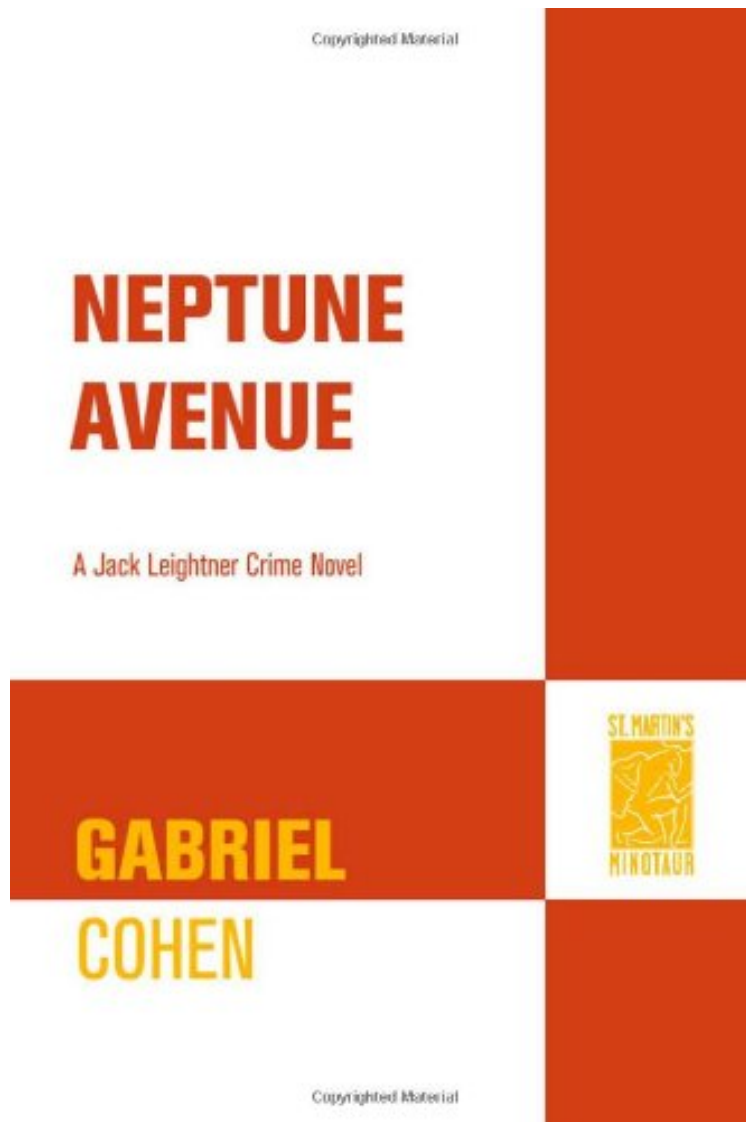


(Free) Neptune Avenue: A Jack Leightner Crime Novel (Jack Leightner Crime Novels)

# Neptune Avenue: A Jack Leightner Crime Novel (Jack Leightner Crime Novels)

*Gabriel Cohen*

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**Gabriel Cohen : Neptune Avenue: A Jack Leightner Crime Novel (Jack Leightner Crime Novels)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Neptune Avenue: A Jack Leightner Crime Novel (Jack Leightner Crime Novels):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Kudos to Gabriel Cohen By Joel Soroka I really enjoyed this book. When I find an author of interest I begin at the beginning and move forward. This is the fourth novel by Gabriel Cohen

I've read and the third Jack Leightner story and with "Neptune Avenue" Cohen has crossed a boundary from crime story to literature. This is not about flash. This is about a protagonist whom the reader can care about and characters and plot line that feels real, not created to titillate but to engage. I haven't lived in Brooklyn for twenty years but Cohen brings me back and engenders intense memories of the streets and characters of my youth while at the same time telling a story that I didn't want to end. Bravo.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Chris GirlingGOOD DETECTIVE NOVEL. WITH A GOOD PLOT0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy ThomasVery well written

If we took it all personally, Brooklyn South homicide detective Jack Leightner tells his rookie NYPD partner, there's no way we could do the job. Very soon, though, that notion gets shot to hell, as the deeply principled cop hears about the murder of an old Russian friend on Neptune Avenue---and then is disturbed to find himself increasingly drawn to the man's stunning widow, Eugenia. She informs Jack of her husband's troubles with Semyon Balakutis, a local nightclub operator and extortionist. Meanwhile, a mysterious stranger in central Brooklyn is killing young women and posing them as suicides. From the Russian emigré community of Brighton Beach to the racially charged neighborhood of Crown Heights, from the crimes of World War II to the harshness of his own father, Jack's latest cases plunge him deep into the roots of why men act in anger---and into the eternal mystery of love. Gabriel Cohen stuns in this riveting third addition to the Brooklyn-set series.

From Publishers WeeklyJack Leightner juggles two Brooklyn cases in Cohen's so-so third novel to feature the NYPD detective (after 2007's *The Graving Dock*): the staged suicides of two women and the murder of Russian Daniel Lelo, with whom Leightner shared a hospital room years earlier after both men were shot. Leightner, whose previous relationships include an ex-wife and a girlfriend who revealed she was seeing someone else just as he was about to propose marriage, finds himself falling for Lelo's attractive widow, Zhenya. His refusal to consider Zhenya a serious suspect damages the book's credibility, as do a number of other mistakes that a veteran like Leightner shouldn't make. Some awkward prose (e.g., "The girl behind the counter was a skinny little thing dotted like a doughnut with bright pink acne") and a contrived ending don't help. Reggie Nadleson does a better job of covering much the same geographic and emotional territory in his Artie Cohen novels (*Fresh Kills*, etc.). (May) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.From Booklist\*Starred \* Contemporary Brooklyn is one of the wellsprings of crime fiction. With many dozens of ethnic enclaves sitting cheek by jowl, it is a roiling place that challenges even the skills of veteran NYPD Homicide Detective Jack Leightner. In this third Leightner novel (following *The Graving Dock*, 2007, and *Red Hook*, 2001), Jack finds himself plumbing the mysteries of Brighton Beach, Brooklyn's Russian enclave. He's after the murderer of a friend, a Russian immigrant he shared a hospital room with while recovering from a bullet wound; but what lonely Leightner finds first is love, or at least infatuation, with Zhenya, the victim's wife. Principled and soulful, Leightner chastises himself for his feelings while his investigation takes him from Crown Heights to Coney Island. But plot takes a backseat here to character. Jack's and Brooklyn's Cohen treats crime fans to quirky details of Jack's world and a knowing glimpse of an amazing place blessed and afflicted by a surfeit of tribes that sometimes go to war and are always suspicious of outsiders. Cohen's novels belong, with those of Norman Green, at the top of every Brooklyn crime-fiction list. --Thomas Gaughan "Superb...An impeccable procedural plus a poignant love story, intelligent, understated and refreshing."--Kirkus (Starred)