

Heist Society Study Guide

Heist Society by Ally Carter

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Plot Summary

Heist Society by Ally Carter is the story of Katarina (Kat) Bishop. Kat is an average teenage girl in all aspects except for one - she comes from a long line of master thieves. In the beginning of the story, Kat is being expelled from the Colgan School, a prestigious ivy league prep school, for placing the headmaster's Porsche on top of the school fountain. Kat has been framed by certain people in her life who want her back in the game. Kat had conned her way into Colgan with the intention of using her education to get out of the family business for good. Kat does not react well when it is decided that she will leave Colgan and return to a life of crime. Suddenly, Kat is torn between loyalty to her family and wanting a better life for herself - one of normalcy and stability - a life that will allow her to sleep in the same bed every night and know what she will be doing each day. The life of a thief is transitory and unpredictable. Kat has had her fill of that life.

Kat learns that she has been pulled away from Colgan because of a message from her great uncle Eddie, a master thief. Something has gone terribly wrong with her father. A powerful and evil man, Arturo Taccone, has accused Kat's father, Bobby Bishop, of stealing five paintings from his villa in Italy. The paintings are priceless masterpieces. Kat knows that her father did not steal the paintings but cannot convince Taccone. Taccone tells Kat that she has two weeks to return the paintings or she will never see her father again. Kat has no choice.

Kat partners up with her long-term friend, Hale, her cousin Gabrielle and other members of her heist family, including Simon, Angus and Hamish Bagshaw, and on the periphery, Uncle Eddie. Uncle Eddie warns Kat to stay away from Taccone. The job is simply not possible and Kat could get hurt. While Uncle Eddie is supposedly not a part of the caper, he keeps a watchful eye on Kat.

The heist society begins an almost impossible mission. Along the way, they travel around the world to Rome, Paris, London and New York. Taccone keeps close tabs on the group as they make progress. A mysterious thief using the pseudonym Visily Romani is also hot on the trail and throws a wrench into the works. It is learned that Romani had stolen the paintings from Taccone with the hopes of liberating the pieces which had been stolen by the Nazis. Romani had placed the paintings inside the world's most secure museum. Now Kat and the crew must figure out how to rob it.

Kat does succeed although there is interference from Interpol that almost causes her and her father to get caught. Four of the five paintings are saved and returned to their rightful owners or museums. The fifth is delivered to Kat by Romani, along with his respect.

Kat manages to frame Taccone and have him arrested, absolving her father from any guilt.

In the end, Kat realizes that she is happy within her family. Although Kat is not a master thief, maybe someday she could be.



Chapters 1-5

Chapters 1-5 Summary

The story opens with the main character, Kat Bishop, thinking about the Ivy League school she attends.

"No one knew for certain when the trouble started at the Colgan School." (Chap. 1, pg. 1)

Colgan School used to be an all male school. The changes in the school are blamed on allowing females to enroll.

"Others cited newfangled liberal ideals and a general decline in the respect for elders worldwide. But no matter the theory, no one could deny that, recently, life at the Colgan School was different." (Chap. 1, pg. 1)

The Colgan School had a long waiting list and no one changed their minds about attending the prestigious institution. However, that is exactly what happens, allowing Kat to enroll at the last possible minute. Kat's backstory is perfectly executed. She is the daughter of a European businessman. Unfortunately, all of Kat's school records from previous educational facilities have been mysteriously destroyed. Kat is enrolled and the faculty and students are curious. Kat is not inclined to share any personal information at any time.

Much about the Colgan School is the same - the manicured lawns and reputation - but the one thing that has changed is that the headmaster's prize 1958 Porsche Speedster would have never been placed atop the fountain in the quad, water shooting from its headlights. There also would have been a time that Kat would have confessed to her crimes and would have walked away. But today is different. It is different mainly because Kat has been framed.

There isn't anything Kat can do but to take her belongings and leave the school. Kat gets into a car in the parking lot and hears a familiar voice from the front seat.

Chapter 2:

Kat recognizes the voice as belonging to Hale, a friend and cohort. Kat wonders why Hale has come to Colgan to pick her up. Kat suddenly realizes who might have been behind Porsche-gate. Hale says that someone had to rescue Kat from the stuffy old school and saw it as his duty. Kat is stunned that Hale destroyed the headmaster's car. Hale says it was purchased by his father for a fire he allegedly started in the eighth grade. Hale says he attends a new, more prestigious school now - an imaginary one. Of course, Hale's father thinks his son is a model student.



Kat thinks about Hale as being one of the most confident and self-assured people she has ever met.

"Kat sometimes wondered if that kind of self-assurance was something only very old money could buy. Then she wondered if it was something you could steal." (Chap. 2, pg. 13)

Hales tells Kat about a recent job that has been pulled. Then Hale says that he has a job that only Kat can do.

Kat reminds Hale that she is out of the family business. Hale asks Kat if she is out of the family.

Chapter 3:

Hale takes Kat to his family's 600 year old estate in upstate New York. The Hale family has many homes but this is the only place that Hale feels comfortable.

Kat and Hale enter the house. Hale tells Kat where she will be sleeping and asks Marcus, his butler, to make some food and bring it to the library. Kat is impatient and wants to know why Hale framed her and brought her to New York. Hale is not ready to talk, so Kat tries to be extra polite.

Hale tells Kat that he has a message for her from her great uncle Eddie. The message is simply that her father needs to return something he has stolen. A job pulled in Europe has put her father in danger.

"I haven't heard about any jobs,' Kat insisted before remembering that she'd been out of the world. The loop. The life." (Chap. 3, p. 19)

Hale explains that several paintings have been stolen from a private collection. The collection is very exclusive and is under very high security. Only two or three crews in the world would have the know-how to steal the art. However, the owner only has his eye on one suspect - Kat's father.

Kat goes to bed. At four A.M. Kat summons Marcus to tell him that she needs to leave. Marcus has already secured a plane ticket to Paris for Kat. Kat prepares to leave.

Chapter 4:

"Kat used to love Paris. She remembered being there with her parents - eating croissants, visiting a pyramid, and carrying six red balloons. It wasn't until years later that she realized it hadn't been a fun family outing - that they'd been casing the Louvre at the time." (Chap. 4, pg. 23)

Marcus drops Kat off at the airport. Kat knows precisely the area in which to find her father. She locates him listening to a public lecture. He is being watched by agents from Interpol.



Kat speaks to her father, who does not seem surprised to see her. He does ask why she is not at Colgan. Kat evades answering the question. Kat points out that her father is being watched. Her father says that it is exciting in its way.

"'It's every little girl's dream,' she said. 'Interpol surveillance. And kittens.'" (Chap. 4, pg. 28)

Kat asks about her father's whereabouts during the Taccone theft. He was pulling another job at the time.

Kat and her father discuss taking a trip at Christmas.

Kat walks up to two policemen and accuses the Interpol agents of illicit behavior. The police chase the Interpol agents and Kat's father walks away.

Chapter 5:

Kat meets Arturo Taccone. The man is convinced that Kat's father, Bobby Bishop, stole his five priceless paintings. If Kat wants to keep her father from being harmed, she will ensure that the paintings are returned within two weeks. Kat insists that her father is not the thief but Taccone does not believe her. Taccone says he is only extending the courtesy because of Kat's mother and her family.

Kat returns to Hale's house in New York. Kat tells the others about the meeting with Taccone and that they will have to re-steal the paintings from the thief and return them to Taccone before the two week deadline. The paintings are not legally Taccone's since they were stolen to begin with but that does not matter. A plan must be put into play.

Chapters 1-5 Analysis

Kat Bishop is not an ordinary teen. She has lived ten lifetimes in her years, mostly as a thief. As Kat sits in the administrative offices being confronted for a crime she did not commit, Kat thinks about all of the things that the real thief had done differently than she would have done.

"Kat had learned quite a lot of things before enrolling at the Colgan School - but the thing that she knew best was that this was the kind of place where she could never share them." (Chap. 1, pg. 9)

Kat could not tell the president how she would have committed the crime. Kat had been bested and knew it. She had no choice but to leave and to wonder who had caused her to be expelled and why.

Kat has issues with Hale. She likes him a great deal and they have a long history together as thieves. Although Kat proclaims that she is out of the family business, there is a spark of curiosity in her and Hale uses it to intrigue Kat.



Hale wears old money like a comfortable sweater. Kat is still not used to the opulence Hale takes for granted. Marcus is an indispensable part of Hale's life and seems to be the person who makes everything happen.

Kat obviously does not have a typical relationship with her father, master thief Bobby Bishop. Nothing seems to surprise Bishop, even the appearance of Kat. Bishop does not know about Kat's expulsion from Colgan and is still under the impression that she wants nothing to do with the family business. Even though Kat wanted out, it is clear that theft is in her blood and while her skills may be slightly rusty, the skills are also ingrained in her.

The meeting with Taccone should have frightened Kat much more than it did. Kat is unaware of how dangerous Taccone is, although she has a good idea. Despite Kat's belief that her father is innocent, she will have to return to a life of crime to save her father from Taccone's wrath.



Chapters 6-10

Chapters 6-10 Summary

13 Days Until Deadline - New York, USA

Chapter 6:

When the winter pretends to be spring, thieves tend to come out in full force. Kat and Hale stroll through Manhattan and watch as a handsome, slick man runs into an old man with mismatched socks. The old man, Kat's great-uncle Eddie, picks the man's pocket.

Thieves are not supposed to have long-term homes. They must be ready to move at any time. Uncle Eddie is the exception. Kat and Hale follow Uncle Eddie to his brownstone and go inside to discuss the Taccone matter.

Shortly after Kat and Hale arrive, Hamish and Angus Bagshaw burst into the apartment. The boys are excited about something and are happy to see Kat, although they taunt her about leaving the family business. Uncle Eddie makes soup and the group sits down to discuss Taccone. There are obviously many things Kat missed while she attended Colgan, including a mishap with the Bagshaw boys that is not entirely revealed. Kat asks Uncle Eddie for help. Uncle Eddie tells Kat to leave it alone, that there is nothing she can do.

As Kat and Hale are leaving the brownstone, Hale has an idea about who might know the identity of the real thief.

12 Days Until Deadline - Las Vegas, USA

Chapter 7:

Kat and Hale arrive in Las Vegas. They go to a conference for the International Association of Advanced Mathematics and Research. There they find their friend Simon. Hale asks about Simon's father, a thief who has retired at age 43. Meanwhile, Kat scans the room.

Simon meets with Kat and Hale by the pool. Simon says that the number of crews that could have pulled off the Taccone job is quite small. While Kat and Hale speak to Simon, two of Taccone's goons watch.

Kat and Hale return to Hale's private plane. Kat wonders if the DiMarco brothers could have pulled the job. Hale says that the seven brothers are in jail. Kat learns that Hale is still upset about her leaving and attending Colgan. Suddenly, it occurs to Kat that Hale could not have executed Porsche-gate. It was someone else.



Kat tells Hale that she needs him to help.

11 Days Until Deadline - Sabina, Italy

Chapter 8:

Kat learns who acted as Hale's "friend" and co-conspirator on Porsche-gate. It is her cousin Gabrielle. Kat bristles.

"Families are strange things - living things - in more ways than one. And family business....well, there was no limit to the oddness." (Chap. 8, pg. 64)

Gabrielle has checked out Taccone's place and reports back to Hale. Taccone's house is more like a fortress with perimeter guards as well as an actual drawbridge and a moat. Gabrielle produces pictures.

Kat asks if anyone has checked with the police. Gabrielle laughs.

Gabrielle is also angry at Kat for leaving the family. Kat feels stupid when she realizes that it is Gabrielle behind Porsche-gate.

Although Kat and Gabrielle are generally at odds, Gabrielle points out that Kat needs her.

Kat, Hale and Gabrielle go to Taccone's house.

"Even at night, even from this distance, anyone could see that Arturo Taccone's home was really a palace made of stone and wood, surrounded by vineyards and olive trees. A postcard paradise. But what Kat noticed were the guards and the towers, the walls and the gates. It was no paradise, it was more like a prison." (Chap. 8, pg. 70)

Kat decides that the only way to get inside was to meet with Taccone. Kat crosses the drawbridge and goes inside the fortress.

Chapter 9:

The man who answers the door reminds Kat a great deal of Marcus. Kat observes the surroundings before being taken to Taccone. Taccone says he is surprised to see Kat. There is little that surprises Taccone. Taccone is intrigued by Kat.

"Scary men do scary things, but for Kat, nothing was as terrifying as the sound of Arturo Taccone laughing." (Chap. 9, pg. 75)

Taccone is unsure of Kat and asks about back up. Taccone still insists that Bobby Bishop is the thief. Kat asks for proof. Kat leaves the fortress and returns to Hale and Gabrielle.

"There would come a time - although Kat didn't know it yet - when her conversation with Taccone that evening would be told and retold around Uncle Eddie's kitchen table a



thousand times. When the story of her crossing the drawbridge would not involve rain but bullets; when the tale of her asking Arturo Taccone for his help would include threats and windows and something involving a pair of antique dueling pistols (which, according to legend, Kat would also steal.)" (Chap. 9, pg. 77)

Chapter 10:

Kat, Hale and Gabrielle watch the security disk supplied by Taccone. The trio attempts to figure out the location of the secret room and decide that it must be located under the moat. The thief would have needed to use a mini-submarine to enter the room. Kat knows this is possible because her father used that method for a job in Venice.

Chapters 6-10 Analysis

Like it or not, Kat is back in the family business. It is unclear who the Bagshaw boys are but they seem to have been adopted by Uncle Eddie. The boys are slightly older than Kat but are immature in some ways and very excitable. Kat learns first hand throughout this section how her decision to attend Colgan has affected the family. Many are angry with Kat for leaving and are reluctant to get involved in the job.

There is some animosity between Uncle Eddie and Kat's father, Bobby. However, Kat knows that Uncle Eddie would do anything for her and she uses that to try and enlist the old man's help.

The relationship between Kat and Gabrielle is strained. Kat sees Gabrielle as a frivolous, silly girl and is reluctant to admit that Gabrielle has skills. Kat also suspects that Gabrielle is romantically interested in Hale and that upsets her. Kat has unresolved feelings toward Hale as well.

Kat's meeting with Taccone is equal parts brilliant and foolish. It gains Kat some respect in Taccone's eyes. Taccone clearly likes Kat and is amused by her. That amusement and fondness will not go very far, however, if Kat does not complete the mission.



Chapters 11-16

Chapters 11-16 Summary

10 Days Until Deadline - Naples, Italy

Chapter 11:

"The Mariano & Sons Dive Shop in Naples was a family-run affair and very proud of that particular fact. Mariano the Second had been the son of a fisherman, but he'd suffered from an unfortunate tendency toward seasickness and was forced to find a respectable career that could be safely conducted on dry land. So he built boats." (Chap. 11, pg. 87)

Hale and Kat go to Mariano & Sons to inquire about the purchase of a mini-submarine. Hale goes into the store and flirts shamelessly with the woman behind the counter. Hale wants a new toy and the mini-sub is the perfect item. Kat is impatient and paces outside while Gabrielle flirts with a man.

Kat eventually goes into the store. She explains to the woman that Hale is a bored little boy and if he learns that someone else has the same mini-sub, he will pout. Kat gets the information on the two people who have purchased the same model in the recent past. The one that intrigues Kat is the one that was sold to Visily Romani in Austria.

Kat misses the normalcy of Colgan. She recalls telling the family about her decision, knowing that it came down to the choice between Colgan and an eventual jail sentence.

9 Days Until Deadline - Vienna, Austria

Chapter 12:

Kat thinks about how nice it is to be partnered with a billionaire and not have to worry about making plans.

Kat, Hale and Gabrielle go to the Das Palace Hotel in Vienna. Uncle Eddie is waiting for them. The group discusses the name Visily Romani and how it is an alias used over the centuries by various high level master thieves. The name is sacred.

Uncle Eddie says he will try to make amends with Taccone.

Kat wonders if she will go back to school. Uncle Eddie tells Kat to go back to school because this job is beyond her now.

Chapter 13:

Kat leaves the hotel and goes for a long walk. Hale gets worried and goes out to find her. Hale asks what they will do now? It is clear that Uncle Eddie will do anything for



Kat, but what will he do for Bobby? It has become clear to Kat that Taccone is not going to get his paintings back.

Kat has a flashback and tries to remember a place with a red door.

8 Days Until Deadline - Warsaw, Poland

Chapter 14:

Abiram Stein owns a bookstore in Warsaw. The man is often interrupted by students seeking information or treasure hunters wondering if the Renoir in their grandmother's attic is real.

Kat and Hale arrive at Stein's bookshop in the wee hours. Kat apologizes for waking the old man and says her mother told her that Stein would help. Stein takes the pair inside. Stein tells Kat that she looks a great deal like her mother.

"Kat had often wondered what was more cruel, to so closely resemble a mother who had left too soon, making you equal parts daughter and ghost, or to have nothing of your parent in your features - to be, aesthetically speaking, more than one generation removed." Chap. 14, p. 112

Kat vague remembers Stein and relays a tale about hot chocolate that makes the old man smile.

Hale wonders where the man's computer system is located; Kat says that Stein is the computer.

Kat shows the stolen paintings to Stein. Stein becomes angry. He claims that the paintings were not stolen, they were prisoners of war, taken by the Nazis during the invasion. Stein says no one expected to see the paintings ever again, much less in one collection. The paintings were created by great masters including Renoir, Rembrandt, Degas, and Vermeer. Stein explains the paintings.

"The men who took *Dancer in the Wings* from the Schulhoffs' dining room wall were evil, my dear. The men those men gave it to were evil. These paintings were traded for terrible favors in terrible times." Chap. 14, pp. 116-117

Stein tells Kat and Hale that the Henley was robbed. Rather, it was entered by a thief but nothing was taken.

7 Days Until Deadline - London, England

Chapter 15:

The group arrives in London. Visily Romani had apparently broken into the Henley and left a business card tucked behind a painting. No alarms were tripped. It was a feat of



genius yet no one is quite sure why Romani did it. Scotland Yard had been called in to investigate.

Kat and Hale stand in line at the Henley. Kat eavesdrops on a woman and her companion standing in line in front of her. The woman talks about Romani and pictures him as being a handsome, debonair thief.

Kat is puzzled by Romani's actions. Suddenly Kat believes that someone is playing games. Could the stolen paintings be at the Henley?

Chapter 16:

Kat, Hale and Gabrielle leave the Henley to go to Hale's London home. Along the way, Kat thinks about her options. Kat says she could call Taccone, tell him that the paintings are at the Henley and let him worry about retrieving them; Question the fact that Taccone did not legally own the paintings; or liberate the paintings from the Henley. Kat knows that the latter is her only real option.

Kat tells Hale that they will have to assemble a group if they are going to pull off such a huge heist. When Kat arrives at Hale's house, she sees that the group has already been assembled. Hale says he'd had a hunch.

Chapters 11-16 Analysis

Kat begins to investigate. If her father did not pull off the crime at Taccone's, someone is going to a lot of trouble to make him look guilty. Kat starts at Mariano & Sons, which is the most logical choice when looking for a small watercraft. Kat and Hale slip into old routines easily and manage to get the information they need.

Although Kat and Gabrielle do not see eye to eye, it is clear that the cousins need each other's skills. Gabrielle seems flighty and self-involved but is able to pull off parts of the job the others cannot. Gabrielle would not let Uncle Bobby down in his time of need.

Despite Kat's attempts to remove herself from the situation as well as Uncle Eddie's warnings, Kat seems to have no choice but to find and "liberate" Taccone's paintings. It will take everything Kat has, plus the help of people she knows and loves to pull it off. The stakes are extremely high but Kat will rise to the challenge.



Chapters 17-20

Chapters 17-20 Summary

Chapter 17:

"The assembly of a crew is a monumental event in a young thief's life. There are meetings and phone calls. Plans, and occasionally, a celebratory cake. Normal families have graduations. Thieves have this." (Chap. 17, pg. 132)

Kat explains her problem to the group. Kat looks upon their involvement as a favor because no one will get to keep a multi-million dollar painting. Everyone wants in. Kat also explains that Uncle Eddie does not approve but she does not need Uncle Eddie's blessing. The others believe that Uncle Eddie already knows what Kat is about to do.

Kat reveals her target to the group. Everyone is awestruck.

6 Days Until Deadline - London, England

Chapter 18:

"If you lived in 1921, and if you had more money than time, and if you were a woman, then there were very few acceptable ways in which you were allowed to fill your days." (Chap. 18, pg. 141)

Veronica Miles Henley had lived in 1921 but had been no ordinary woman. Instead of spending her days sipping tea or playing cards, Veronica Miles Henley had decided to take her money and funnel it into the Henley museum; a museum Kat believes is the best in the world. The others argue that there are other exquisite museums but Kat points out the benefits of the Henley.

The group goes to the Henley to case it. Gabrielle acts like a drunken girl who wants to touch the pretty paintings. Gabrielle does touch a painting, is shocked, and ends up unconscious on the floor while security cages surround the painting. The Bagshaw boys pretend to be frolicking high school kids while they check out the layout and security. Simon uses an electronic gadget to get information about the closed circuit security.

A guard runs into Simon. Simon is knocked down and the gadget goes flying. The guard picks it up and begins to play with it, believing that it is a video game. Simon panics but manages to get the gadget back.

Taccone shows up in a limo.

Chapter 19:



Kat sits in the limo with Taccone. The alarms in the museum are distracting her from the conversation. Once again Kat defends her father.

Kat tells Taccone that she cannot pull off the job. Taccone believes otherwise. Kat says she is not a thief any more. The surveillance at the Henley is too tight. They might be able to pull it off in a month, but not in a week.

Taccone hands Kat a packet of photos. The photos are of her loved ones who are oblivious to being filmed. Taccone's message is clear.

Chapter 20:

Kat arrives at Hale's London house. She thinks about the comforts she has been missing including her father, soup, and Uncle Eddie.

Hamish announces Kat's return. The Bagshaws want to talk to Kat. Kat learns that the brothers had had a problem with a job after the one they had pulled in Luxembourg. Apparently the brothers had broken the thieves' code and conned an innocent man. Rather, innocent nuns. The brothers had been blacklisted and put on a short leash by Uncle Eddie. Regardless, the brothers are in if Kat wants them. She does.

Gabrielle whines dramatically about her injuries while the others make plans.

Simon discusses the Henley's security system which seems to be almost impenetrable. However, there are some very small loopholes. Simon would need fifteen minutes in the security booth because the system cannot be hacked. Although the system has recently been updated, the security in the Romani room has not been changed. It is their only break.

Each member of the group discusses ways in which they might be able to break in. Hale suggests calling Uncle Eddie but Gabrielle nixes the idea.

Kat says that they might be able to do the job with seven people; using six people is too risky. Kat is going to Paris.

Chapters 17-20 Analysis

Kat knows now that she has no choice but to go through with the heist. Taccone has made it clear that Bobby is not the only one in jeopardy. If Kat does not return the paintings then the people she loves will be hurt...or worse. Kat feels sick inside. Suddenly Colgan seems a million miles away.

There are many parts of the plan that are unclear at this point. The security at the Henley poses a major problem. The group has no idea how Romani had gotten inside but it means that it can be done.



Kat and Gabrielle are against calling Uncle Eddie even though it is likely that he already knows and is monitoring the operation even though it has not yet begun.

Kat has to figure out what to do next. She decides to go to Paris to speak to her father. The jaunts around the world are unusual for the average person but it is clear that thieves operate on a different system altogether.



Chapters 21-25

Chapters 21-25 Summary

5 Days Until Deadline - Paris, France

Chapter 21:

The reader is introduced to Amelia Bennett. Amelia works for the Art Crime Division at Interpol. Amelia had transferred from London to Paris. The Old Boy Network is still in place in Interpol although Amelia is not the only woman. The one thing that Amelia has on her side is luck. Amelia and the others think it is luck when a young woman comes in and says she is a witness to the break in of which Bobby Bishop is suspected.

Kat finds her father and tells him about Taccone. Bobby says he is fine and will remain that way. Bobby tells Kat to go back to Colgan. Kat leaves.

Interpol agents come and arrest Bobby.

Chapter 22:

Kat used to love Paris. Now she just wants to go home. A boy runs into Kat on the street and picks her pocket. When the boy returns to his hotel room, he finds Kat waiting for him. Kat can also pick pockets and locks. The boy's name is Nick, age 16. Nick's background is discussed. Kat asks if Nick would like to work with a crew.

4 Days Until Deadline - Wyndham Manor, England

Chapter 23:

Kat sneaks into Wyndham Manor at 3 AM. Hamish announces Kat's return. Everyone in the group seems stunned. They tell Kat that Bobby has been arrested. Kat confesses that she had gone to Interpol to protect him. The others are horrified that Kat would betray her father. One says Uncle Eddie is going to kill her. Kat reminds them that she is the only girl who has ever tried to undo a pseudonym job and that she can't be killed twice. Simon laments that he will not do well in prison. Hale sticks up for Kat.

In the middle of the discussion, Nick arrives. There is anger in the room that Kat would bring in a stranger. Kat and Hale step outside to talk. Hale tells Kat that she's too close to this caper. Nick is not family. Kat lashes out and tells Hale that he is not family either.

Chapter 24:

Gregory Reginald Wainwright is the new director at the Henley. Hale shows up in Wainwright's office, unannounced. Hale convinces Wainwright that his family wants to loan their Monet to the Henley because it doesn't match their new couch. On the way



into the office, Hale puts tape on the latch to Wainwright's door. Nick manages to swipe Wainwright's security card.

Gabrielle acts as a tour guide. She reroutes the tour so that the others can investigate. The others wait while Simon analyzes the electronics system and hacks into it. The Bagshaw brothers talk about the legend of Visily Romani. Nick and Kat stand off to the side talking.

Hale manages to stall Wainwright for a long time but Simon needs a few more minutes. Nick grabs Kat and kisses her, blocking Wainwright's path. Hale stalls more by asking about security and Romani.

Chapter 25:

Simon has eyes and ears in Wainwright's office. Kat tries to think like Uncle Eddie, her father, her mother, and Romani. She thinks that they are making it too hard. She suggests Smokey the Bear. A fire in the Henley could work.

The group has a party to blow off steam. The group explains how they are all connected.

Chapters 21-25 Analysis

This section is devoted to a lot of self-doubt. Kat is unsure of how to proceed. Hale is worried that Kat is too close and is going to make poor decisions. Hale believes that bringing Nick inside is a poor decision. Kat knows it is wrong to go off on her own but feels that she has no choice.

"But that night, walking through the front door of the Hale estate felt a lot like walking back into Uncle Eddie's kitchen - like she'd left without permission, and she might never really belong inside again." (Chap. 23, pg. 177)

Kat and Hale fight. Kat hurts Hale and is sorry for it.

The team's actions inside the Henley show that despite their shenanigans and sometimes immature behavior, they work well as a team. Nick is a distraction to Kat and shows a bit too much interest in her past activities. Hale does not like Nick. Although it seems that Hale is jealous, there are some reasons for doubting Nick's sincerity and ability to do the job.



Chapters 26-31

Chapters 26-31 Summary

Chapter 26:

Hale finds the photos Taccone gave to Kat. Kat may be a good thief, but she's not a good hider. Hale asks Kat if he should have Taccone killed. Kat is not sure Hale is joking.

Kat asks Hale why he is doing this. Hale says that Kat should always count him in.

Kat looks at the photos again. She sees someone new in the photo of her father and Amelia Bennett.

Hale calls Uncle Eddie.

3 Days Until Deadline - Wyndham Manor, England

Chapter 27:

Kat has a dream about being at the Henley. It is raining inside. She sees her mother running away and cannot catch up. It has snowed outside and the snow is too deep. Kat sees her mother running toward a red door.

Kat wakes up and announces that it is time for phase three.

Hale and Gabrielle brief Nick. Hale does not think Nick is ready. Meanwhile Angus and Hamish work outside to create an effective smoke bomb. Gabrielle goes outside to help.

Chapter 28:

Gabrielle works on Kat's dress while speaking to her mother on the phone. Gabrielle and Kat talk about Hale.

Taccone sends flowers to Kat.

2 Days Until Deadline - Rome, Italy

Chapter 29:

Kat and Gabrielle meet Taccone at La Casa di Vetro. Taccone asks about Bobby. Taccone is shocked when he learns that Kat turned in her own father. Taccone says that perhaps it is the start of a beautiful friendship between himself and Kat. Kat says she has enough friends.



Hale waits up for Kat. He is upset that she went to see Taccone. Hale gives a full confession to Kat which will exonerate her at Colgan.

The pair discuss being ready for the mission. No guts, no glory.

1 Day Until Deadline - Wyndham Manor

Chapter 30:

It is snowing outside. Kat goes downstairs and is greeted by the boys who are stunned that she is a girl with legs and breasts. Gabrielle is pleased with her work.

Hale tells Kat that he has a bad feeling. Hale does not trust Nick. Hale and Kat agree to see each other at 10:30.

Chapter 31:

The group gathers at the Henley. Nick is nervous because it is very crowded. Kat says that crowded is good.

Angus and Hamish follow through with the ruse of fixing the furnace. Gabrielle leads another tour.

Hale receives a call from Uncle Eddie. He had been right about Nick.

Marcus and Hale make an entrance. Marcus is pretending to be Hale's wealthy, curmudgeonly old uncle. They are greeted by Wainwright. Although it is forbidden, Hale catches Kat's eye and tries to tell her that he has something important to say. There is no time.

Smoke fills the Henley. People are ushered out. There is no turning back.

Chapters 26-31 Analysis

The feelings between Hale and Kat are coming to the surface. Kat is still uncomfortable in her role. She is far different from the ultra-feminine Gabrielle and yet she is clearly no longer one of the boys.

Hale relays his fears about Nick to Uncle Eddie. If anyone can learn the truth about Nick, Uncle Eddie can.

Hale makes it clear that he would do anything for Kat.

Kat is too close to the action and ignores several nagging problems in the back of her mind. Nick seems unsettled and nervous but Kat disregards it once he says he will go through with the caper.

The reader does not learn what Uncle Eddie has uncovered about Nick but it must be of some concern if Hale is willing to risk being caught trying to get Kat's attention.



Chapters 32-37

Chapters 32-37 Summary

Chapter 32:

"Kat had always heard that if there was one thing that the great museums of the world feared more than theft, it was fire. In that moment, she didn't doubt it." (Chap. 32, pg. 241)

The crowd panics and everyone tries to get outside. Sirens blare. Nick steals Wainwright's card again. Kat and Nick get inside the Romani room. Simon is taking too much time to deactivate the system and fire measures are about to be underway. Kat tries to rush him before their opportunity is gone.

Hale stands outside with Marcus and Wainwright. He wonders how it all went wrong. He worries about Kat being inside with Nick. Hale feels helpless. Wainwright yells into his phone. He also assures Hale and Marcus that the art will be protected. Wainwright explains that oxygen is sucked out of the rooms which will extinguish fire.

The measures are put into place and Kat instantly begins to feel dizzy. She and Nick retrieve the oxygen masks from Marcus' abandoned wheelchair and put them on.

Kat and Nick begin to take the paintings off the wall to reveal the paintings underneath. Kat sees that something is wrong. Simon tells them to hurry.

Chapter 33:

Angus, Hamish and Simon arrive at the final exhibit room where they are greeted by Gabrielle. Kat is preparing to remove the final painting when Gabrielle appears from the ventilation duct. Oxygen is returned to the room.

Hale and Marcus try to keep Wainwright distracted. Wainwright begins to realize that the fire and break in could not be coincidences.

The final painting is not under the fifth frame. Kat panics.

Gabrielle is yelling to Kat to hurry. Security is coming along with the police and everyone else. Kat finally sees the truth about Nick. Nick is Amelia Bennett's son. Nick tries to talk his way out of the situation but in the end is left in the Romani room while the others escape.

Chapter 34:

Taccone sits in his car watching the activity at the Henley. He tells his driver to leave.



Reports begin to come in that the Henley is secure. Kat lies on the floor and is approached by guards. She says she couldn't get out. The guards tend to the children while Wainwright insists that the museum be checked thoroughly. It is discovered that Leonardo's Angel is missing. On the wall, tucked behind a painting is one of Romani's cards. The schoolchildren are let go while chaos ensues inside.

Chapter 35:

Wainwright tries to convince himself that it is not his fault but the loss of Angel is too much. The press catches onto the fact that Angel is a prisoner of war. Suddenly Romani is Robin Hood.

Nick is questioned. Amelia Bennett is at her son's side. After many discussions, Nick is released. He, too, disappears.

Day of the Deadline - Paris, France.

Chapter 36:

Kat meets with Taccone. Taccone forgives Bobby for the theft and still will not believe that he had no part in it. Taccone offers to pay handsomely for Angel but Kat says she did not steal it. Kat tells Taccone where to find his paintings and leaves.

Taccone goes inside the abandoned apartment to find the four paintings plus an unknown sculpture. Outside, Interpol arrives and waits. Taccone is arrested.

Kat and Hale watch the action. Nick appears out of nowhere. He asks Kat about the paintings. Kat says she does not steal what isn't hers. She comments that the paintings did not belong to Taccone, either. Nick wants to know if Kat is angry at being conned. Kat says no. Nick leaves.

Hale and Kat get into the limo and leave for Wyndham Manor.

25 Days After Deadline - New York, New York

Chapter 37:

Kat arrives at Uncle Eddie's brownstone for a Christmas celebration. Just before going inside, she is approached by Mr. Stein. Stein tells Kat that some of the paintings have been returned to the heirs of the original owners. Others will go to museums instead of prisons. Stein explains that her great-grandmother was a fine artist and friend of Claude Monet. Monet had painted the woman. The painting had been stolen by the Nazis. Kat's mother had gone to Stein to find the painting. Kat says that she will find the missing painting someday.

Kat enters the brownstone and is enfolded among the throng of family. Hamish comes in and hands over a package he found addressed to Kat. Inside is the Girl Praying to St.



Nicholas. Accompanying the painting is a note from Romani saying that the Angel is being well cared for and that it is time that this painting is returned to its rightful owners.

Kat studies the painting. She knows that she is not a master thief. But perhaps one day she could be.

Chapters 32-37 Analysis

The plan at the Henley seems to go awry. Kat encounters a bump in the road when she learns that Nick is Amelia Bennett's son. Despite Nick's protests, he is left behind. Kat and the others play out their roles as kids on a school field trip trapped in the Romani room. Although the behavior is slightly suspicious, the kids are able to leave in a school bus driven by Marcus.

Although Nick has been used to try to capture Bobby...and later...Kat, it is clear that there is admiration for the young thief. Later, when Nick visits, it is clear that he is impressed by Kat. Like Kat and the others, Nick will certainly disappear and never be seen again, unless it is in a sequel. The author leaves many openings for a sequel, including the fact that Kat has yet to return the final painting. Kat had also learned about the painting of her great grandmother by Monet. Readers may anticipate Kat's next caper.

The story comes to a rapid conclusion. Kat succeeds because she is doing the right thing - returning the paintings to their rightful owners and ensuring that Taccone is put in jail. Kat knows she has made a powerful enemy and that she will more than likely have to look over her shoulder for the rest of her life.

Kat realizes now that she is happy. She has her family and she has Hale. She also has a bright future.



Characters

Katarina Bishop

Katarina (Kat) Bishop is an average teenage girl in all aspects except for one - she comes from a long line of master thieves. In the beginning of the story, Kat is being expelled from the Colgan School, a prestigious ivy league prep school, for placing the headmaster's Porsche on top of the school fountain. Kat has been framed by certain people in her life who want her back in the game. Kat had conned her way into Colgan with the intention of using her education to get out of the family business for good. Kat does not react well when it is decided that she will leave Colgan and return to a life of crime.

Kat is torn between loyalty to her family and wanting a better life for herself - one of normalcy and stability; a life that will allow her to sleep in the same bed every night and know what she will be doing each day. The life of a thief is transitory and unpredictable. Kat has had her fill of that life.

Despite the fact that theft is both immoral and illegal, Kat does not struggle with the concept as long as she follows the thieves' code. One never rats out other cons and never cons an innocent man.

Kat has many unresolved feelings for Hale, her frequent partner in crime.

W.W. Hale V

W.W. Hale V is a frequent partner in crime to Kat. It is Hale who arranges for Kat's liberation from the Colgan School. Hale is handsome, self-assured and confident in a way that can only be achieved through breeding and old money. Hale is the son of W.W. Hale IV, a billionaire. Hale IV does not know that his son is a thief. Hale works to maintain a legitimate front for his parents and others. Only Marcus seems to know Hale's secrets.

Kat is accurate when she says that Hale is a bored little boy who is always looking for new toys and excitement.

Hale takes great pleasure in teasing Kat. He refuses to tell anyone his first name, which becomes a running joke between the friends since Kat is forever guessing.

Although Hale pretends to be relatively oblivious to the attention he receives from women, he clearly uses it to his advantage. Hale does not do this to Kat, however. Like Kat, Hale seems to have unresolved feelings toward his partner. Despite any underlying emotions, it is clear that Hale will always be there for Kat in her time of need.



Gabrielle

Gabrielle is Kat's cousin and frequent partner in crime. She is the polar opposite of Kat and loves to cause trouble.

Bobby Bishop

Bobby Bishop is Kat's father. A world class thief, Bishop prides himself on being clever and never getting caught.

Arturo Taccone

Arturo Taccone is the man whose paintings have been stolen. Taccone is an evil and dangerous man.

Simon

Simon is the member of the crew Kat and Hale recruit in Las Vegas.

Uncle Eddie

Uncle Eddie is Kat's great-uncle. He is the patriarch of the organization.

Marcus

Marcus is Hale's butler. Marcus is always prepared for anything.

Bagshaw Boys

The Bagshaw boys, Angus and Hamish, are a long-time part of the heist society.

Abiram Stein

Abiram Stein is the owner of a bookstore and one of the world's foremost experts on paintings by the masters.



Objects/Places

New York

New York is one of the main settings used in the book.

Kat and Hale go to Manhattan to find Uncle Eddie. Uncle Eddie's brownstone is located in New York City. It is the gathering place for the heist society. It is unusual for a master thief to maintain a residence but Uncle Eddie seems to be able to break many rules. Uncle Eddie has gained respect from other thieves and no one seems to bother him there. The home almost seems like the home of someone's grandmother, where one could come for soup, conversation, comfort, and conversation around the kitchen table. In Uncle Eddie's case, it is also where many heists have been planned. It is a place where everyone is welcome but where Uncle Eddie is clearly the dictator. It is also the only place Kat has ever called home.

The other frequently mentioned place in New York is Hale's family home. It is a 600 acre estate outside the city. Like Kat, this house is the only place Hale has ever called home although the Hales have properties around the world. The estate is opulent yet welcoming, made so mainly by Hale's butler, Marcus.

Arturo Taccone's Villa

Kat describes Arturo Taccone's villa at first glance:

"Even at night, even from this distance, anyone could see that Arturo Taccone's home was really a palace made of stone and wood, surrounded by vineyards and olive trees. A postcard paradise. But what Kat noticed were the guards and the towers, the walls and the gates. It was no paradise, it was more like a prison." (Chap. 8, pg. 70)

The villa is accustomed to receiving guests although it is obvious that only invited guests are permitted inside. Kat is an exception to the rule. The villa is more protected than Fort Knox. It has four towers, walls, perimeter guards and a moat with a drawbridge. When Kat chastises Gabrielle for not getting better pictures, Gabrielle reminds her that the castle has an actual moat with things swimming in it, things to keep people out.

The Inside of the villa reminds Kat a lot of Hale's New York estate. Everything is orderly and beautiful. The interior is decorated with priceless antiques and works of art.

Kat and Hale would eventually learn that Taccone had a secret elevator installed in his library. The elevator leads to a room located under the moat. It is in this sealed room that Taccone has kept the priceless paintings. Kat and Hale have to figure out how someone could have gotten into the room. A submarine is the only answer.



The Colgan School

The Colgan School is a prestigious ivy league prep school. Kat manages to con her way into the school the day before classes start.

Paris

Paris is one of Kat's favorite places. It is home to the Louvre and the site of family outings for the Bishops. It is where Kat locates her father.

Stein's Bookstore

Stein's bookstore is where Kat and Hale get information on the stolen paintings. It is located in Poland.

The Henley

The Henley is, in Kat's estimation, the best museum in the world. It is also the one that has the highest levels of security that had been breached by Romani.

The Louvre

The Louvre is the premier museum located in Paris, home to the Mona Lisa. Kat and her family had cased the Louvre when she was five years old.

Wyndham Manor

Wyndham Manor is Hale's family home located in England.

Vienna

Vienna is the supposed home of Visily Romani. It is also the site where Uncle Eddie arrives to tell Kat to give up the quest because it is impossible.

Warsaw, Poland

Warsaw, Poland is the location of Stein's bookstore.



Themes

Loyalty

Loyalty is one of the main themes in *Heist Society* by Ally Carter. Kat Bishop has grown up in a heist society - a family that is devoted to stealing. The family has expanded over the years to include people not related by blood, including Hale, Simon, and the Bagshaw brothers - Angus and Hamish.

Despite any differences that exist between any members of the family, there is always complete loyalty. Thieves must be able to count on each other 100% and 100% of the time. This is clearly shown through many examples. Perhaps the most obvious example relates to Kat and Gabrielle. The cousins are quite different. Kat is one of the boys while Gabrielle is all girl - a flirt and an opportunist. Despite Kat's disapproval of her cousin's antics, Kat knows that when it counts, Gabrielle can be trusted and her skills are flawless.

Kat must also realize that Hale is loyal to the end when it comes to her and that he can always be trusted and counted on to protect and help her when needed.

It is loyalty that prompts Kat to return to the life of crime. Kat's father is in danger of being killed by the notorious Arturo Taccone, who is accusing Kat's father of a crime he did not commit. Kat's love for her father and her loyalty dictate that she will stop at nothing to ensure that her father is safe and that Taccone is punished.

Thieves

Most of the characters in *Heist Society* by Ally Carter are well trained thieves. In some cases, the thieves are considered to be master thieves. In Kat's estimation, the master thieves are Uncle Eddie, her father, and the mysterious Visily Romani. Kat does not consider herself to be a master thief but with time and training she will be able to improve on her already impressive skill set.

Kat remembers her first job as a decoy.

"Kat used to love Paris. She remembered being there with her parents - eating croissants, visiting a pyramid, and carrying six red balloons. It wasn't until years later that she realized it hadn't been a fun family outing - that they'd been casing the Louvre at the time." (Chap. 4, pg. 23)

Ever since Kat was small, she has been trained by the family to be an excellent inside man, grease man, and planner. In the end, Kat is only one of two thieves who have ever managed to steal from the Henley - the most well guarded museum in the world.



In the beginning of the story, Kat had left the life of crime to pursue a life of normalcy. At the end of the story, Kat believes that perhaps she could be a master thief, embracing her former life, her family, and the opportunity to do something important.

Honor

It is often said that there is no honor among thieves. Ally Carter's Heist Society proves otherwise. The Bishop family and the members of their heist society have a great deal of honor. One of the main tenets of their beliefs is that one should never steal from an innocent man. It is okay to con a con but stealing from those who do not deserve it is taboo. This is why Kat feels justified in stealing from the Henley. The masters' paintings do not belong to the museum. Nor do they belong to Arturo Taccone. The paintings had been stolen by the Nazis, who clearly had had no honor. Therefore, the honorable thing to do would be to steal the paintings and have them returned to their rightful owners even though some of the rightful owners no longer exist or have heirs.

The Bagshaw boys get into big trouble with Uncle Eddie when they break the honor code and steal from innocent people. The Bagshaw boys say that they did not know that their marks were nuns. As the result of their misstep, the brothers are blacklisted by Uncle Eddie until they have learned their lesson. If the brothers had intentionally robbed nuns, it is clear as to whether they would have been ousted permanently.

In the end, it is honor that spurs Kat to want to find the rest of the stolen paintings. The new Romani also has some honor as he returns the fifth painting.



Style

Point of View

The point of view used in *Heist Society* by Ally Carter is third person omniscient. This point of view works well throughout the book since there are several components and underlying factors that would not be revealed otherwise. The story itself, with its long family history and relationships, is rather complex and only third person omniscient would allow the reader to follow and understand the activities of all of the characters as well as the dangerous events undertaken by Kat and the other members of the heist society as well as the complicated relationships between Kat and Hale, Uncle Eddie and Bobby. It also allows for the reader to follow and understand actions and thoughts of other characters in the book as well as those events of which one single character has no knowledge.

While the first person point of view might have been interesting when coming from the characters in their time of confusion, third person conveys the entire story and not just the subjective opinions of the characters. It also permits the reader to take part in the journey and development of each character in the story.

Setting

New York is one of the main settings used in the book.

Kat and Hale go to Manhattan to find Uncle Eddie. Uncle Eddie's brownstone is located in New York City. It is the gathering place for the heist society. It is unusual for a master thief to maintain a residence but Uncle Eddie seems to be able to break many rules. Uncle Eddie has gained respect from other thieves and no one seems to bother him there. The home almost seems like the home of someone's grandmother, where one could come for soup, conversation, comfort, and conversation around the kitchen table. In Uncle Eddie's case, it is also where many heists have been planned. It is a place where everyone is welcome but where Uncle Eddie is clearly the dictator. It is also the only place Kat has ever called home.

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Language and Meaning

The language and meaning used throughout *Heist Society* by Ally Carter reflects on the times in a number of ways. It is clear that the people in the stories live in modern times, since they speak of particular events and fashions of the time as well as many high tech



gadgets such as security systems, surveillance systems and other computerized instruments that help the group complete the jobs at hand. Carter does not use a great deal of slang or any language that would date the work in a negative way. There are some examples of the characters peppering their speech with slang or using words and phrases from other languages since many of the characters are multilingual. Whenever these words or phrases are used, they are used in such a way that there does not need to be any lengthy explanation by the author.

Carter is a master of language and is not afraid to exercise her vocabulary. There is a marked absence of sex, violence, and vulgarity throughout the story and it is rare to see any use of profanity. This may be due to the fact that this is a young adult book. Carter also proves that a good story can be told while turning a clever phrase without resorting to inappropriate language for her audience.

Structure

Heist Society by Ally Carter is a work of fiction. It is comprised of 287 pages, broken down into 37 chapters. The shortest chapter is 4 pages in length; the longest chapter is 11 pages in length. The average number of pages per chapter is 12 pages.

The story is chronological in nature. The story opens with the main character, Kat Bishop, thinking about the Ivy League school she attends. Kat has been called into the headmaster's office to discuss the destruction of his beloved 1958 Porsche Speedster that has somehow been placed atop the fountain in the school quad. Kat has been framed for the job and is expelled.

The reader learns about Kat's history as the daughter of master thief Bobby Bishop. Kat is part of an old heist society that has pulled jobs only a handful of people across the world could have accomplished without being caught. Although Kat had intended to go to school to create a normal life for herself, others had a different plan in mind.

Someone has stolen five paintings from Arturo Taccone, a notorious thief and evil man. Taccone blames Kat's father for the theft and says he will give Kat two weeks to get the paintings back before Bobby Bishop suddenly disappears for good. Kat must round up her old crew and create a plan to save her father.

The story takes place in various locations around the world during that two week period. The sections of the book are labeled by the number of days until the deadline set by Taccone.

Sections include 13 Days Until Deadline - New York, USA; 12 Days Until Deadline - Las Vegas, USA; 11 Days Until Deadline - Sabina, Italy; 10 Days Until Deadline - Naples, Italy; 9 Days Until Deadline - Vienna, Austria; 8 Days Until Deadline - Warsaw, Poland; 7 Days Until Deadline - London, England; 6 Days Until Deadline - London, England; 5 Days Until Deadline - Paris, France; 4 Days Until Deadline - Wyndham Manor, England; 3 Days Until Deadline - Wyndham Manor, England; 2 Days Until Deadline - Rome, Italy; 1 Day Until Deadline - Wyndham Manor, England; Day of Deadline - Paris, France.



Quotes

"No one knew for certain when the trouble started at the Colgan School."
Chap. 1, pg. 1

"Kat had learned quite a lot of things before enrolling at the Colgan School - but the thing that she knew best was that this was the kind of place where she could never share them."
Chap. 1, pg. 9

"Kat sometimes wondered if that kind of self-assurance was something only very old money could buy. Then she wondered if it was something you could steal."
Chap. 2, pg. 13

"'I haven't heard about any jobs,' Kat insisted before remembering that she'd been out of the world. The loop. The life."
Chap. 3, pg. 19

"There are a lot of reasons people come to Las Vegas. Some come because they want to get rich. Some come because they want to get married. Some want to get lost, and others lost."
Chap. 7, pg. 51

"It is fairly safe to assume that all thieves (or anyone who has spent much of their life in the dark) will have a sixth sense that allows them to hear more, process more quickly."
Chap. 8, pg. 63

"Scary men do scary things, but for Kat, nothing was as terrifying as the sound of Arturo Taccone laughing."
Chap. 9, pg. 75

"Having done it herself on more than one occasion, it wasn't hard for Kat to imagine the thief scouting the old villa and formulating a plan."
Chap. 10, pg. 80

"She was very good with four languages and decent at two more. She could go anywhere. She could do anything."
Chap. 11, pg. 93



"The assembly of a crew is a monumental event in a young thief's life."
Chap. 17, pg. 132

"Kat used to love Paris, but as she walked away from her father that afternoon, the sidewalks seemed too crowded and foreign and cold. She wanted to go home. Wherever that was."
Chap. 22, pg. 170

"Kat had always heard that if there was one thing that the great museums of the world feared more than theft, it was fire."
Chap. 32, pg. 241

Topics for Discussion

Discuss in detail the relationship between Kat and Hale. Are they friends? Is there a potential for romance? Do they trust each other? What is Hale's real reason for agreeing to get Kat thrown out of Colgan?

Compare and contrast Kat and Gabrielle.

There is clearly history and some animosity between Uncle Eddie and Bobby. Discuss the relationship between the men.

Examine the use of the name Visily Romani. Why do you think that the thief chose to use the sacred name? Why did the thief need an "Alias Man"?

Explain the con's code of honor.

Who are the Bagshaw Boys? What is their role in the story? How did they become involved in the heist society?

Kat insists from the beginning that her father had not been involved in the theft of Taccone's paintings. Kat believes she has no choice but to try to save her father. What would you have done in Kat's place?