

# Perfectly Good Crime

by Dete Meserve



1. The heists are portrayed as “good crimes” with noble motives. Kate must decide whether to expose them or consider that they might serve a greater good. Can crime ever be justified if it leads to positive change? Do you see those behind the heists as heroes or criminals?
2. Kate faces pressure from her senator father and the billionaire victims to stop reporting on the heists. How do you think Kate should balance her professional responsibility as a journalist with her family loyalty and the interests of powerful figures? How does she maintain her integrity while being influenced by these pressures?
3. Jake uses the term “Hidden Mickey” to describe evidence that’s hidden in plain sight. Looking back, what clues served as “Hidden Mickeys” revealing the true identity of the hacker known as “Robin Hood”?
4. Kate and Eric have jobs that put them at risk—her job as a reporter, his job as a firefighter. How does the nature of their jobs impact their relationship?
5. Locksley argues that only bold, sensational acts, like the estate robberies, can effectively draw attention to important causes such as helping the poor. Do you agree with Locksley’s perspective? If not, what alternative approaches might inspire others to take meaningful action?
6. *Perfectly Good Crime* presents a clear divide between the super-wealthy and the rest of society. What responsibility, if any, do the wealthy have to address inequality? How does the book challenge or reinforce your own thoughts on the role of the ultra-rich in society?

7. As a reporter, Kate's job is to document the facts, even when her emotions pull her in a particular direction. In her personal life, she questions her father's motives for urging her to drop the estate heist scoop and doubts Eric's fidelity due to his contact with his ex-girlfriend, Carrie. How does Kate navigate her strong feelings in both her reporting and personal life? What methods does she use to seek out the truth in a story or situation?
8. Robin Hood chooses to remain anonymous to inspire change, aware that revealing his identity could overshadow his mission. Similarly, Kate decides to report on the hope Robin Hood brings rather than exposing his identity, even though breaking the story could transform her career. Do you think Kate's decision aligns with Robin Hood's in prioritizing the mission's impact over personal gain? Why or why not?
9. The characters in *Perfectly Good Crime* take actions that change their world in small or large ways. How does Kate's individual journey impact her sense of purpose? Do you believe individual actions, like Kate's reporting or Robin Hood's heists, can truly drive significant social change?
10. Kate weighs the importance of staying in LA for a relationship or going to New York for a job opportunity. Does she make the right choice? What choice would you make?