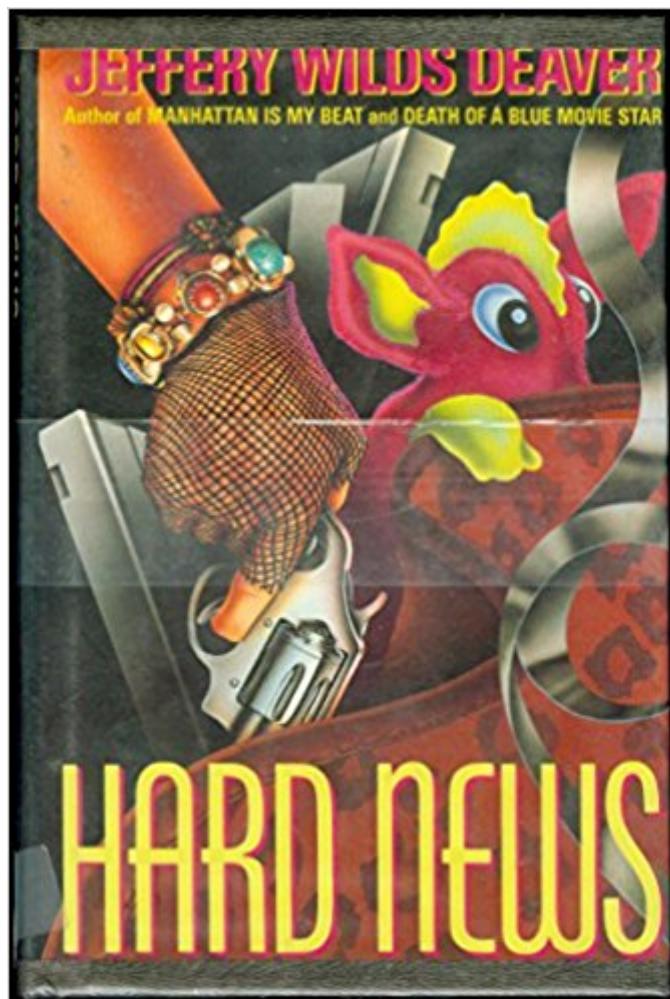


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## Hard News



## **Synopsis**

Rune seems to have finally made the first real step towards her dreams - she has secured a job working for a major network news department. From there, her career as a budding documentary maker can really take off. However, nothing in Rune's life is ever that simple. She quickly becomes fascinated by the brutal murder of the network boss, and just as swiftly comes to the conclusion that the guy in the frame for the crime must be innocent. This, despite the mountain of evidence against him. But, trying to prove his innocence starts to become hazardous to her own health when a hitman comes to town with her name on a contract...Full of twists and turns, and with a incredibly engaging central character, this is classic Deaver... --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

## **Book Information**

Hardcover: 308 pages

Publisher: Doubleday; 1st edition (November 1, 1991)

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## **Customer Reviews**

Rune, the shrewd and spunky heroine of *Manhattan Is My Beat*, returns with a new job as a camerawoman for a local TV news station, but she still believes in magic and lives by her own rules. Rune thinks that Randy Boggs, convicted killer of network news head Lance Hopper, is innocent, and she persuades network dragon lady Piper Sutton, the country's top news anchor, to let her investigate and produce a segment on the murder. Endearing, with lots of moxie but no experience, Rune learns the hard way as she blunders through the world of big-time investigative reporting, making mistakes and trusting the wrong people. She also has to act as a mother to her flaky friend Claire's three-year-old, Ophelia, when Claire runs off to Boston in search of a better life. Deaver's background as a journalist helps him to vivify the competitive, even back-stabbing caste system of

network news and to successfully depict the tedium as well as the excitement a reporter experiences when breaking a major story. He writes with clarity, compassion and intelligence, and with a decidedly human and contemporary slant. Copyright 1991 Reed Business Information, Inc.

After viewing a video of a convicted murderer, houseboat dwelling Rune ( Death of a Blue Movie Star , Bantam, 1990) decides the man is innocent; she then convinces her employer, Network News, to sponsor her investigation. Why Rune believes what she does remains inexplicable, which necessitates a great deal of persuasion on her (and the author's) part. Ultimately, Rune finds herself mixed up with the convict, her bosses, and a cute three-year-old. Despite its extended exposition, this tale of a news scoop gone wrong should appeal to fans. Copyright 1991 Reed Business Information, Inc.

This suspense filled and fast paced book is about a news employee who gets permission to do her first investigatory piece, resulting in the release from prison of the man convicted of killing the news company's president. While the real killer observes and plots, research and taped interviews are compiled for the story to run on the network's news program. The action is non-stop and events turn life upside down when the employee's home is destroyed in a fire that almost takes her life and that of the child her former room-mate unexpectedly left in her care. Deaver skillfully takes the reader on a fast and bumpy ride to a decent ending. This is not the usual Deaver murder mystery, and even though none of the usual characters who have our hearts are in this book, it's his creative mind that crafted it and it's good.

The story line moves pretty slow. The characters seem weak...this unlike most Jeffrey Deaver books. I am partial to the Lincoln Rymes collection.

The story in this book is very interesting, and moves very well, until the last part. The descriptions are good, the dialogue is good, and the writing just flows. That can't be an accident or a one time lucky thing. I cannot understand why a superb writer like this gets tired of his own book before it's finished. There must have been a deadline that was too short or something of the sort. At a certain stage of the action, and I mean right in the middle of some action, there suddenly comes a spate of explanations from one "goodguy" character who's holding a gun on two "badguy" characters, with the main character in the room also. Background and past actions are quickly described by this savior as if in a hurried summary. He's just doing a monologue, it seems. I don't think that would

happen in real life. It was very distracting in a book I was really enjoying. I hope to try another Deaver book, because I believe he's a good writer. I hope.

Even if a Deaver fan, and I've enjoyed some of his later works, this trilogy is hard to get behind. Very unfathomable heroine. How this bubble-headed young woman gets out of jam after jam just gets mind-boggling. Decided to buy all three and read back-to-back. Well, it was a commitment I couldn't wait to get through.

I am a Deaver fan, but this book did not hold my interest. The storyline dragged and there was no suspense.

Ryne is the type of character that you would like to meet in a controlled environment. She has tremendous strength and empathy and a wit that cuts like a knife. Makes a fun read.

If you have followed this series you can expect the same high quality continued story about this quirky upstart independent (most times) young adult who lives by her own accord. I really like the others in this series but thought this was the best yet. I hope Deaver continues this series!!

I was surprised by this book as it is the first non Lincoln book I have read. It was not all full of technical information and moved at a good pace. It was very enjoyable and a nice change. You will enjoy

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