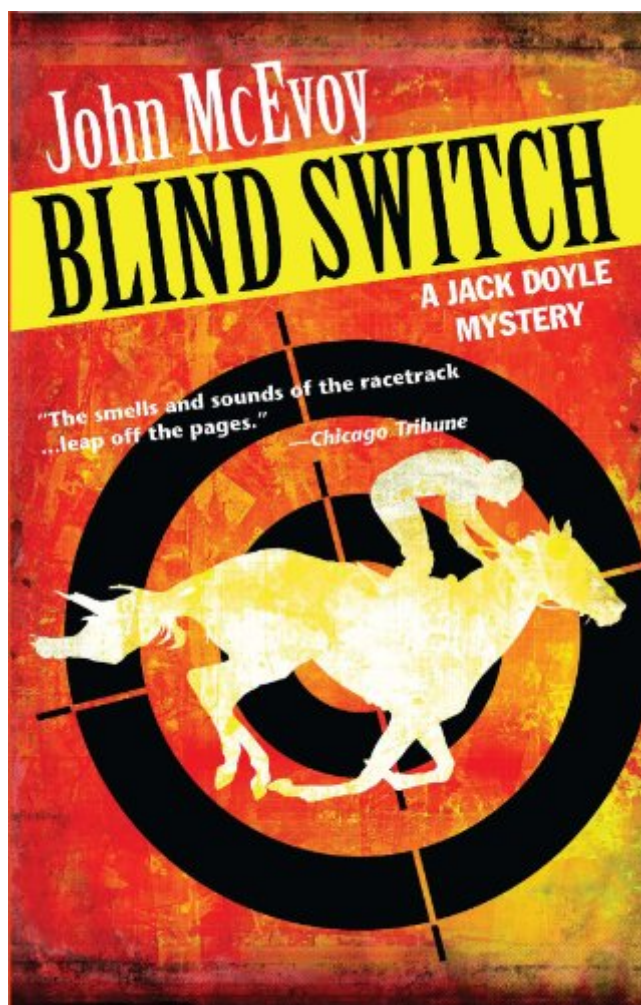


The book was found

Blind Switch: A Jack Doyle Mystery (Jack Doyle Series Book 1)



Synopsis

One-time amateur boxer Jack Doyle, an irreverent and rebellious advertising account representative, goes to work one fine Chicago day and finds his desk "and his job" both gone. A two-time loser at the marriage game as well, Doyle, usually ultra-confident, fishes himself out of a bottle to take stock, realizing, "with a thumping finality, that Life sure as hell did have his Number and was crunching it." At loose ends, Doyle accepts a most unusual offer from an acquaintance, Moe Kellman, to fix a horse race. The context of making the deal, a Cubs game at storied Wrigley Field, sets the tone for the drama that follows. Thus begins a chain of events that will lead the FBI to Doyle's door where they "coopt" him into a quest after people who are maiming or killing thoroughbred horses for their insurance values. Their number one target is a loathsome media mogul who can't bear to lose "at anything." Built upon recent factual events, spiced with satire and peppered throughout with engaging loonies, *Blind Switch* is a noteworthy first novel with a hero forced to ask in its ultimate line, "Where have I gone right?"

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I might buy another one of these if I was stuck in an airport and out of reading material. Not awful but certainly not all that good. I vacillated between two and three stars so let's just call it three and a half. The protagonist is on the amoral side which makes it hard to root for him. I also found it hard to suspend disbelief at the antics of the bad guys. The character development was skimpy. Why does the rich bad-guy do what he does? And the characters in the subplot were just silly and P.C. which I found eye-roll worthy. That being said, the writing style was easy to read. So I won't go out of my way to read another in the series but might read another one if it fell into my lap.

The story was a good story. It started a little slow because it jumped back and forth a lot from chapter to chapter between characters to set up all the aspects of the problem. The reason I didn't really like it, though, was because there were some scenes that described more of the bedroom scenes than I care to read about. I like to have more left to the imagination in that area. I don't know descriptions. I kept reading, though, because I was interested in how it ended. But, I deleted it from my library. I don't think I'll ever want to read it again and I probably won't read anymore John McEvoy books. Dick Frances he is not.

This was almost an engaging book for a fun light read to give a few laughs. But about halfway through it becomes tedious to find McEvoy is writing as though he has to get by a political correctness censor and can only choose villains or goofballs from the approved "others" categories. If the PC had been left out I'd probably read more of his work but he isn't good enough to entice me in spite of it.

I love books that deal with horses. I especially look forward to those which deal with horse racing. Add to that setting a hero with some serious defects in his character, an interesting scenario which puts him on the side of the angels, several villains whom you will love to hate, some people you will genuinely care about and a generous sprinkling of serious nut cases and you have a very readable, thoroughly enjoyable first novel by John McEvoy. I have read most of the writings of the late, great Dick Francis and in my judgment, references to his writings in comparison to this story is comparing apples to oranges. Both authors have an interesting way of telling their story, but there is little comparison to how they go about it. This is a story that will hold your interest, tickle your funny bone and satisfy your sense of justice. That's a trifecta worth betting on!!

Half of the book doesn't even follow Jack Doyle at all, I guess he is somewhere in the background, and the sequencing of events is very confusing.

Blind Switch has good character development and a very interesting story. The characters are developed such that the "bad guys" are truly bad guys and you root against them. Moe is the one guy that it is hard for me to decide if he is bad or good and that brought some intrigue to this story. The story had a good pace and the description of the horse world was accurate. I look forward to reading more from this author.

Complicated plot line about an interesting subject but the author occasionally left out transitional details. Even so, I enjoyed it.

It's okay, but it was recommended as a book I might like because I read Dick Francis. I don't think it compares well.

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