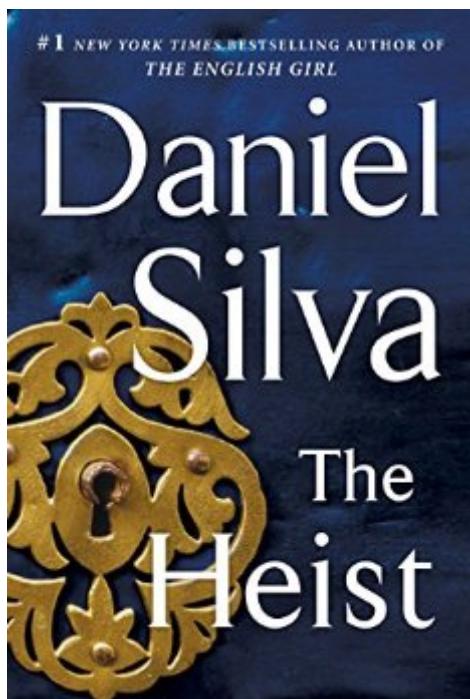


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# The Heist: A Novel (Gabriel Allon Series Book 14)



## **Synopsis**

Gabriel Allon, art restorer and occasional spy, searches for a stolen masterpiece by Caravaggio in #1 New York Times bestselling author Daniel Silva's latest action-packed tale of high stakes international intrigue. Sometimes the best way to find a stolen masterpiece is to steal another one . . . A Master novelist Daniel Silva has thrilled readers with sixteen thoughtful and gripping spy novels featuring a diverse cast of compelling characters and ingenious plots that have taken them around the globe and back "from the United States to Europe, Russia to the Middle East. His brilliant creation, Gabriel Allon "art restorer, assassin, spy "has joined the pantheon of great fictional secret agents, including George Smiley, Jack Ryan, Jason Bourne, and Simon Templar. Following the success of his smash hit *The English Girl*, Daniel Silva returns with another powerhouse of a novel that showcases his outstanding skill and brilliant imagination, and is sure to be a must read for both his multitudes of fans and growing legions of converts.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

In Daniel Silva's "The Heist," superspy Gabriel Allon takes time out from restoring a painting in

Venice to investigate the torture and murder of Jack Bradshaw, a former British diplomat and businessman. Allon is on the trail of stolen art, in particular an altarpiece by Caravaggio that has been missing for decades. As usual, Allon's inquiries involve visits to various countries--England, France, Germany, Austria, Switzerland, and Israel, among them. When he learns that the repressive Syrian regime is connected to his case, Allon and his crack team of Israeli agents set in motion a complex covert operation. There are few big surprises in this long-running series, but Silva has a devoted legion of fans for good reason. His "ripped-from-the headlines" themes resonate with those who have been following the turmoil and tragic slaughter in the Middle East. In addition, Silva brings the clandestine world of art theft and forgery out of the shadows, explaining how a great painting can be a valuable commodity, not just an object of beauty. As usual, Silva introduces a damsel in distress; this time, she is thirty-nine year old Jihan Nawaz, the sole survivor of a terrible massacre in the Syrian town of Hama. Veteran readers must be patient while the author recaps plot points for readers unfamiliar with Allon's past. Many of the usual suspects are present: an ailing Ari Shamron; the archaeologist and surveillance expert, Eli Lavon; Uzi Navot, the head of Israel's secret intelligence service, and his clever wife, Bella; "the English assassin," Christopher Keller; and Gabriel's gorgeous and brilliant wife, Chiara.

The Heist begins with a murder investigation surrounding a stolen painting then turns hard left in a plot twist that takes us on an international journey intertwined with multiple spy agencies. Along for the ride, Allon plots to pull off a heist to steal Van Gogh's Sunflowers in an attempt to expose the underground market of stolen masterpieces and clear the name of his friend. It is well known that Daniel Silva started his career as a journalist stationed in Africa and the Middle East and executive producer for CNN. You can easily tell throughout the Allon series that this international exposure gave him great insights and perspectives to make his storylines logical, realistic, and more importantly - timely. The Heist is a great addition to the Gabriel Allon series that builds on intrigue and suspense reminiscent of the earlier novels in the Jason Bourne and Jack Ryan series - only better! You'll agree, that Daniel Silva hit another homerun that is sure to keep you entertained to the final pages. \*\*\*\*\* **WARNING - POTENTIAL SPOILERS BELOW**

\*\*\*\*\* We begin with a murder investigation surrounding a stolen painting that quickly twists into a hunt for hidden assets of a Middle Eastern dictator. Our hero, agent for 'the Office', and resident bad-tail Gabriel Allon is working in Venice on a restoration project and awaiting the birth of twins with his wife, Chiara. While working on the Veronese altar piece, Allon is called (back) into action. Allon's friend, London art dealer Julian Isherwood, is being held

for the murder of an English diplomat after he finds the body in the victim's Lake Como villa.

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