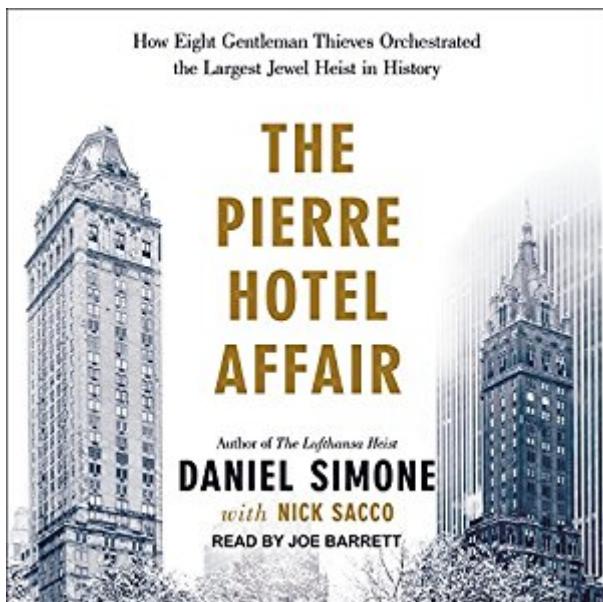


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The Pierre Hotel Affair: How Eight Gentleman Thieves Orchestrated The Largest Jewel Heist In History



Synopsis

New York City, 1972: Bobby Comfort and Sammy "the Arab" Nalo were highly skilled jewel thieves who specialized in robbing luxury Manhattan hotels. (They once robbed Sophia Loren's suite, relieving the Italian actress of over \$1 million in gems.) With the blessing of the Lucchese crime family, their next plot targeted the posh Pierre Hotel - host to kings and queens, presidents and aldermen, and the wealthiest of the wealthy. Attired in tuxedos and driven in a limousine, this band of thieves arrived at the Pierre and with perfect timing, they seized the security guards and, in systematically choreographed moves, they swiftly took the night staff - and several unfortunate guests who happened to be roaming around the lobby - as hostages. The deposit boxes inside the vault chamber were plundered and, after the intruders held the Pierre under siege for almost two hours, the gentlemanly thieves departed in their limousine with a haul of \$28 million. But then matters began to deteriorate. Comfort, Nalo, and their partners began to double and triple cross one another - two absconding to Europe with the bulk of the booty while three were murdered by their former associates.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

A fascinating crime, well described, but the overall effect is spoiled by gratuitously nasty racial descriptions. You have been warned

I devoured this. I read it, then I read it again, and now I want to read it for a third time. This book

takes such an interesting perspective on the true events. The way it's written is life-like. Simone catches the characters personalities, as well as their descriptions that you get a minds-eye visual. Just superb.

The true story of eight men and the largest jewel heist in history! My thanks go out to my contacts at Pegasus Books, Iris Blasi, Katie McGuire, and Maia Larson, for my copy of this book! Rock on! In early 1972, Samuel Nalo and Robert Comfort, an associate of the Lucchese Crime Family, Christie 'the Tic' Furnari, and other members of the gang carried out a robbery that has become legend! The target was the Pierre Hotel and \$3 million in cash and jewels. Previously, the pair had been involved in the theft of \$1 million in jewelry and cash from the Sherry Netherland Hotel, and major robberies/burglaries at other hotels including the Regency Hotel, the Drake Hotel, the Carlyle Hotel and the St. Regis. Nalo was a master planner and seemed to be the gang's leader, but Comfort was also a major organizer. In all, eight men joined together to make the assault on the riches held in the hotel's safety deposit boxes: the afore mentioned Nalo, Comfort, and Fumari, along with Fumari associate Robert Germaine, Ali Ben, Al Green, and Nick Sacco. Germaine dressed as a chauffeur and stayed outside as lookout. Entering the hotel dressed to the nines in tuxedos and using the name "Doctor Foster and party," the gang quickly rounded up hotel employees. After robbing the vault, the thieves gave each hotel employee a small amount of cash and fled into the night. This was the moment the plan began to fall apart. The planning and execution of this robbery and the breakdown of the gang as they turned on each other makes for some exciting reading. If I had one complaint about the book, it is that it goes into perhaps too much detail. I feel that perhaps forty pages could have been shaved off of the 402 page length. It's not boring, per se, but it could be tightened somewhat. This is just one man's opinion, you understand. All in all it was a satisfying read, and I will likely revisit the book at a later date! The book really brings out the characters, and that is perhaps better than the details of the crime! I give the book four stars! Quoth the Raven:

Even a perfectly planned heist can't account for the happening of unforeseen events that can foil the entire scheme and send you up the river. The Pierre Hotel Affair epitomizes this fact. However... it's not what happens, it's how one handles the monkey wrench thrown into the works. We learn in this super interesting novel that being able to roll with the unexpected separates two-bit thieves, from high-level crime figures. The reader also

becomes privy to the interrelationships and division of function that exist between felonious fellas of different skill sets. There are killers, jewel thefts, body disposers, numbers runners, gamblers, and most importantly, the brains of the operation. And we meet them all in Daniels triumphant novel. Some even have heart. But make no mistake, the likes of these crooks we meet on the journey Daniel Simone takes us on is not so nice; or trustworthy. How clever it was for Daniel to give us authentic insiders take on the largest jewel heist in history. The author pulled off a great job!

Very long story, I bought the CD to listen in my car as I made a 10 hour trip and still had over thirty chapters to listen to at the end of my journey. Finished about four hours later on my return home. Very interesting book and will listen to it again to get details I may have missed the first time. I would advise getting.

The story about the famous Pierre Hotel robbery in Manhattan has been long overdue. And Daniel Simone tells it beautifully. It's exciting and reads like a movie. Once you start reading it, you won't be able to put it down.

Just a really fun read if you are interested in the mob. I really enjoyed it.

Amazing story!!

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