



The Woman From Prague

Rob Hart

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Amateur private investigator Ash McKenna's time is about to expire—on his visa, that is. Having fled the demons that haunted him in the U.S., Ash has been laying low in Prague for nearly three months. Now, it's time to move on. But as he contemplates his next stop, a man named Roman appears, claiming to work for the U.S. government, and possessing intimate knowledge of Ash's many sins. Sins nobody should know. Roman offers to protect him...in exchange for a favor.

It sounds simple: a bank employee named Samantha Sobolik is set to receive a package containing covert information in a handoff on the Charles Bridge. Ash must intercept the package, and deliver the contents to Roman. Ash refuses—until Roman threatens to kill his mother. Out of options and too far away to protect her, Ash agrees.

But when Ash gets to the bridge, he discovers that the handoff is actually a hit. Ash ends up battling a mysterious and deadly assassin in a fight he barely survives. As it turns out, the job is far more complicated and dangerous than anyone thought. Ash finds himself in a strange city, outmatched, hunted, and trapped in a dangerous game where nobody is what they seem—including Samantha. *The Woman From Prague* is a riveting novel of international suspense from one of the very best crime writers working today.

The Woman From Prague Details

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Author : Rob Hart

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From Reader Review The Woman From Prague for online ebook

Angie says

Five star action! I could not stop reading this! Seriously! The quick wit, the action, the mesmerizing settings, and the 'what could possibly happen next?' factor, kept me turning pages! Ash McKenna, while on life's sabbatical, is in Prague when he is approached by a man who offers him a job he can't refuse. He can't refuse because the man threatens to kill Ash's mother. And, the action begins. The man, Roman, orders Ash to recover something from a woman, Samantha. Ash and Samantha wind up joining forces and manage to stay half a step ahead of one bad ass female assassin and various goons, while trying to stay alive and recover something of value.

A great summer read! I received a PDF copy of the novel from the author in exchange for an honest review. I honestly dig it!

Elizabeth A. says

WARNING: This book is word crack. Do not start late at night or if you have anything pressing to do, because once you start you will not stop until you're finished. Crack, I tell you. You have been warned.

Melissa Joulwan says

I was drawn to this thriller because it's set in Prague, and the environment did not disappoint! It was fun to read about the streets I walk on every day and know the buildings that the trying-to-do-the-right-thing sorta-detective describes. It's a fun romp with double-crosses and a satisfying wrap-up.

Love the theme of returning to the "Moscow Rules" and the bits of history and lore sprinkled throughout.

Robert says

A good action adventure thriller. I can't quite give it 5 stars because it's an overdone genre, some plot holes, and not all mysteries are explained. Ash is a semi-bad guy who's done some good too. He escapes to Prague and tries to reform. A mysterious group forces him to steal something from a spy by using the "I'll kill your mother if you don't" threat. I don't know why they think he can take on a highly trained operative. The mission is aborted when an assassin from a third party shows up. The superspy woman protects Ash, uses him for info and belittles him. Nobody will tell him what is really going on and he doesn't know whose side to be on so he just lets it play out. The ending is satisfying if not preposterous.

B. Johnston says

My only complaint about this book is that I brought it on a plane (Newark to O'Hare) thinking I'd have something read for my flight out and my flight back home, but once I started it I couldn't put it down. I ended up reading the whole thing in one day and needed to find a new book for the flight home. Probably the best installment yet of the Ash McKenna series, can't wait for more from Rob Hart.

Jenni says

I loved New Yorked, so I was excited to read *The Woman From Prague*, especially with its international setting, something I always enjoy in a novel. This novel did not disappoint.

It is fast-paced, yet still allows the main character, Ashley McKenna, moments of introspection about his goals and the status of his life. When he teams up with Samantha, the woman he was supposed to take something of value from during a mysterious exchange, there is sizzling chemistry, full of potential violence, excitement, and/or romance.

With the help of Samantha and his best friend in Prague, Kaz, and with the threat of his mother's life in the balance, Ash works toward tying up all the threads that make up an entertaining tale.

I laughed at some of the situations Ashley finds himself in, worried over others, and kept my nails bitten to the quick until the resolution.

Lots to love in this novel, including great characterization, an intriguing setting, and a fast-moving plot.

I received an ARC copy of the novel from the author in exchange for an honest review.

Suz Jay says

“I don’t want to reach the end of my life and find I’m living in a trash can. More than that, I don’t want to reach the end of my life and feel like I didn’t actually live a life. Because what I’m doing right now isn’t a life. It’s the bare minimum of what’s required to keep food in my stomach.”

In *THE WOMAN FROM PRAGUE*, Ash McKenna evaluates all the life choices that have led him to Portland, Georgia, and finally to Prague. With his visa about to expire, he must determine his next move and everything appears to suggest he return home to New York, but first he needs to get his passport back. The man who took it threatened to harm Ash’s mother unless he steals a flash drive. Retrieving the drive turns out to be much more complicated than expected and nearly gets Ash killed. In the process, he considers his true calling and decides to return home.

Ash is a great protagonist. He always tries to do the right thing and ends up getting bruised and battered in the process. In this adventure, he does lots of soul searching and picks up some new skills.

As usual, Hart provides plenty of colorful characters for Ash to interact with. *THE WOMAN FROM PRAGUE* provides an engaging story and the perfect set up for the final book in the series.

Rory Costello says

I've read the first four books in this series now, and it's consistently intriguing. I know I'll be on board at some point for the fifth and concluding outing with Ash McKenna.

The markedly different settings of each adventure are a big plus, especially the way Rob Hart brings them to life so skillfully. What's more, the adventures themselves are just good entertainment. The fight scenes are terrific, and the dialogue between Sam and Ash is a lot of fun. Her putdowns would be withering for most characters, but Ash McKenna is nothing if not resilient -- both mentally and physically.

Yet Ash remains rooted in reality. I can think of series that have gone off the rails because the lead character becomes too much of an indestructible superhero. It becomes impossible to suspend disbelief. You don't get that here.

Alex says

Rob Hart is at the top of his game here, and it's really a sight to see. One of my favorite books of the year. With PRAGUE, Hart elevates his already-great Ash McKenna series and shows the world why he's one of the crime writers to watch in the coming years. It's a bravura performance, really. Preorder this book immediately. You will not be let down. While I'd suggest reading the first three Ash books because I love them, this novel can stand on its own, so don't hesitate to dive in because it's the fourth in the series.

Richard T. says

Ash McKenna is killing time in Prague when a man approaches and asks Ash to do a job for him. When Ash refuses, the man threatens Ash's mother. He soon finds himself up to his ears in deadly assassins, attractive spies and not-so-attractive henchmen. Author Rob Hart has a wonderful sense of pacing and an ear for dialogue. It's a cliche to say, "I couldn't stop reading." The truth is, I didn't want to stop reading. Whether you're familiar with Ash's exploits or a newcomer to this modern anti-hero, you will be delighted with the clever plotting and the equally sharp dialogue. If this isn't on your summer reading list, it should be.

Linda says

"Killing someone. I'll tell you what: It's good that you suffered. Means you still have a soul."

And Ash McKenna is suffering under the weight of circumstances beyond his control. He finds himself in Old World Prague that is now lined with New World technology. The neighborhood menu may boast of delicious pig knuckles, but crime and misfortune are served up and overflowing. Indigestion and fear become twin sisters that just don't seem to go away.

Ash McKenna, amateur private investigator, travels abroad at will until his visa is about to expire in Prague. He's been floating on a job that caters to apartment rentals and he's been known to clean a toilet or two in order to have a few coins in his pocket.

Just when Ash is packing his bags for home in the U.S., he's confronted by a dastardly figure by the name of Roman who sings a litany of Ash's dark transgressions of the past. A little blackmail goes a long way and Roman throws in a high-stakes card to up the ante. Either Ash will do a job for them or they will kill his mother. They've got his attention now.

Job #1 is to meet up with a young woman by the name of Samantha Sobolik on the Charles Bridge under the cover of darkness. He's to receive a USB flash drive containing some heavy duty information that he must turn over to Roman. A simple transaction? Not hardly.....just ask Ash how his facial features have changed after this run-in episode.

Rob Hart presents his main character of Ash McKenna as the Every Man of mystery/thrillers. He shifts gears constantly adapting to the life-threatening situations that seem to tumble out as each new door is opened. His reactions are priceless and he's forced to think rapidly on his feet. Problem solving is a completely new ballgame in Prague. He's got just enough past experience to keep him on the run and just enough bumbling attitude to keep him behind the eight-ball.

Hart knows how to lace his dialogue with humor. In reference to his encounter with Samantha: "She doesn't smile, doesn't reach for his hand. "She bites," I tell him." And the intrigue runs rampant in this one. Whom do you trust? Who's telling the truth? And, most of all, how do you escape from the rising body count?

I recently grabbed this one up not knowing that it is part of a series. It most definitely reads as a standalone. Ash's fast-paced journey through Prague is worth the price of admission. But now I may go back and check out Ash's early-on story. Some good stuff here, folks.

Leah Rhyne says

Ash McKenna is hiding from his past, but it just...keeps coming after him, in weird and unexpected ways.

He's doing better than when we last saw him in South Village. He's kicked his boozy ways to the curb, and he's working an oddball job in Prague, surviving and soaking in the beauty of an ancient city. Maybe he's starting to heal, after months of chaos and despair?

When a man claiming to work for a "secret government agency" shows up and threatens Ash's mom if Ash doesn't take a random spy-ish job for him, of course that all goes out the window. Ash finds himself teamed up with Sam, a bad-ass spy who you're never quite sure you can trust, and one of the best female characters I've read in a long time.

Together, can they navigate a world of European subterfuge? Or will Ash fall victim to the most terrifying assassin he's ever imagined?

As per usual, Rob Hart's prose is tight. It's exciting. The Woman from Prague will suck you in, chew you up, and spit you out, all while leaving you wanting more. This is Hart's best work, which is saying a lot, and you'd be remiss to leave this book off your summer reading list.

Gay says

This book is hard to put down. Ashley McKenna takes part in some shady deals in Prague and elsewhere, and he also thinks of himself as an amateur detective. He gets in over his head when someone blackmails him into meeting someone from whom he must obtain a document. Naturally, the meeting on the bridge does not go as planned and the story moves on from there with a helpful but very untrustworthy woman who is possibly an international spy or may even work for the US government. Ash is led into violent confrontations and a close call with a Russian agent who uses a shovel for a weapon. He trusts an associate to help him as much as he can... but he and the woman are living on the edge of incredible danger from the Russian agent... how can they get the document and the password? Do they have the nerve to go after the Russian spy and very possibly fail. And during all this, Ashley's mother will be murdered if the caper fails!

Sarah says

The best is saved for last. I'm a huge fan of the Ash McKenna series and didn't think I could love anything more than CITY OF ROSE, but this is hands down the best in the series. It's much different than the others for various reasons that are all good. First of all, it's an international spy thriller but not really. It's so much better. I'm not a big fan of spy thrillers but this is totally Ash McKenna. Ash doesn't pretend to be something he's not and feels out of his element alongside Samantha, the badass Czech superspy, which I appreciate. The cool spy gadgetry and "everyone is your enemy" mindset is just as overwhelming and dazzling for him as it is for the reader. This ties in to the second reason why I love this book. Ash isn't just the surly do-gooder we know and love. He's almost a "regular" person as he's struggling to make sense of his predicament in this James Bond-like world (although still delightfully surly.) I had no problem with Ash kind of taking a backseat to the enigmatic and deadly Sam while he scoped out the situation and did what he thought was best to protect his mother. The third reason I love this book was the setting. All of the Ash books have a unique location that shape the story but Prague is a whole different animal. It elevates the story into another stratosphere and no way could this have taken place anywhere else. I'm not sure if this is the final chapter in a fantastic addictive series, but if it is, Ash definitely went out with a bang.

Keenan Powell says

Ash McKenna is laying low in Prague where a sinister American and his two Czech thugs bust into his apartment with an offer Ash cannot refuse. Either Ash follows a certain blonde to a meeting where someone will give her something and he must rob her of that something, or bad things will happen to Ash's mother back in New York.

Ash had hoped he was done with criminal activity, even doing bad things for good reasons, but it is his mother, after all. So he follows the blonde to a 4 AM meeting on a deserted bridge. Before he has a chance to rob her, he is attacked by a stranger cloaked in black and narrowly escapes with his life but without the something.

Thus begins the adventure. Ash and Sam, the blonde, go on the run, and he quickly learns she isn't what she seems. She's tough and resourceful. Together, they try to find the something before Roman carries out his threat or the stranger in black finds them.

It's a cloak and dagger thriller. It's noir. Best of all, as Ash and Sam race from warrens to rooftops, it's a story that flows seamlessly told in a strong voice all its own.

The author provided an ARC of this book conditioned upon a honest review.

