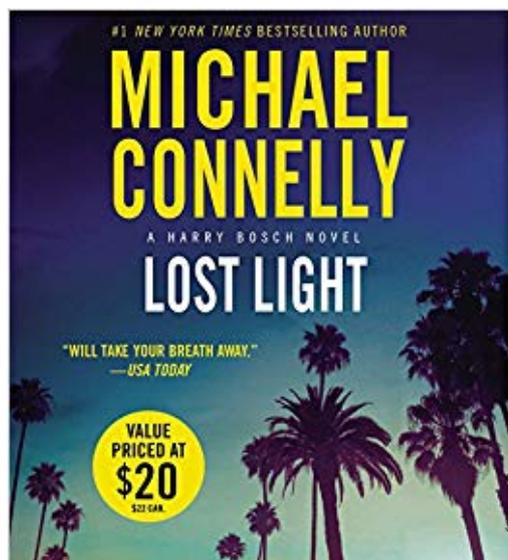


Lost Light by Len Cariou, Michael Connelly



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The vision has haunted him for four years--a young woman lying crumpled in death, her hand outstretched in silent supplication. Harry Bosch was taken off the Angella Benton murder case when the production assistant's death was linked with the violent theft of two million dollars from a movie set. Both files were never closed. Now retired from the L.A.P.D., Bosch is determined to find justice for Angella. Without a badge to open doors and strike fear into the guilty, he's on his own. And even in the face of an opponent more powerful and ruthless than any he's ever encountered, Bosch is not backing down.



Reviews of the Lost Light by Len Cariou, Michael Connelly

Xwnaydan

Harry Bosch is not a cop anymore but he acts like one in this book. He's retired from the LAPD and is haunted by a four year old murder case that was never solved. Having nothing better to do he reopens the case and starts a new investigation. In doing so, he runs up against FBI agents and night club owners who want him to keep his nose out of their respective businesses. Besides the unsolved murder, there is the matter of some two million dollars in cash that went

missing from a movie set. This is one of the items in the story that I thought was a bit "over the top." The movie's director wanted to show real money in the film which caused all kinds of extra work and security measures that were eventually found to be ineffective. The other item involved an attack on Harry by a group of four suspects which took place in the darkness. No problem for Harry, thanks to his Viet Nam tunnel experience dealing with the VC.

Harry also has a personal problem that vexes him: the absence of his ex-wife, Eleanor Wish, whom he misses dearly. Eleanor has been so successful playing poker in Las Vegas that she now has financial backers. He gets over to Las Vegas several times to see her and, in one touching scene, answers a question I've had on my mind for several years.

It's a good read and the complex plot makes you pay close attention.

Gerceytone

I've been reading these books since the first Season of Bosch on Amazon. These are just so good. The books and the show are related, but they are different Harrys. I think I like the book version much better.

It's hard to believe Harry Bosch has retired. But now he can investigate the cases he chooses. This one is a doozy. It's a cold case and it involves a bank heist, a missing FBI agent, and an anti-terrorism squad.

Harry Bosch is an excellent detective and these stories are rich in detailed characters and vivid scenes. Very poignant at the end. It's okay to cry.

Zeuli

I accidentally discovered Michael Connelly's books a couple of months ago. Then I began watching the series Bosch on Amazon and I was hooked. Detective Bosch isn't a lovable Columbo-type ruffled detective. He is driven, tough, and he has had his share of tough times in his life. But underneath that exterior is a man searching for the truth and bringing justice all crime victims want. I am currently reading Echo Park and, like the dozen or so novels left, am enjoying every minute of my reading pleasure. I am also awaiting tonight's Series Three premiere.

Zbr

There are so many times in this novel when it seems that Harry will not be able to solve this case from the past because of pressure from the LAPD, the FBI, former colleagues, and just about any other powers that operate in Los Angeles. Harry is retired in this one, and it is written in First Person, so we are in Harry's mind throughout. Some of the characters were introduced in earlier novels, as well as some of Harry's former colleagues. All of them add to the excitement and suspense right up to the last three chapters where the case is solved, and Harry goes back to Las Vegas unannounced to see his ex-wife, Eleanor, and get the surprise of his life. The plot twists are everywhere, and Harry has one of the most dangerous fights of his life with the perps in this case. It is one of the best of the Bosch series!

Dynen

This was another Harry Bosch book. It's such a good story; twists and turns right up to the finish. It's good to read the books in sequence so you can follow Harry's life in the LA police department and in the cases that he works after retirement. With every book, I like him more; he's such a good human being, but a pit bull on a murder case until he solves it, and he solves every one of them, taking you along for the ride.

Connelly is such a good writer; he knows LA well as he describes the streets and freeways Bosch travels in his quest to solve a crime. He also gives you an insider's look at the politics of the LA police department and their relationship with the FBI and Homeland Security. I have read almost all of the books now and this is a very good one.

snowball

I have dedicated this summer to reading nothing but mystery novels, and I am loving it! Case in

point:

Harry Bosch, in Michael Connelly's "Lost Light", is now retired from the LAPD, and yet his search for the truth still compels him. In this case, the theft of \$2 million dollars from a movie set and the trail of corpses before, during and after the violent robbery is the focus of Harry's investigative skills. In particular, the cold-blooded murder of Angella Benton, an employee of the movie studio, is haunting him and has been for years. As always, Connelly's writing moves well-beyond expertise and craftsmanship; it is an art. I have finally come to realize that there are few as good (and none better) at the genre than Michael Connelly.

The mystery and action elements aside, "Lost Light" is a great read for other reasons. Fans of the Harry Bosch series may be jarred by the use, for the first time, of the first-person narrative. Although Harry's voice had been so close to the third-person narrator's voice (or is it vice-versa?) in previous installments, we get Harry's immediate responses--his spontaneous reactions--to comments and situations that were only reported in other novels, leaving us to decipher the feelings behind them. This new approach worked well here.

Another intriguing element here, and I believe it has much to do with the title and its explication toward the end of the novel, is the exploration of the gray area, the clouded, unclear directions that life presents us. In Connelly's "Angel's Flight", Bosch realizes that angels can fly both ways: they can ascend to heaven or become fallen angels. It's one way or the other. In "Lost Light" Bosch realizes that things are not that simple. He muses that there is a Paradise Road in LA but also a Devil's Punch Bowl. "There is no sign leading to Paradise Road," Harry realizes. Paradise may have no roadsigns but the path to The Devil's Punch Bowl is just as tricky. While LA may be the City of Angels, Bosch is all too familiar with its evils. Yet, Las Vegas--one of America's largest "Sin Cities"--holds what may be the key to Bosch's paradise. The novel is filled with such dichotomies.

Sad, to say, my summer of reading mystery novels exclusively is coming to an end. But I could think of no better novel than "Lost Light" to cap it off.

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