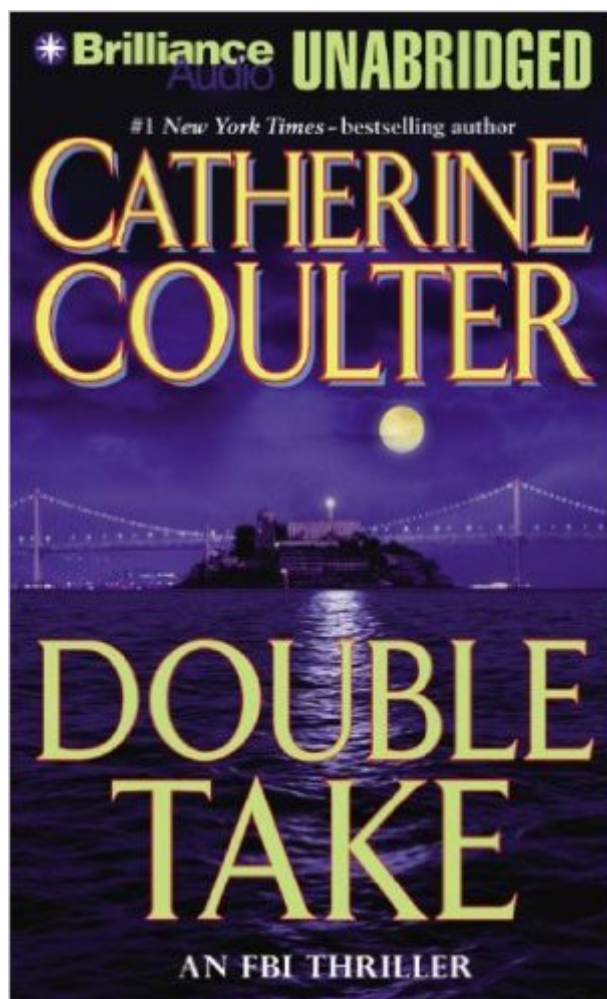


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Double Take (FBI Thriller)



Synopsis

The police are convinced that Julia Ransom was guilty of the brutal murder of her husband, renowned psychic August Ransom. But after six months of investigation and media frenzy, she is free of their scrutiny, because of the lack of evidence. One afternoon she walks from her Pacific Heights home to Fisherman's Wharf, alone, unwatched - and, she realizes, happy. Standing at the railing on Pier 39, she savors the sounds around her - tourists, countless seals on the barges - and for a moment enjoys the sheer normalcy of it all. It suddenly comes to an end when a respectable-looking man distracts her with conversation before striking her unconscious and heaving her over the railing into San Francisco Bay. If it weren't for Special Agent Cheney Stone, Julia would've drown. Cheney quickly realizes the attempt on Julia's life has to connect to the murder of her husband, and reopens the investigation with the SFPD. Meanwhile, in Maestro, Virginia, Sheriff Dixon Noble - last seen in Point Blank - learns about a woman named Charlotte Pallack, whose extraordinary resemblance to his vanished wife, Christie, gone for three years, sends him across the country. Although in his heart he knows that this woman can't possibly be his missing wife, Dix is compelled to see her with his own eyes. In San Francisco, Dix's and Cheney's paths cross, brought together by FBI Special Agents Dillon Savich and Lacey Sherlock. All four begin to unlock the mystery behind Charlotte Pallack's identity, as well as the forces behind Julia Ransom's attempted murder and the vicious murder of her husband. The most fascinating aspect of the case is the extraordinary cast of psychics they meet as they push deep into the intriguing and complex world of visions, mind benders, and communications to the dead. As the stakes and the body count rise, Savich, Sherlock, Dix, and Cheney fight for answers - and their lives.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I'm never quite sure about Catherine Coulter. I have at one point or another read all her books, starting way back when she just wrote historical romance. I enjoy her plots - I'm a person who loves series because I like to get to know characters, and she writes that part very well. I just can't ever get over how oddly her characters talk. It just always jars me to hear her characters' conversations where there aren't any contractions or the language seems so formal and stilted. That aside - and if you read her, I bet you know what I mean - this was a good installment. Without giving spoilers, a question gets answered from the last story. The ongoing characters are well developed and grow some, as people do. The plot is, well, over the top. I am both a mystery and a romance reader. I do NOT pick up the likes of Catherine Coulter, Linda Howard, Julie Garwood and their ilk for the realism of their police procedures. I go to Kathy Reichs, Linda Fairstein, Deborah Crombie and so on for that. This one, in particular, seems to throw all investigative technique out the window and relies nearly solely on the FBI folks' intuition and the ubiquitous Max. There is also (no surprise, I hope, since the book's about a psychic's widow) a strong supernatural element to this book, which may turn off readers like my grandmother, who loves authors like Coulter or Nora Roberts, but won't read any of their books that feature ghosts or witches or the like. Again, this is a series book. Most of us dedicated series readers will buy or read series books until the author makes some huge character mistake or the writing just goes completely into the toilet. So, if you read the FBI series, you'll probably want to read this, no matter what I say.

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