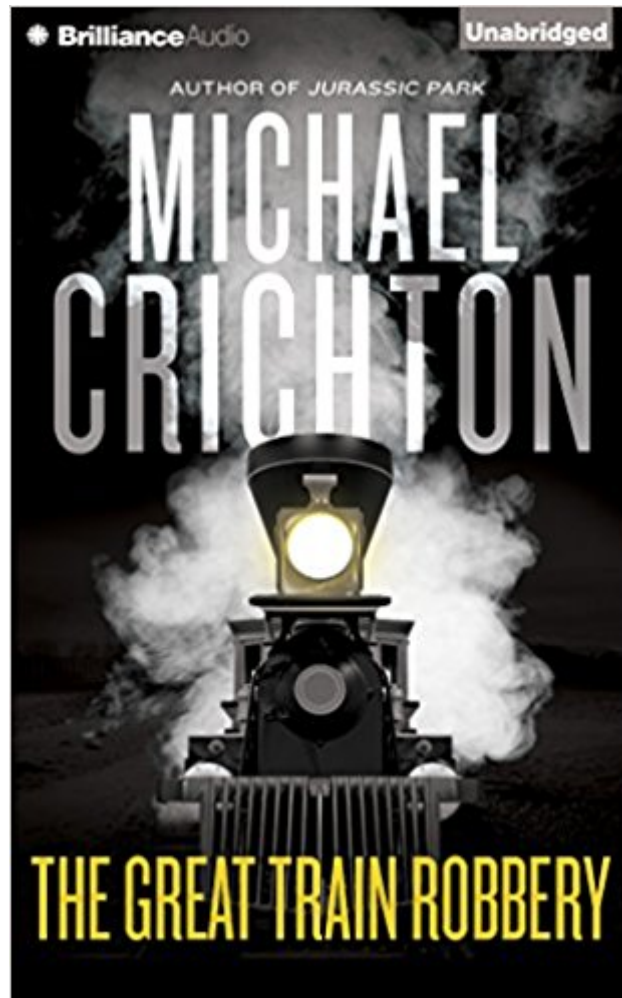




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# The Great Train Robbery



## Synopsis

In teeming Victorian London, where lavish wealth and appalling poverty live side by side, Edward Pierce charms the most prominent of the well-to-do as he cunningly orchestrates the crime of the century. Who would suspect that a gentleman of breeding could mastermind the daring theft of a fortune in gold? Who could predict the consequences of making the extraordinary robbery aboard the pride of England's industrial era, the mighty steam locomotive? Based on fact, as lively as legend, and studded with all the suspense and style of a modern fiction master, here is a classic caper novel set a decade before the age of dynamite—yet nonetheless explosive. Michael Crichton wrote and directed the screen adaptation of *The Great Train Robbery*, starring Sean Connery and Donald Sutherland.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"A nineteenth-century version of *The Sting*...Crichton fascinates us."-- The New, York Times Book Review --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

In teeming Victorian London, where lavish wealth and appalling poverty live side by side, one mysterious man navigates both worlds with perfect ease. Rich, handsome, and ingenious, Edward Pierce charms the most prominent of the well-to-do as he cunningly orchestrates a masterpiece of crime -- the most daring train robbery of the century. Who would suspect that a gentleman of breeding could mastermind the daring theft of a fortune in gold? Who could predict the consequences of making the extraordinary robbery aboard the pride of England's industrial era, the

mighty steam locomotive? Based on fact, as lively as legend, and studded with all the suspense and style of a modern fiction master, here is a classic caper novel set a decade before the age of dynamite -- yet nonetheless explosive....The Lost World, Jurassic Park, Congo, Disclosure , Rising Sun, and The Terminal Man, by Michael Crichton, are available on cassette from Random House AudioBooks (The Lost World is also available on compact disc). Sphere and The Andromeda Strain are available as Random House Price-Less Audios. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

The best crime story I've ever read! The ending will bowl you over.

In 1855, England was near the height of its power. Industrialization had transformed the country, its empire stretched across most of the world, and high-speed rail was an established fact of life. In the midst of this Victorian order, Edward Pierce conceived and executed perhaps the most daring robbery up to that point in time. Specifically, he and his confederates set out to steal 12,000 pounds in gold bullion from a moving train protected by every form of security available in that age. This book is part history and part novel. Those who love a good heist will revel in the intricate planning and multiple layers of this crime. Pierce is a charismatic figure and it's impossible not to respect his intelligence as you read of his exploits. His crew is less remarkable but each is selected to play a smaller part and they play it well. At a little over 300 pages, this is not a long book and that helps maintain a brisk pace that serves the story well. There are no major lulls or boring parts that you would want to skim through. My only complaint with The Great Train Robbery is that Crichton went a little overboard with the criminal jargon of the age. Presumably to lend authenticity, he has larded the dialogue with phrases like "... he speaks a wave lag from Liverpool, and he can voker romeny." A little of this is probably a good thing, but a little also goes a long way. I'm not a big fan of Michael Crichton since I've enjoyed a few of his books but didn't care for at least as many others. He hit the mark with this one, though, and it should appeal to many people. Those interested in heists, trains, Victorian England, crime fiction, or just light entertainment should all find satisfaction here. It's not perfect, but it's well worth the short time it takes to read.

I liked the story quite a bit, and it is based on actual events in Victorian Britain. One thing with which I had trouble was the profusion of criminal terms from England of the mid 19th century. It would be helpful to keep a notebook handy as you read, and make notes of the definitions of the terms as they are introduced. Then you can refer to them later as you encounter them again in the text. I

consider Michael Crichton my favorite author, and among his books I have read Andromeda Strain, Congo, Sphere, Jurassic Park, Rising Sun, Timeline, State of Fear and Pirate Latitudes. Of these, I would easily recommend Timeline as my favorite, and State of Fear as my least favorite. The Great Train Robbery, as with the others, falls somewhere in the middle.

I own most of Michael Crichton's books; he is one of my two favorite authors and The Great Train Robbery is my favorite of his works. If you like Crichton, or mysteries, or enjoy reading about old 1800s London, this is a wonderful read.

I started this book just after watching the movie. Slight differences of course but fun to know the historical perspective of what happened.

I thoroughly enjoy Crichton novels. His pacing is perfect, his characters so rich and the amount of knowledge displayed is sometimes astounding. This one is no exception. The book starts right at the beginning with the main character learning about the gold shipment, planning his heist, assembling his team and perpetrating the crime. All this with a Victorian England backdrop that you can tell Crichton researched thoroughly. The language is spattered with colloquialisms of the time and place which he explains in story form. Occasionally the author adds a chapter of insight into the mindset of the time to enrich and expand further on what is happening in the story and why such a step should be taken. This adds knowledge gained to a wonderful story. This novel drew me in and held me rigidly for the two days it took me to read it. I'd definitely recommend this novel to anyone who enjoys total immersion into a story and who enjoys clever but not "Too" clever plots.

If you have read Crichton before you know he can tell a great story! This book is no different. Following his usual trend the subject matter of this book is very different from some of his other works. However the depth of research he puts into his novel is just as rich. My favorite aspect was how seamlessly Crichton blended history of and commentary on, Victorian London, into the narrative. This is a great book that is brilliantly written. If you've enjoyed Crichton before, then this is a must read!!!!

A captivating story, very well written with suspense till the end. Great for taking on long trips.

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Training, Dog Training, How to Train A Puppy, How To Potty Train A Puppy, How To Train A Dog, Crate Training) Dog Training -Train Your Dog like a Pro:The Ultimate Step by Step Guide on How to Train a Dog in obedience( Puppy Training, Pet training book) (Dog Taining, ... training books,How to train a dog, Book 2) The Great Taos Bank Robbery: And Other Indian Country Affairs The Mysterious Montague: A True Tale of Hollywood, Golf, and Armed Robbery Closing Time: A True Story of Robbery and Double Murder The Valentine's Day Robbery (Hank the Cowdog) Home Burglary and Car Theft Protection Hacks: 12 Simple Practical Hacks to Protect and Prevent Home and Car from Robbery (Life 'n' Hack) The Comedy About A Bank Robbery (Modern Plays) Nate the Great Collected Stories: Volume 1: Nate the Great; Nate the Great Goes Undercover; Nate the Great and the Halloween Hunt; Nate the Great and the Monster Mess Train Your Brain for Weight Loss - 2 Self Hypnosis CD's for Weight Loss Empowerment and Exercise Motivation (Train Your Brain for Weight Loss, 1) Goodnight, Goodnight, Construction Site and Steam Train, Dream Train Board Books Boxed Set Steam Train, Dream Train Steam Train, Dream Train Sound Book Steam Train, Dream Train Colors Dragons: Defenders of Berk Volume 2: Snowmageddon (How to Train Your Dragon TV) (How to Train Your Dragon Graphic Novels) Steam Train, Dream Train 1-2-3 Fast Train, Slow Train (Thomas & Friends) (Big Bright & Early Board Book) Train Your Dog For Beginners: 15 Steps Guide to Train Your Dog! Train Your Brain & Mental Strength : How to Train Your Brain for Mental Toughness & 7 Core Lessons to Achieve Peak Mental Performance: (Special 2 In 1 Exclusive Edition)

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