

# Unraveling the Mystery of Thieves Dozen: The Dortmund Novels 12

Are you a fan of crime novels that transport you into the captivating world of intricate heists, charismatic criminals, and unexpected twists? Look no further than the Thieves Dozen, the twelfth installment of The Dortmund Novels series by Donald E. Westlake. In this article, we will delve into the fascinating world of this gripping book, exploring its plot, characters, and the influence it has had on the crime fiction genre.

## Introducing Thieves Dozen: An Overview

Thieves Dozen picks up where the previous novels in the series left off, following the lovable yet hapless master criminal, John Dortmund, and his motley crew of accomplices. Westlake's unique writing style combines suspense, humor, and a touch of irony to create a thrilling narrative that keeps readers on the edge of their seats.

The novel revolves around Dortmund's ambitious plan to steal a priceless collection of twelve rare gold coins known as the Romanov Twelve. However, as the crew embarks on their daring mission, they soon find themselves entangled in a web of deception, double-crosses, and unexpected obstacles. Will Dortmund and his gang overcome these challenges and succeed in their heist, or will their plans crumble like a house of cards?

### Thieves Dozen (The Dortmund Novels Book 12)

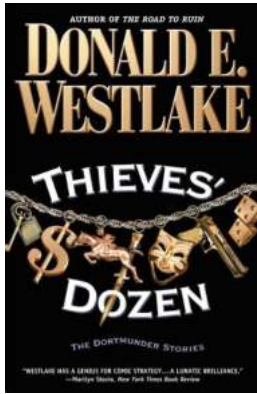
by Donald E. Westlake (Kindle Edition)

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 628 KB

Text-to-Speech : Enabled



Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 206 pages



## The Characters: A Colorful Mix of Criminals

One of the undeniable strengths of The Dortmunder Novels series is Westlake's ability to create compelling characters that resonate with readers. Thieves Dozen is no exception, introducing a diverse cast of criminals—each with their distinct quirks and talents.

Let's start with Dortmunder himself, a career criminal with a penchant for planning meticulously and a perpetual streak of bad luck. Despite his serious demeanor, Dortmunder's character is layered with a dry wit and a sliver of compassion, making him an endearing protagonist. Joining him is his loyal right-hand man, Andy Kelp, a resourceful locksmith with a knack for gadgets and an uncanny ability to think on his feet.

The crew also includes Stan Murch, a gullible driver who often unintentionally becomes the source of comic relief, and Tiny Bulcher, a burly, but soft-hearted, mechanic who provides the muscle and a touch of unexpected tenderness. These characters, along with a host of other colorful criminals, come together to form a cohesive and entertaining crew whose dynamics drive the narrative forward.

## **The Influence on Crime Fiction**

Thieves Dozen, like the rest of The Dortmunder Novels, has had a profound impact on the crime fiction genre. Westlake's unique blend of humor, suspense, and intricate plotting has inspired countless authors who seek to recreate the captivating atmosphere of his books.

The witty banter between Dortmunder and his crew has become a trademark of the series and has been emulated by writers such as Carl Hiaasen and Elmore Leonard. Additionally, Westlake's ability to weave complex heists and outlandish situations has influenced authors like Daniel Silva and Dennis Lehane, who incorporate similar elements into their own works.

Thieves Dozen's legacy is further enhanced by its exploration of the human side of criminals. By humanizing characters who are typically portrayed as villains, Westlake challenges our perception of right and wrong. This nuanced approach to storytelling has been adopted by authors like Gillian Flynn and Lee Child, who explore the complexities of morality in their own crime fiction novels.

## **The Legacy of Thieves Dozen**

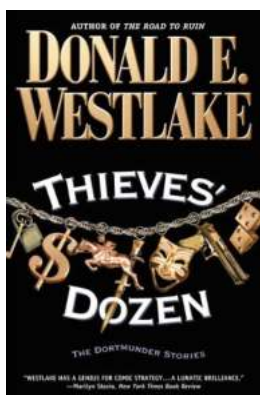
Thieves Dozen, as the twelfth installment in The Dortmunder Novels, marks a significant milestone in the series. With its intricate plot, witty dialogue, and compelling characters, it further solidifies Westlake's reputation as a master of the crime fiction genre.

As readers eagerly turn the pages of Thieves Dozen, they become immersed in a world where criminals are three-dimensional characters with relatable motivations and their stories unfold in unexpected, often humorous ways. The Dortmunder Novels series, with its twelve books, serves as a testament to Westlake's enduring creativity and ability to captivate readers.

## A Must-Read for Every Crime Fiction Fan

If you're a fan of crime fiction and haven't yet indulged in the exhilarating series of The Dortmunder Novels, Thieves Dozen is the perfect place to start. With its compelling storyline, well-crafted characters, and Westlake's distinct style, it is a book that will keep you hooked from beginning to end.

So, grab a copy of Thieves Dozen, prepare to embark on an unforgettable heist, and lose yourself in the gripping world of The Dortmunder Novels. Once you start this thrilling journey, you won't be able to put the book down!



### Thieves Dozen (The Dortmunder Novels Book 12)

by Donald E. Westlake (Kindle Edition)

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

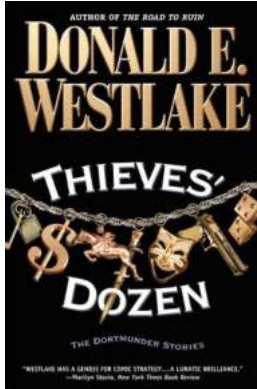
Language	: English
File size	: 628 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 206 pages



Featuring Donald E. Westlake's hapless hero, John Dortmunder, this original compilation of short stories ties in to Westlake's latest Dortmunder hardcover, The Road to Ruin.

It's all Dortmunder, all the time, in this long-awaited collection representing one of the finest achievements in crime fiction. Chosen from hundreds of stories and decades of work, this is the first time that Westlake has offered a compilation of his short form Dortmunder adventures, including "Ask a Silly Question," "Horse Laugh," "Too Many Crooks," "A Midsummer's Daydream," "The Dortmunder

Workout," "Party Animal," "Give 'Til It Hurts," "Jumble Sale," "Now What?," "Art and Craft," and "Fugue for Felons." Hailed as classics all, THIEVES' DOZEN will surely delight Westlake's ravenous fans.



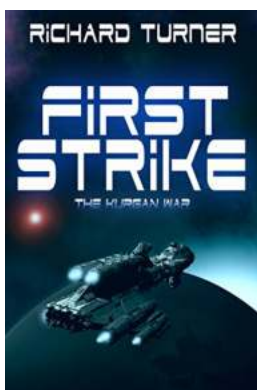
## Unraveling the Mystery of Thieves Dozen: The Dortmunder Novels 12

Are you a fan of crime novels that transport you into the captivating world of intricate heists, charismatic criminals, and unexpected twists? Look no further than the Thieves...



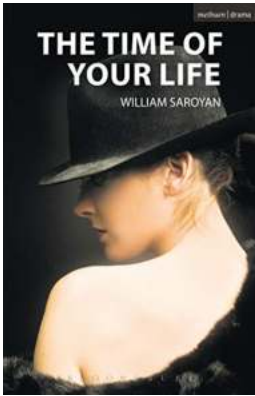
## Crooked As Dog Hind Leg Laura Fleming Mystery Unveiled - The Astonishing Twist That Will Leave You Speechless!

Prepare to be captivated as we delve into the perplexing case of the Crooked As Dog Hind Leg Laura Fleming Mystery. This mind-boggling enigma has left experts puzzled...



## First Strike The Kurgan War: A Thrilling Sci-Fi Adventure

In the vast realm of science fiction literature, 'First Strike The Kurgan War' stands out as an exhilarating saga that takes readers on a thrilling...



## **The Time Of Your Life: An Extraordinary Journey Through Modern Plays**

In the world of theater, there is an abundance of extraordinary plays that have left a lasting impact on audiences. Among them, "The Time Of Your Life" stands out as...



## **Tunnel Racers Robo Runners - The Ultimate Adventure!**

Are you ready for an adrenaline-pumping adventure like no other? Get ready to join Tunnel Racers Robo Runners, the latest sensation created by...



## **Unveiling the Majestic Patagonia Legend Of The Rockies: A Journey Like No Other!**

When it comes to jaw-dropping natural beauty, few places on Earth can rival the awe-inspiring majesty of Patagonia. Located primarily in Argentina and Chile,...



## **Super Manny Stands Up: A Hero Like No Other!**

Every child deserves a role model, someone they can look up to and be inspired by. Super Manny, the hero of Kelly DiPucchio's marvelous...



## **Lace Knitting Laurie Sharp: Unveiling the Exquisite Art of Needlework**

Lace knitting has long been revered as a delicate and intricate form of needlework that requires both skill and artistic flair. One name that has prominently emerged in the...