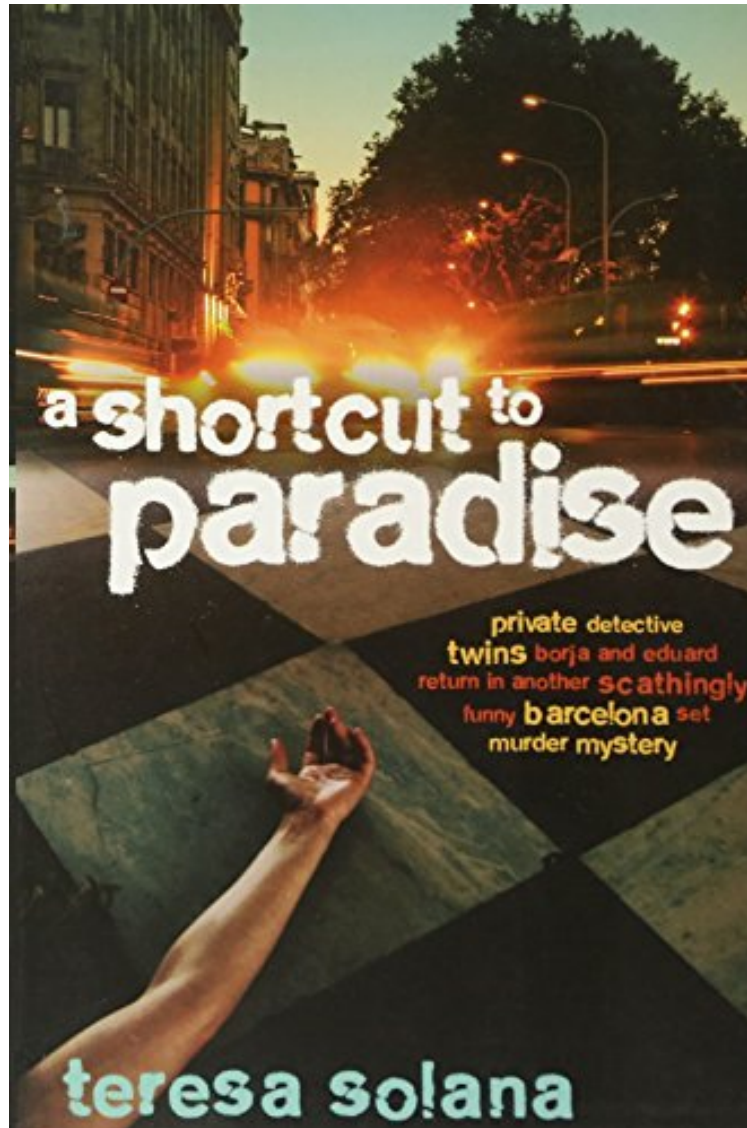


[Mobile ebook] A Shortcut to Paradise (The Borja and Eduard Barcelona Series)

A Shortcut to Paradise (The Borja and Eduard Barcelona Series)

Teresa Solana

*ebooks | Download PDF | *ePub | DOC | audiobook*



DOWNLOAD



+

READ ONLINE

#1187467 in Books Bitter Lemon Press 2011-02-15 Original language: English PDF # 1 7.75 x 1.13 x 5.251, .61 #File Name: 1904738559284 pages | File size: 45.Mb

Teresa Solana : A Shortcut to Paradise (The Borja and Eduard Barcelona Series) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Shortcut to Paradise (The Borja and Eduard Barcelona Series):

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Wacky literary mystery By Patto This is the second mystery featuring Eduard and Borja, totally dissimilar twins investigating crimes and misbehavior in Barcelona. Eduard is a plump, placid family man in love with his wife. His stylish brother Borja has assumed an aristocratic name, hangs out with rich people and has two girlfriends. Because Eduard is so lacking in elegance, Borja insists they keep their twinship a

secret. Their office is like a movie set, and their firm nonexistent for tax purposes. Lacking a detective license, they handle delicate inquiries for wealthy clients as "consultants." Now they've been hired by a novelist's agent to clear him of a murder charge. He's been accused of killing another novelist in a drunken rage right after she won an award. You'll never guess how the twins solve the mystery! Author Teresa Solana writes in Catalan, a language spoken in parts of Spain among other places. I'm grateful to Solana for making me aware of this language, which has been suppressed and is now enjoying a revival. Solana's characters are writing novels and poetry in Catalan. And they're an astonishingly disagreeable bunch of backbiters! Only the murder victim, a writer of crass bestsellers, is a nice person. For some reason, I'm always a bit put off when writers satirize the literary world. Too incestuous? But since nobody shares this prejudice of mine, I'm putting it aside in reviewing *A Shortcut to Paradise*. Solana deserves high marks just for inventing her nonstop funny Barcelona twins. And there are other deeply amusing characters in this book too. Solana's comic genius is rare and wonderful. Her first mystery, *A Not So Perfect Crime*, is quite perfect in my opinion. I strongly suggest reading it as a prelude to this book. Meanwhile, I hope the next mystery in the series is coming soon.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Really Good (And Funny) Crime Fiction From Barcelona
By Anne Mills
This is the second in an engaging series about two Barcelona brothers who run an under-the-radar enquiry agency, and I liked it better than number one. The big positive in the first novels -- the pair of brothers, Eduard Martinez and Borja Masdeu -- is still front and center, and even more interesting than they were the first time round. And this one adds two big plusses. The first is a pair of interesting mysteries. Who killed the lady writer? And how will the alibi for the prime suspect come to light? The second is a very funny take on the Catalan literary and university world. Somehow, a lot about it sounds very familiar, far from Catalonia.

0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. I LOVE Barcelona
By J. Penwell
Since Barcelona is one of my favorite stops on any trip to Europe and I also love mysteries, I was thrilled to find this series--got out my pics of Las Ramblas to accompany the story. I enjoyed it a lot but if you are a lover of the shoot 'em up type of thriller, this is probably not for you. However, if you love Donna Leon and her detective Brunetti, this is series that you will probably enjoy as much as I am. And if you are a Barcelona lover, you will learn a lot about the city and the culture as you follow the plot--something that I really enjoy. So, think cerebral not violent and beautiful European city with fascinating culture that permeates the story line and if that is something that you enjoy, you will definitely like this series.

Praise for Teresa Solana: "Solana's excellent novel, set in the streets and parlors of Barcelona, offers both probing social commentary and an excellent crime story."—Booklist
"Solana's sparkling novel pokes sharp fun at Catalan politics, society and pretensions. The brothers bumble and stumble to the truth and hopefully to further adventures."—Publishers Weekly
Marina Dolç, media figure and writer of bestsellers, is murdered in at the Ritz in Barcelona on the night she wins an important literary prize. The killer has battered her to death with the trophy she has just won. The detective twins Borja and Eduard are plunged into the murky waters of the bookish Barcelona scene and need all their wit and skills of improvisation to solve this case of truncated literary lives. As in *A Not So Perfect Crime*, Teresa Solana combines humor and roman noir in a critical portrait of contemporary society, in this case with writers as the protagonists. The murder trail leads to the most unlikely places in hilarious scenes worthy of Tom Sharpe, whether in the sausage-making town of Vic, the packed cells of the notorious Modelo prison, or a literary party where guests get high on loaded canapés.

Teresa Solana lives in Barcelona. Born in 1962, she studied philosophy and worked as a literary translator and essayist. She has written several novels kept quietly in her drawer. *A Not So Perfect Crime*, her first published title, won the 2007 Brigada 21 Prize for the best Catalan mystery novel.

From Publishers Weekly
Starred . The murder of popular novelist Marina Dolç on the very evening she receives the coveted Golden Apple Fiction Prize in Barcelona sets the stage for Solana's outstanding second mystery featuring unlicensed (and untrained) nonidentical twin detectives, Borja Masdeu and Eduard Martínez (after 2008's *A Not So Perfect Crime*). The arrest of Dolç's bitter rival, Amadeu Cabestany, quickly follows. Cabestany's literary agent hires Masdeu and Martínez to either prove Cabestany innocent or find the real killer. Solana brilliantly skewers the authors, agents, and critics who compose most of the suspects as well as the literary prizes they fight over. The odd but innocent Cabestany finds unexpected notoriety in prison while the detectives try various ploys, including a gathering of suspects à la Agatha Christie. A delightfully droll double-barreled denouement provides a perfect ending to this romp, which should earn its author consideration for the kind of award she so cleverly lampoons. (Mar.) (c) Copyright PWxyz, LLC. All rights reserved. "Teresa Solana's second novel, makes you laugh so much the tears soon start to roll. Solana shoots from the hip: against the guardians of culture; against endogamy in universities; against journalists and the press; against conceited critics and writers. Nobody is spared. The writer is pitiless when handing out brickbats, but also generous with reminiscences and memory. The bloodhound Lluís Arquer, who helps the detective twins, is in homage to the detective by the same name created by Jaume Fuster. The reconstruction of the crime scene takes us back to Agatha Christie and Hercule Poirot." *A* El País
About the Author
Teresa Solana lives in Barcelona. She was born there in 1962, studied philosophy at the University of Barcelona and worked as a literary translator and essayist. She has written several novels kept quietly in her drawer. Her first published novel, *A Not So Perfect Crime*, won the

2007 Brigada 21 Prize for the best crime novel written in Catalan.