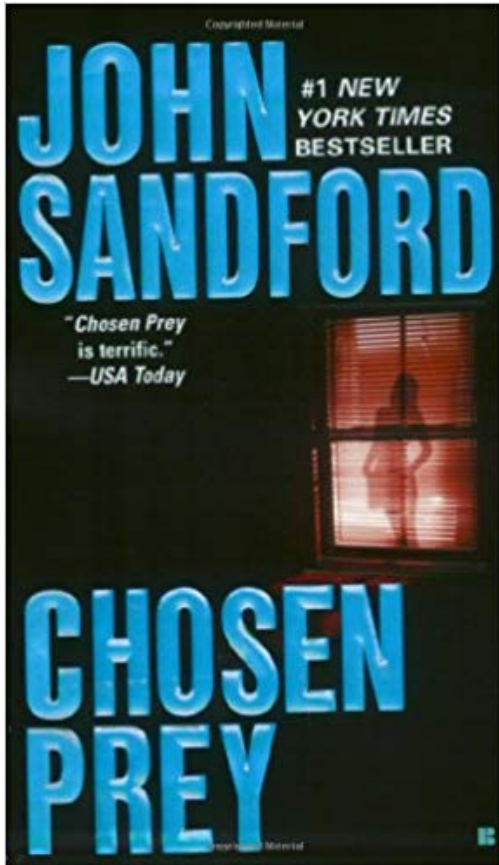


## Chosen Prey (Lucas Davenport, No 12) by John Sandford



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**Author:** John Sandford

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A **New York Times** bestseller!

Lucas Davenport returns in the most harrowing and unexpected Prey novel yet—the story of a congenial man, and his most uncongenial obsession...

Art history professor James Qatar's hobby was taking secret photographs of women. At night when he was all alone he'd dream about them and indulge his fantasies. Then one day his fantasy went too far. Now it's Qatar's turn to become an obsession—of Davenport's. And for both men there's no turning back.



**Reviews of the Chosen Prey (Lucas Davenport, No 12) by John Sandford**

## Voodooosida

I read the first eleven books and regard myself as a Prey Series fan. All of them are very well written with intelligent plots constructed around rich characters, which made me enjoy the reading and kept interested throughout the page-turning, riveting and surprising stories. In all previous books both Davenport and the killer enthralled me: the detective's line of thought, the way he undertakes the chases, the turns in the events, the suspenseful way things unfold, everything always masterfully taken care of.

Chosen Prey is a readable and relatively enjoyable book but, in my opinion, it doesn't challenge people's curiosity and interest as much as the others do. The plot is weak and the end is predictable from the very beginning of the story, which evolves through feeble and obvious dialogues.

Davenport's great skills are there, at the service of finding the killer, but in a way that did not bring me along throughout his conclusions as he always does.

We know who the killer is from the first chapter, so it is not a whodunit story, not a bad thing in itself at all, but one in which Davenport has to follow clues to get closer, further, then closer again, until he solves the mystery. For me, in this book, this movement happens in a slightly tedious way, through too many drug related characters with confused and meaningless connections with the criminal, something that creates a subplot that seems too artificial.

The killer, Qatar, is an uninteresting, inconsistent, and undeveloped character, with erratic and sheer mean actions, whose psyche we do not get to know enough so that his behavior can make any sense, even if it is a sick one. I think the character's lack of density makes it unlikely to bring on in the reader any kind of fruitful feeling.

To put it in a nutshell, I think the author lost his gripping in this book. However, as I regard him as one of the best authors of mystery/thriller, the experience with Chosen Prey has not discouraged me to keep reading the series nor should my review do so to those who like the genre. I just really hope that he brings back his qualified and brilliant style from the next volume on.

## Anen

Another Sandford story about one of the many serial killers roaming the streets of the Twin Cities area. This is fast paced and sometimes a little difficult to understand how a slightest suspicion about being suspected, sets the killer off resulting in another victim. But can't get past Lucas Davenport and his crack team of detectives. Can't help but liking Sandford's style and stories. I have read all but a handful of his Prey series. Recommended to those of you who enjoy this kind of story.

## Hellmaster

Since I have nearly completed buying all of the "Prey" series, one thing stands out for me. In Mr. Sandford's books (including the Virgil Flowers series), he adds dialog between the characters which doesn't directly pertain to the main story. Just talk between two or more people on subject matter other than the incident which is the focus of the overall plot. It's a great diversion, often humorous and in line with what actually happens in real life, unlike most fiction which seems to be intent on directed discussions of the crime under investigation. Some of the police characters are abrupt in their opinions or humor, but having been in their shoes at one time in my life, I certainly understand them.

If you are in the market for a new series, or to try a different author, John Sandford's "Prey" series is a great place to indulge yourself. You should begin with the first book "Rules of Prey", and work your way from there. Amazon has a listing of the "Lucas Davenport Prey Series in Order", but it isn't 'in order' on the pages displayed, so you can go to: [www.johnsandford.com](http://www.johnsandford.com) and get a correct listing in order.

## Kahavor

For some reason, while awaiting delivery of another series, I was in a conversation with a friend talking about book series and characters that we used to devour back in the early 90's. I found myself thinking of Lucas Davenport and decided to re-visit John Sanford's "Prey" series in the interim. I was very pleased with book 12, "Chosen Prey" and found that though dated, the writing and world building to be a solid and enthralling read. Police procedurals have evolved with more advanced technology but serial killers are still cut from the same nefarious cloth. Lucas Davenport is also evolving as a character and I can see why Sanford is still relevant all these many books later. I plan to visit with Lucas Davenport for a few more books to catch up with him.

Abywis

If John Sanford got a dollar for every time he used the "f-word" and its derivations throughout the entire "Prey" and Virgil Flowers series of books, he would be a billionaire just from that use alone. Having said that,,every book is a masterpiece thriller and I have bought them all. Can't wait to get to the next one having finished one. The plots,humor, and dialogue are unsurpassed by any other thriller writer and I have read some of the best ones around. The constant four letter vulgarity gets a little tiresome though, and all his characters, male and female, use it throughout the tale. Tch,tch, John, Lighten up a little! This comment applies to all his books and I have read or am reading most of them.

HappyLove

This one is about the body count. There are plenty to go around and no mystery about the killer. Just questions about whether Lucas and crew can build a case. And that becomes the overarching question as the links to the killer build up and multiply as do the plausible 'the other guy did it,' scenarios. A good read but not fabulous.

Gindian

Lucas Davenport is one of my favorite book characters. He is so egotistical & kind of crude, however it is impossible not to like him. This book was especially good - the main character, James Qatar is one of the worst that Davenport has had to face. I really liked the ending. I can always read a John Sandford book when I am tired of trying new authors & don't want to get into some of these really intense survival books I usually read. I enjoy a good rainy day & a good Davenport book!

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