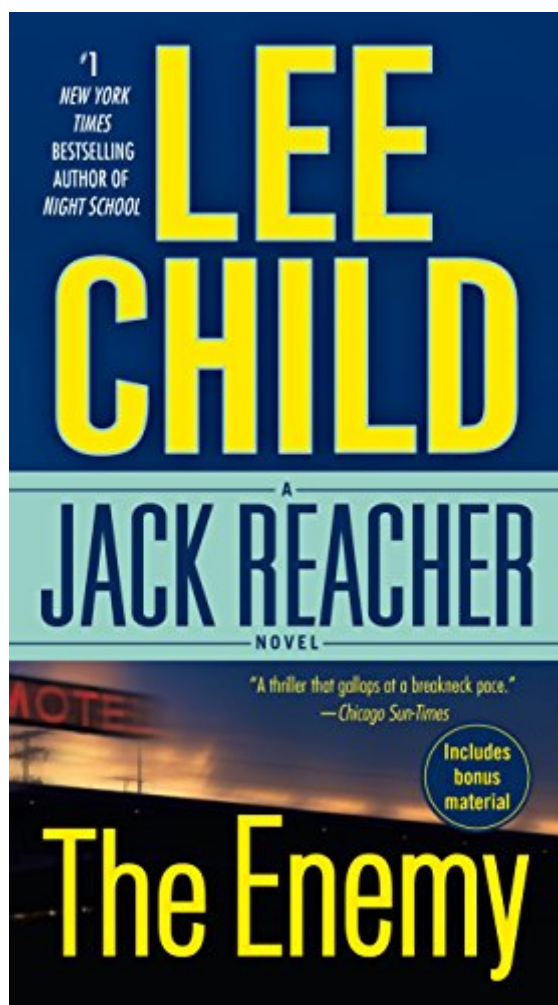


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The Enemy (Jack Reacher, Book 8)



Synopsis

BONUS: This edition contains an excerpt from Lee Child's *Make Me*. Jack Reacher. Hero. Loner. Soldier. Soldier's son. An elite military cop, he was one of the army's brightest stars. But in every cop's life there is a turning point. One case. One messy, tangled case that can shatter a career. Turn a lawman into a renegade. And make him question words like honor, valor, and duty. For Jack Reacher, this is that case. New Year's Day, 1990. The Berlin Wall is coming down. The world is changing. And in a North Carolina "hot-sheets" motel, a two-star general is found dead. His briefcase is missing. Nobody knows what was in it. Within minutes Jack Reacher has his orders: Control the situation. But this situation can't be controlled. Within hours the general's wife is murdered hundreds of miles away. Then the dominoes really start to fall. Two Special Forces soldiers "the toughest of the tough" are taken down, one at a time. Top military commanders are moved from place to place in a bizarre game of chess. And somewhere inside the vast worldwide fortress that is the U.S. Army, Jack Reacher "an ordinarily untouchable investigator for the 110th Special Unit" is being set up as a fall guy with the worst enemies a man can have. But Reacher won't quit. He's fighting a new kind of war. And he's taking a young female lieutenant with him on a deadly hunt that leads them from the ragged edges of a rural army post to the winding streets of Paris to a confrontation with an enemy he didn't know he had. With his French-born mother dying "and divulging to her son one last, stunning secret" Reacher is forced to question everything he once believed about his family, his career, his loyalties "and himself. Because this soldier's son is on his way into the darkness, where he finds a tangled drama of desperate desires and violent death "and a conspiracy more chilling, ingenious, and treacherous than anyone could have guessed.

Book Information

File Size: 2462 KB

Print Length: 400 pages

Page Numbers Source ISBN: 0857500112

Publisher: Delacorte Press (May 11, 2004)

Publication Date: May 11, 2004

Sold by: Random House LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B000FC1MBO

Text-to-Speech: Not enabled

X-Ray: Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #3,588 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #50 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Mystery, Thriller & Suspense > Thrillers > Espionage #65 in Books > Mystery, Thriller & Suspense > Thrillers & Suspense > Spies & Politics > Espionage #491 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Mystery, Thriller & Suspense > Mystery

Customer Reviews

Love it, but I am a huge, giant Lee Child Jack Reacher fan. I read every book about Jack Reacher. Just fascinated I guess. Love the plots, the writing, the descriptions, the bad guys, the good girls and guys, all of it. Every word, every page.

The Enemy is one of the better Jack Reacher books. It has a deep story line that is plausible, that the Army needed to undergo massive restructuring after the fall of the Soviet Union, evolving from a relatively immobile tank based artillery force to a more nimble air based force. I don't know military history enough to know if this was true, but the fact that it was at least plausible really made this story enjoyable for me. I should say that the character development was also very good in this book. On to the next Reacher story!

You never quite know who the enemy is until later. You have an idea, but you can be wrong. Another fast paced, hard to put down book by Lee Child. You think that there is a rhythm to his books and start to predict, but then you find out that you are wrong. Sometimes you can be right, but you really have to pay a lot of attention to details. Set your alarm to put it down, or you will either be late in the morning or go in without sleep. Somewhat like attending a business convention in Las Vegas.

Author Lee Child takes a step back with "The Enemy," taking the reader to the dawn of 1990 when Jack Reacher is a major in the Army. He's just been given orders to leave Panama in the middle of the Noriega take-down and dumped unceremoniously into a fictitious North Carolina military installation called Fort Bird. Soon after settling in and while New Year's celebrations are taking

place, Reacher gets a call about a dead general. No big deal, right? Happens. Unfortunately there's a big back story that takes our hero all of the book to figure out. He's taken down a notch right off the bat by a nasty little runt of a colonel and is dogged at every step. There's a detour with his brother Joe and their mom in Paris that's excellent for continuing readers and quite sad. Reacher's younger here and we see a little of his development and why he's so good in the other books. The flashback offers insight and fleshes out our character.

I have read all of the Reacher books and this one is one of the best. I have problems with the violence in some of his books. This one is a mult-murder mystery so there is some implied violence (analysis of the bodies/evidence) and there is the usual Reacher fights, but the violence is not gratuitous. The story is from when Reacher was still in the military and Joe was still alive. Other books had made reference to the fact that Reacher had been a major, got busted down to captain and the rose again to major. This is the story behind the change to captain. We also get some interesting backstory about Reacher's family. LOVED the ending. Reacher takes the high road, and yet he still has his "off the books" low-road moments that make him such a rebel. This is a truly good book.

I came late to the Reacher franchise and have read through the first 8 volumes quickly. In 7 and 8 I think Child and his approach are maturing. This novel included a prototypical Reacher investigation, but also interaction with his mother and brother that broadened the character considerably. It is hard to read a story written this well, with so much insight, and not feel moved by it. The Reacher stories are page turners, books I have found exciting, but never particularly rooted in realism. Child seemed to anchor this one more in relationships and realities that delivered doses of realism missing from the earlier books. Well worth a read.

This book begins way before the last book started. This book finds Reacher transferred to a new base for no apparent reason & finds quickly that he is the acting CO of the MPs on base. In the first few hours on the base, he gets a call that a 2-star general has been found dead in a \$15.00 per night motel frequented by hookers. The general's body is naked. This begins a wild ride that is hard to put down.

I've read up to Jack Teacher #8 and that is why I put torn up?? Why because I Really can't decide whether I like the books or not. Being almost seventy one and being in the twilight of my life, I have

always loved to read starting with my early years in the navy sailing the seven seas in harm's way!! I like the way Lee Childs writes and will still read his books,trying to decide whether I like them or not???

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