



A Deeper Blue

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Sequel to *Ghost*, *Kildar*, *Choosers of the Slain* and *Unto the Breach*.

Heart-sick over the deaths of so many of his Keldara followers, and one in particular, former SEAL Mike Harmon, hero of *Ghost*, *Kildar* and *Choosers of the Slain*, decides to sit this one out. WMDs headed for the US no longer matter to the Kildar. But when his best friend and intel specialist both are seriously wounded in an ambush aimed at him, the Kildar gets his gameface back on. Mike has always said that he's not a nice guy, and he's about to prove it to a boatload of terrorists and Colombian drug dealers. Set in the Bahamas and Florida Keys, *A Deeper Blue* is a fast moving thriller that never slows down from the first page. With the return of some old faces, the action-packed novel proves, once again, the adage that sometimes it takes some very bad people to do good things.

A Deeper Blue Details

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From Reader Review A Deeper Blue for online ebook

Kevin Beck says

Another fast paced adventure as the Kildar and his band of mercenaries race to stop acts of terrorism in Florida.

Viking Litespear says

Ringo is technically a good writer, but this is teen-aged, misogynistic pulp. If the harem of teen-virgins and the gratuitous sexual torture scenes had been edited out, I could have enjoyed the book and excused the rest of the silly distractions of a writer who has no idea how any military outfit runs and fills gaps with poison fingernails, fast cars and tiger emblems.

Your time would be better spent with authors like Dick Couch or reading Starship Troopers.

Chuck Springer says

The character development significantly improved from the last couple of books in this series. I was fascinated how the author used existing world threats, correlated with the glacial speed of bureaucratic decision making for another thrill ride. I found myself excited to see this new Kildar cut through the red tape and approach each mission with a clear headedness and necessary foresight to achieve various levels of success. I am now anxiously waiting to the next novel in the series.

Andreas says

Book five sees the usual gang take on smugglers and terrorists trying to bring off a nerve gas attack in Florida. But there's a twist. Events in Unto the Breach have left Mike in deep depression. As he works on that, he isn't afraid to step on toes in order to get things done.

This one is quite a ride, and my vague familiarity of the territory (the Keys, mainland Florida and the Bahamas) made it all flow smoothly. The culture shock between "by the book" US law officialdom and "get it done" Keldara is played for lots of laughs. Reading between the lines, though, there is an astute critique of current US anti terrorism efforts and the debate surrounding them.

<http://www.books.rosboch.net/?p=1180>

David Beck says

Mike and the Keldara are in the Caribbean and Central Florida to prevent a bunch of terrorist attacks against the tourism industries. They once again kick ass and take names and Mike is able to recover from losing the love of his life Gretchen which I think is probably the weakest part of the whole series.

Beau says

I've enjoyed this series, to the extent that I feel bad that I'm at the end of it (there is a 6th book, but it was written six years later, has a different author and appears to bear little resemblance to the other 5). So I had high hopes for this one.

Well, there was plenty of action. I'm talking swashbuckling action at Disneyworld. The setting returns to Florida, where Ringo is at home. Lots of water, boats, helicopters, boats, and water.

I like it when the good guys are just this side of being gods. When they don't get killed, when they're not too tired to go the extra mile, when they keep it simple. These books are graphic novels without the graphics - the people are comic book heroes. I like that fine.

BUT ...

In order to put the good guys into a position to fly half way around the world and get involved in Florida and the Bahamas, the people who are already there have to, um, get out of the way first. That's my first nit to pick with this book. They have to make the FBI, DEA, BATF, and US Army look incompetent in order to run roughshod over the landscape.

My second nit to pick is that this is the fourth Al Qaeda / islamist plot against either the US or the Keldara in the series (I think that the Albanians in book 3 were the exception). By the time we get to the fourth time, the response by the good guys feels like treating the symptoms while not managing the disease. These plots are hatched pretty far along, but we aren't getting back to the source of them. Shouldn't we be picking up some intel that these things are coming from [pick one: Iran, Iraq, Syria, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Yemen, Libya, Somalia, etc]? Shouldn't we be focusing on either the funding or the braintrust for the next four plots, and trying to isolate and defeat that?

I mean, it is a problem if you run out of bad guys for the good guys to make sausage out of, but somewhere between eliminating them and ignoring them is a lot of room for action by people who are as insightful as Mike Harmon and his crew.

My last nit is that I really like J and don't find as much time on stage for him as I want.

Those niggling complaints aside, I get a great kick out of these stories, and just about everything else by Ringo. I skip the parts that don't have battles - the sex scenes and the political speeches. The military action, and the cool toys, that part I enjoy the most.

Keep it light, action lovers, and this story will entertain you.

RJ says

This book couldn't quite keep pace with the previous installment; coming down from the excitement and action of the battle with the Chechens. Don't get me wrong, it was a good story, just not as much going on with the Keldara as in prior chapters. Our poor hero struggles to overcome his grief in losing Gretchen. It never fails that the main male character in these types of novels never has a lasting relationship. The woman

either leaves or gets killed, more often the later. I am and am not looking forward to the next book in the series seeing as it may be the last. If that is the case I'll have to delve into his other works.

Steven Sheeley says

Now we've got terrorists are intent on bringing VX gas to the United States. Fortunately we've got Mike Harmon to stands in their way.

We get a deeper look into the psyche of Mike Harmon and the depth of his caring for his friends and family. While he is a larger than life hero, he is a complex human being.

That being said, once again we are immersed in non-stop lethal action with solid criticism of our government's approach on terrorism.

I do love the fact that Ringo's books are always entertaining and fill a definite niche when you need a kick ass, no prisoners, righteously indignant hero. Surprisingly the books can be thought provoking as well.

Once again this is not a book for kids, there is not as much rough sex but is is somewhat explicit but it fits with the plot of the book.

Dan says

7/4/17 3rd reread. Another enjoyable installment in this unique series.

William Bentrin says

A Deeper Blue by John Ringo

Terrorists are intent on bringing VX gas to the United States to kill civilians. Mike Harmon/Jenkins stands in their way.

The emotional deprivation that Mike feels in this book provides a more complete picture of this larger than life hero. He demonstrates more depth in his caring for his friends.

That being said, once again we are immersed in non-stop lethal action with solid criticism of our government's approach on terrorism. Ringo writes outstanding action books laced with cynical critiques of political correctness.

Amidst all the action and storyline, Ringo points out that all the terrorist action against the United States has been carried out by young Arab males. His character regards the lack of profiling of this type of person as sheer insanity, paramount to suicidal.

Ringo's books are always entertaining and fill a definite niche when I need a kick ass, no prisoners, righteously indignant hero. Surprisingly the books can be thought provoking as well. Sadly this seems to be the end of the series featuring The Ghost/Kildar.

Once again this is not a book for kids, there is not as much rough sex but it is somewhat explicit but it fits with the plot of the book.

I recommend this book.

Bryan457 says

A terrorist plot for a major attack on American soil brings Mike out of a major depression. High octane speedboat chases, some torture of terrorists, some rape and torture of his secretary, (who really loves the rough stuff), makes this an exciting read.

Warning graphic sex and violence.

Mike says

A guilty pleasure, comic book plot, bad guys and slightly less bad "good" guys. Won't strain your brain, call it summer beach reading. 3 Stars.

Gabe S says

I can't give this series any sort of lucid and rational recommendation as I am a little conflicted about my enjoyment of them but the more I read these books, the more I come to think this is John Ringo's 21st Century equivalent to Robert Howard's Conan - a 'Boys (Man's)Own Adventure' for Modern Times.

Where readers in the 30's were scandalized by the archetypal but brutish exploits of the Cimmerian and his unapologetically thieving ways and dalliances with thinly veiled ladies of the bodacious sort, current PC bosom-heavers are disgusted by the unenlightened actions and desires of the protagonist who is essentially the modern, military version of Conan - an action orientated, military tech proficient ex Navy Seal hero who is highly partial to Beers, Babes, Bullets and Bondage and not necessarily in that order.

As a self-identified liberal, I'd find it hard to explicitly argue the merits of this series to someone who shares my general point of view in regards to (baseline) feminism and pacifism etc... but as someone whose traveled and lived around the world from birth, I realize that evil does exist and sometimes demands to be terminated with all prejudice and that men and women while all sharing universal humanist traits blah blah are different from one person to another, proclivity wise and there's just something primally enjoyable about good destroying evil in such spectacular fashion, if that good does have an admitted dark side to it.

I don't know - I have a hard time with idiots who fawn all over these books like some righteous birthright of evolutionary psychology but I feel the same discomfort from hand wringing, moral-relativist twits who 'deplore the sexual politics and violent war mongering' of this series but still can't get enough of the Walking Dead and Crossed etc...

All I can say is I had a huge grin on my face for most of this series even if a large majority of those were an incredulous grimace at the audacity of Ringo (read his own comments about this series - interesting) to 'go there' and virtually everyone who who I've enjoyed debating and talking about issues with seemed to share

my perverse enjoyment of these books - even if their loved ones were just as horrified by these..... which of course just makes these even more of a perverse pleasure.

Roberta says

The latest installment of the Paladin of Shadows is high on action and low on sex, and I like it that way. This time Mike goes after a terrorist attack on American soil. Only for the first time, he doesn't want to answer the call of duty from the President because the love of his life was killed in the previous novel, and he is drinking himself into a stupor.

Good action sequences, rough on some of his female operatives, but well done.

Lee says

Again, this series (exc. bk 1) is one of my guilty pleasures. At least, it answered one of my unasked questions, "what happens when he meets one of the ones he rescued in book #1?"

Mike H. is still tortured by his mental ghosts, still a dead shot, still putting his life on the line to save innocents from Muslim terrorists, and still has an unrealistic attraction for women. He has some redeeming characteristics, primarily that he knows that he's *this* close to being a horrible monster, and doesn't really want to become that.
