THE BLISTERING NEW THRILLER KNIFE FROM THE NUMBER 1 BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF THE SNOWMAN AND THE THIRST AHEAD OF PUBLICATION. 'Nesbo is one of the best thriller writers on the planet' Daily Express HARRY HOLE IS ABOUT TO FACE HIS DARKEST CASE YET. Harry is in a bad place: Rakel has left him, he's working cold cases and notorious rapist and murderer Svein Finne is back on the streets. THE FIRST KILLER HARRY PUT BEHIND BARS IS OUT TO GET HIM. Harry is responsible for the many years Finne spent in prison but now he's free and ready to pick up where he left off. A MAN LIKE HARRY BETTER WATCH HIS BACK. When Harry wakes up with blood on his hands, and no memory of what he did the night before, he knows everything is only going to get worse . . . *JO NESBO HAS SOLD OVER 40 MILLION BOOKS WORLDWIDE* The phenomenal twelfth instalment in Jo Nesbo's internationally bestselling crime fiction series.

jo nesbo harry hole: The Snowman Jo Nesbø, 2010 The night the first snow falls a young boy wakes to find his mother gone. He walks through the silent house, but finds only wet footprints on the stairs. In the garden looms a solitary figure: a snowman bathed in cold moonlight, its black eyes glaring up at the bedroom windows. Round its neck is his mother's pink scarf.

jo nesbo harry hole: The Devil's Star Jo Nesbo, 2010-03-09 Oslo is sweltering in the summer heat when a young woman is murdered in her flat. One finger has been cut off and a tiny red diamond in the shape of a pentagram—a five-pointed star—is found under her eyelid. Detective Harry Hole is assigned the case with Tom Waaler, a colleague he neither likes nor trusts. He believes Tom is behind a gang of arms smugglers—and the murder of his partner. But Harry, an off-the-rails alcoholic, is barely holding on to his job and has little choice but to play nice. Five days later, another woman is reported missing. When her severed finger is found adorned with a star-shaped red diamond ring, Harry fears a serial killer is on the loose. Determined to find the killer and expose the crooked Tom Waaler, Harry discovers the two investigations melding in unexpected

ways. But pursuing the truth comes at a price, and soon Harry finds himself on the run and forced to make difficult decisions about a future he may not live to see. One of the brightest stars of Scandinavian crime writing, Jo Nesbø has been compared to Ian Rankin, Michael Connelly, and Henning Mankell. His novels are bestsellers throughout Europe, acclaimed by critics and revered by aficionados of thrillers and mysteries. Brilliantly plotted and paced, *The Devil's Star* shows Nesbø at his absolute best, combining powerful emotional resonance with truly stunning suspense.

jo nesbo harry hole: *Knife* Jo Nesbo, 2019-07-09 INTERNATIONAL BESTSELLER • Brilliant, audaciously rogue police officer Harry Hole from *The Snowman* is back and in the throes of a new, unanticipated rage in this installment of the New York Times bestselling series—once again hunting the murderer who has haunted his entire career. “I can’t think of anyone who makes my skin crawl like Nesbo.”—*The New York Times Book Review* Harry Hole is not in a good place. Rakel—the only woman he's ever loved—has ended it with him, permanently. He's been given a chance for a new start with the Oslo Police but it's in the cold case office, when what he really wants is to be investigating cases he suspects have ties to Svein Finne, the serial rapist and murderer who Harry helped put behind bars. And now, Finne is free after a decade-plus in prison—free, and Harry is certain, unreformed and ready to take up where he left off. But things will get worse. When Harry wakes up the morning after a blackout, drunken night with blood that's clearly not his own on his hands, it's only the very beginning of what will be a waking nightmare the likes of which even he could never have imagined.

jo nesbo harry hole: *Cockroaches* Jo Nesbo, 2014-06-03 In the second installment of the Harry Hole series, Detective Harry Hole arrives in a steaming hot Bangkok. But it's work, not pleasure. The Norwegian ambassador has been found dead in a seedy motel room, and no witnesses have come forward. The ambassador had close ties to the Norwegian prime minister, and to avoid a scandal Harry is sent there to hush up the case. But he quickly discovers that there is much more going on behind the scenes and very few people willing to talk. When Harry lays hands on some CCTV footage that will help him unravel what happened that night, things only get more complicated. The man who gave him the tape goes missing, and Harry realises that failing to solve a murder case is by no means the only danger in Bangkok. But in an unfamiliar city, who can you trust?

jo nesbo harry hole: *Knife* Jo Nesbo, 2020-06-02 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER WINNER OF THE RIVERTON PRIZE Brilliant, rogue police detective Harry Hole—at the centre of 11 bestselling crime novels including *The Snowman* and *The Thirst*—is back and once again hunting the mastermind killer who has haunted his entire career. This time his reasons are intensely personal. Harry Hole is not in a good place. Rakel—the only woman he's ever loved—has kicked him out, permanently. He's been given a chance for a new start with the Oslo Police, but it's in the cold case office, when what he really wants is to be investigating cases he suspects have ties to Svein Finne, the serial rapist and murderer Harry helped put behind bars. Finne is free after a decade in prison and Harry is certain he has taken up where he left off. But things will get worse. When Harry wakes up the morning after a drunken night with blood on his hands that's clearly not his own, it's the beginning of what will be a waking nightmare the likes of which even he could never have imagined.

jo nesbo harry hole: *Killing Moon* Jo Nesbo, 2023-05-30 GLOBE AND MAIL and NEW YORK TIMES Bestseller! Harry Hole is an all-time great character...a 100% buy-today-read-tonight delight!—Lee Child, author of the #1 bestselling Jack Reacher series Nesbo is back on gruesome form—*Financial Times* In the 13th novel in this internationally bestselling series, brilliant rogue police investigator Harry Hole is back, this time as an outsider assembling his own team to help find a serial killer. Two young women are missing in Oslo. Strangers to each other, but last seen at the same party. When the body of one of them is found with fresh stitches along her hairline, the hunt is on to find a murderer with singular compulsions. Catching this criminal calls for a detective with a singular mind: Harry Hole. But Harry is gone: fired from the police force and down and out in Los Angeles. It seems like nothing can entice him back home—until someone close to him comes under threat. Now the clock is ticking, for Harry's friend and for the missing woman. Can Harry cobble

together a team good enough to help him catch an ingenious psychopath before the body count rises? The hunt will push him to the limit.

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