

Frank-3 Enroute: It Ain't Finished

Rod Harris

Norma Hood

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Larger-than-life officer Rod Randel must combat a drug cartel in this exciting new addition to the Vegas-centered series.

Frank-3 Enroute: It Ain't Finished, the third book in the Las Vegas series by writing duo Rod Harris and Norma Hood, continues the exciting and highly energized saga of the life of officer Rod Randel. At work with the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, Randel finds himself surrounded by drug dealers, prostitutes, and danger at every turn.

Randel and his faithful crew continue to respond to the calls that seem to be the bread and butter of their days. Drug deals, junkie dramas, and the occasional dead body appear, but this installment of the series finds Randel with a new focus. Cuban drug dealers have declared their intention to kill Randel, who is given unprecedented permission by his captain to "go after the big boys now." Randel is determined not to go down without a fight.

Each chapter of the novel features an individual scenario, varying from traffic stops and murder investigations to one of Randel's hot dates. Chapters also trace the development of the issues between Randel and the Cuban cartel. Individual stories provide a great deal of excitement, highlighting the brave and heroic deeds that seem commonplace for Randel and his crew, and the underlying threat by the cartel ties the story line together nicely.

If there is a fault to be found with this work, it may be the continuing enormity of the character of Officer Randel. With his ever-present machismo, his larger-than-life personality, and his seeming invincibility, he comes across as more of a caricature of a tough cop than as an actual living, breathing officer. His ability to repeatedly dole out his own justice to admittedly deserving criminals makes it difficult to suspend disbelief, creating a sense of non-reality even for the 1980s setting, when police department ethical standards may have been a bit more lax.

The novel moves forward smoothly, and the use of police lingo and the description of crime scenes and arrests is on point. Minor typographical errors can be found in the text, but certainly don't detract from the ease of reading the story.

Frank-3 Enroute: It Ain't Over contains endless action that will enthrall those who love fast-paced police adventures. The continuing saga of Officer Rod Randel and his Las Vegas police work makes for a fun and entertaining read.

TRACY FISCHER (January 22, 2016)

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