



The Drone Enigma

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Jake Palmer accepts an offer from a defense contractor and his former SEAL teammate to consult with the company on the death of an engineer assigned to the top secret Perseus Project—the development of the navigation and targeting systems for an experimental Navy drone.

Two days into the case, Palmer finds Jansen shot dead in his office and vows to bring his killer to justice. What he discovers convinces him that both deaths are related to the project and that someone within the company is working with terrorists to seize control of the drone during a live fire test in Afghanistan. With no hard evidence to support his theory, he is unable to persuade either the company or the military that an imminent threat exists. After he falls under suspicion, his contract is terminated and the police are called in.

Pursued by the police and headed for engagement with a large, well armed terrorist cell led by the company insider, Palmer is close to defeat when he receives help from the most unlikely person. With only hours to spare, they race to stop an attack half a world away. The Drone Enigma will keep you on the edge of your seat and make you question every news story about drones.

The Drone Enigma Details

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From Reader Review The Drone Enigma for online ebook

Maryam says

Well I won a copy of this book through GoodReads giveaways, so I try to give an honest review.

When I read the back cover the book, first thing coming to my mind was 24 TV show and Jack Bauer. The story has almost the same line, terrorists who are going to attack US targets, and few good men who want to save US and nobody believes them.

But details are somehow different; plus the novel is really well written. It immediately grabs your attention and don't let you put it down easily. It is realistic and the author knows war territory fare well.

Although it had some minor flaws, I really enjoyed it and would recommend this book to anyone who likes military thriller books and also who enjoys 24 TV.

Wendy says

"The Drone Enigma" is a power-packed roller-coaster ride that blends a murder-mystery, advanced drone technology and a terrorist attack into a one-of-a-kind, military thriller. As the story opens in Afghanistan the Navy is testing its new targeting system, their drone tracking munitions marked for destruction. Only the Taliban have stolen the weapons and hidden them in a cave. When a missile demolishes the site only one man survives, but he has a plan for revenge.

When Jacob "Jake" Palmer an investigative consultant is hired by the head of Security at Lynnhaven Technology, a Virginia-based defense contractor to solve an unexplained poisoning at their facility little does he realize that the murders will not only increase but be linked to a terrorist plot to control the Navy's new drone technology. In this fast-paced, heart-stopping murder mystery Palmer finds himself pursued by police, chased by terrorists and relying on a woman he doesn't trust.

The plot is well-crafted, the threads of the story tied masterfully together to converge in a high-powered, explosive ending. It is obvious from the start that the plot has been well-researched, bringing to life the advances in drone technology and a Navy Seals Operation.

The characters are well-developed and multi-faceted, adding power and stark realism to the plot. Jake Palmer the investigative consultant is cynical and afraid of emotional commitment, but professionally is smart, astute, and good judge of character. Wade Cody Jansen, his former Navy Seal teammate is a courageous and honorable man who's dedicated to his family and job. Alona Green is the clever, feisty and unpredictable con artist and thief who masks her true identity. Fiona Collins Palmer's girlfriend, a regulatory and compliance officer is realistic and honest with a strong empathy for people. Like all the members of the Navy Seals Team Lieutenant Commander Lara Hamilton is portrayed as clever, adept, self-sacrificing and tough under fire.

But it is the antagonists that bring a chilling reality to the story; like Owen Fuller, the highly intelligent lead engineer on the Perseus Project. Behind a stern, focused and driven manner he hides a heartless, cocky self-assurance. Hassan Aswad a leader in the Taliban is fanatical, determined and merciless as is his second in

command, Abdul Wajid Shahid.

"The Drone Enigma" is a fascinating and entertaining thriller from the first page to the last. I thoroughly enjoyed it and highly recommend it.

Sarah says

I received a copy of this book as part of goodreads First Reads giveaway

The Drone Enigma is a military thriller that grabbed my attention and kept me enthralled.

Plot

Jake Palmer, an investigative consultant, was looking for a nice simple case. What he got was a race to save thousands of lives. Wade, a former SEAL teammate of Jakes offers him a job consulting on the death of an engineer who worked on the top secret Perseus Project. Soon, a laptop connected the Perseus Project is stolen and hacked. Then Jake finds Wade murdered in his office and he knows something dangerous is going on.

Thoughts

Alright, so I'm a girl who typically likes young adult or books with romance as a major theme. When I saw The Drone Enigma on Goodreads giveaways, I only entered because the description mentioned having strong female protagonist. I really didn't know if I would like this book as it is labeled a military thriller however I was pleased to find that I loved it. The Drone Enigma was fun, exciting, and kept me engaged. Ron does a great job of slipping readers into the storyline which progressed quickly. His characters feel realistic and it was easy to feel attachment and concern for their welfare. The story flowed with ease and I really enjoyed the multiple narrations and viewpoints. I will definitely check out Ron's other novel.

I recommend for anyone who enjoys great characters and a fun-thrilling adventure.

Fur Pajamas says

Wait until you have a day off to start this book, because you will not want to put it down. McManus is proving to be in the big leagues of his genre. A real buckle your seat belt thriller.

Sarah-Jayne Briggs says

(I received this book for free as part of Goodreads First Reads giveaways).

(This review may contain spoilers).

I have to say, this book isn't one that I probably would have picked up to read automatically. I am glad I did read this, though. I found this to be really well-written with interesting, well-rounded characters.

Although I did like most of the characters, I did think there were a few too many different POVs in this book. It was difficult to really get used to one character before the chapter and POV changed.

I did feel that the blurb of the book gave a bit too much away. One of the things it talks about doesn't happen until gone halfway through the book.

The book was intriguing enough to keep me reading throughout. I found the storyline to be really interesting and I felt the book really worked as a thriller. There are a couple of adult scenes that I wasn't expecting, though. I also did think there were a lot of near-misses when it came to the characters being wounded.

I didn't understand everything that was going on at first, but it made sense as the book went on. There was one thing in particular that I didn't think had enough foreshadowing before it was revealed.

The book, on the whole, was well-written, though I did notice a few errors in the writing. Nothing major, but I still noticed them.

I think I would be interested in reading more books by this author in the future, depending on what the book's about.

Larry Lindsey says

Top notch thriller that kept me sweating it out all the way.. I know the phrase "couldn't put it down" is over used, but I was so engrossed I almost missed my flight. If you're looking for a "page turner," this is it.

Deb says

I don't usually read military thrillers, but I do like a good mystery, and I found I thoroughly enjoyed The Drone Enigma. Jake Palmer, a former SEAL, accepts a job from a former teammate to consult on an investigation into the death of an engineer working on a top secret project for a defense contractor. Soon, his friend is murdered, and it becomes apparent that something very dangerous is happening, involving a terrorist plot to turn the Navy's cutting edge technology against Americans.

This is a well paced, well crafted and crisply written book, and has obviously been thoroughly researched. It engaged me from the beginning. The main characters are interesting, the secondary characters are well defined, and I found myself enjoying all the POVs. The plot is really interesting, and I had no problem following all the twists and turns of the story. It just really, really works.

My thanks to the Goodreads First Reads program for providing me with the opportunity to read and review this book.

