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Donna Leon

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#226735 in Books Leon Donna 2016-03-08Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 8.20 x .80 x 5.50l, .0 #File Name: 0802124879256 pagesFalling in Love | File size: 75.Mb

Donna Leon : Falling in Love: A Commissario Guido Brunetti Mystery before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Falling in Love: A Commissario Guido Brunetti Mystery:

24 of 26 people found the following review helpful. Not FALLING IN LOVE quite as much as I hopedBy Corgi LoverI have been on a Donna Leon binge the past nine months and read all of her Guido Brunetti novels and been dazzled by the insights, the psychological detail, the complexity of characters and their actions and the native's view of Venice. FALLING IN LOVE is the first time I've been disappointed. The villain of this particular novel is not given the intelligence and creativity to pull off the things that are pulled off. In fact the villain is rather a dullard who doesn't understand things said or done to the villain. Anyway, I'm grateful to Ms. Leon for Detective Brunetti, his family and his co-workers and the rich world she made for them to inhabit.A pet peeve: In ALL of the novels at the beginning there is a quote from a libretto of a famous opera. Ms. Leon always credits the composer but never the actual librettist who wrote the words. A sad thing for a writer to do.2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Loved this insight into an artist's world and Brunetti's...By Loves2ReadI read this latest Leon novel in one day. It is not as detailed and intricate with plot as some of her others are. But it contains what most ardent fans love about her characters and the world they inhabit...Guido is given the opportunity to made contact with a woman from his first case--the opera star--who in this novel has become heterosexual and a rather nicer person than the imperious opera star she was earlier. We get to see Paola's mother and father (always enjoyable) and a couple of glimpses into Guido's family life with the always interesting wife of his. Food is not given as much emphasis as many other novels since the action is more compressed. But we find out more about Brunetti and how he values his friends.I found this book one of the least imaginative -- the idea of a famous, beautiful, and charismatic star being stalked is not new...but the way that Leon has delved into her past history and build something new out of her first novel proves how she has grown as a writer. The natural flow of language, the economy of description and yet quality of insight--the irony that Brunetti (and most of his friends) displays regarding the shambles that life in Venice involves and the inability to change the city's ways or desist in loving it mimics to certain extent the stalker's own unstoppable love for someone who doesn't love back...and the opera star's own addiction to her craft...as she said--if it weren't for the music, none of the performers would continue because there are so many aspects that create disharmony creating pleasure for others.So, too, might Leon feel about her own capacity and addiction for writing...A very interesting insight into the working world of an artist...And while there have been some of her latter novels, I thought were not that good. This one I enjoyed even though it was not that developed (no long mystery, no large cast of characters, not lot of travel within the

city or Italy itself) and hope that in a year or so another will appear to be savored...Some writers have failed to maintain their quality--very disappointed with Elizabeth George's Lindley novels--but Donna Leon still manages to enthrall...1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Among Leon's bestBy J. LewisUnlike many mystery writers who continue to churn out stories that are increasingly formulaic, Donna Leon, with only one or two exceptions, improves her craft with each new book. Thus *Falling in Love* is one of her best.Flavia, the opera singer who was at the center of Leon's first book, *Death at La Fenice*, reappears here. She is no longer a suspect, but a victim of a stalker.The story unfolds against the background of Puccini's *Tosca*, which plays a central role, and the beauty and politics of Venice. As usual, Guido Brunetti's duels with his boss, Vice-Questore Patta, aided by the efficient and enigmatic Signorina Elettra, provide the comic relief, which in this case comes close to being side-splitting.Great fun!

Donna Leon's *Death at La Fenice*, the first novel in her beloved Commissario Guido Brunetti series, introduced readers to the glamorous and cutthroat world of opera and one of Italy's finest living sopranos, Flavia Petrelli—then a suspect in the poisoning of a renowned German conductor. Years after Brunetti cleared her name and saved the life of her female American lover in *Acqua Alta*, Flavia has returned to Venice and *La Fenice* to sing the lead in *Tosca*, and Brunetti has tickets to an early performance.The night he and his wife, Paola, attend, Flavia gives a stunning performance to a standing ovation. Back in her dressing room, she finds bouquets of yellow roses—too many roses. Every surface of the room is covered with them. An anonymous fan has been showering Flavia with these beautiful gifts in London, St. Petersburg, Amsterdam, and now, Venice, but she no longer feels flattered. A few nights later, invited by Brunetti to dine at his in-laws' palazzo, Flavia confesses her alarm at these excessive displays of adoration. Brunetti promises to look into it. And when a talented young Venetian singer who has caught Flavia's attention is savagely attacked, Brunetti begins to think that Flavia's fears are justified in ways neither of them imagined. He must enter in the psyche of an obsessive fan before Flavia, or anyone else, comes to harm.

Praise for *Falling in Love*A New York Times BestsellerA Midwest Independent Booksellers Association Indie BestsellerA National Indie Bestseller“Donna Leon's first love is opera. . . . So choosing Teatro La Fenice for the setting of *Falling in Love*, her latest mystery featuring the erudite and oh-so-sympathetic Commissario Guido Brunetti, makes this elegant novel something of a mash note to a longtime lover. . . . The audacious investigation, conducted by Brunetti's confederate Signorina Elettra, into the psychology of stalkers is thorough and illuminating. But for opera buffs, going backstage at Teatro La Fenice is the real treat.”—New York Times Book “[A] widely admired series . . . Brunetti is unfailingly good company, and when he isn't . . . he is wonderfully refreshing.”—Chicago Tribune“*The ever-incredible Leon's 24th* stunning entry in her stellar mysteries featuring Commissario Guido Brunetti brings the series full circle, revisiting Venice's Teatro La Fenice. . . . Another provocative addition to a fine series, certain to appeal to aficionados of profound literary mysteries such as Louise Penny's *How the Light Gets In*.”—Library Journal (starred review)“For many fans, the high points in Leon's beloved Guido Brunetti series have been the two novels featuring opera diva Flavia Petrelli Now, finally, Flavia returns Best of all, the reappearance of Flavia gives Leon the opportunity to display her deep love of music and to construct a marvelous climactic scene between Flavia and her fan that parallels the finale of *Tosca*. Brava!”—Booklist (starred review)“Leon's devoted readers love her books for their juicy mystery plots, and also for the rich and varied cast of recurring characters, among which is the city of Venice itself. . . . Leon's evildoers are not psychopathic serial killers or rapists. . . . [She] delves into the more interesting territory of moral corruption, in all its forms.”—Publishers Weekly (author profile)“Commissario Guido Brunetti returns to La Fenice for another dramatic encounter with the diva Flavia Petrelli . . . there are the usual pleasures of following Brunetti as he walks around the city he knows like the back of his hand.”—Kirkus s“Splendid . . . Leon makes us feel [Venice's] magic, taste it, smell it . . . *Falling in Love* is altogether a bravura accomplishment.”—Open Letters“Another entertaining installment in one of mystery fiction's most consistent series.”—Bookreporter.com“Leon . . . infuses even predictable scenes with fresh vitality, employing her subtle wit and psychological acuity to make well-loved characters freshly engaging. . . . [the] finale is engrossing and oddly moving; a fitting end to a Brunetti thriller that is also a rare portrait of an artist and her art.”—Barnes Noble “[A] captivating series . . . [Falling in Love] offers the usual combination of mystery and dread.”—Toronto Star“Thrilling . . . Readers will not be disappointed. Whether you've solved cases with Brunetti from the start or are a first time guest, this book will hold you spellbound [Falling in Love] will grab you from the first page, keep you on the edge of your seat, and leave you breathless while yearning for more, as if you've just witnessed a spectacularly powerful performance at the opera.”—Killer Nashville

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