



The Eighth Sister

Robert Dugoni

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A pulse-pounding thriller of espionage, spy games, and treachery by the *New York Times* bestselling author of the Tracy Crosswhite Series.

Former CIA case officer Charles Jenkins is a man at a crossroads: in his early sixties, he has a family, a new baby on the way, and a security consulting business on the brink of bankruptcy. Then his former bureau chief shows up at his house with a risky new assignment: travel undercover to Moscow and locate a Russian agent believed to be killing members of a clandestine US spy cell known as the seven sisters.

Desperate for money, Jenkins agrees to the mission and heads to the Russian capital. But when he finds the mastermind agent behind the assassinations—the so-called eighth sister—she is not who or what he was led to believe. Then again, neither is anyone else in this deadly game of cat and mouse.

Pursued by a dogged Russian intelligence officer, Jenkins executes a daring escape across the Black Sea, only to find himself abandoned by the agency he serves. With his family and freedom at risk, Jenkins is in the fight of his life—against his own country.

The Eighth Sister Details

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From Reader Review The Eighth Sister for online ebook

Jean Kolinofsky says

Charles Jenkins was a spy. Working for the CIA in Mexico, he provided intelligence that led to the deaths of a number of people. It was an operation that led to disillusionment with the organization and he just walked away. Years later he runs CJ Securities, named after his son. He is owed money by his chief client and is now in financial trouble. Approached by his former bureau chief to be re-activated for a special assignment in Moscow, he initially turns him down, but lives are on the line and the payment could help save his business.

The Seven Sisters were a group of Russian women who had infiltrated various departments to provide intelligence to the United States. A counter-agent, dubbed the eighth sister, has been discovering their identities and three of the sisters have now been killed. Jenkins is to fly to Moscow under the cover of his own firm's business and discover the identity of the eighth sister. At that point he is to turn over the operation to other agents. Once again the operation is not as it seems. What follows is a daring escape from Russia, chased by a determined FSB colonel.

Once Jenkins is home he is still not safe. He is branded as a traitor and disavowed by the CIA. The second part of Robert Dugoni's story is a study in frustration as Jenkins and David Sloan, his lawyer, come up against one brick wall after another. His bureau chief has disappeared and every document that might back up Jenkins' story becomes classified and inadmissible to the courts. As his trial approaches, his future looks bleak. While the opening section of this book is a study in deception and espionage tradecraft, the later chapters involve masterful legal manipulation and a trial whose outcome is in doubt to the last moments. This is truly a book that keeps you on the edge of your seat and will appeal to fans of both spy thrillers and legal thrillers.

I would like to thank NetGalley and Thomas and Mercer Publishers for providing a copy of this book in exchange for an honest review.

Donna Hines says

Charles Jenkins is in need of change so when the opportunity arises he latches on.

This former CIA agent knows the risks he faces in bringing down the Russian agent but he must do what's required to keep his country safe.

This Russian agent is ruthless as he takes out U.S. spy cell known as the seven sisters.

Since he's already on the brink of financial disaster he takes the money in hopes of achieving success for his country only to learn there's not 7 but 8 sisters.

The eighth sister is not who she claims to be and now he must face the consequences.

Those consequences could just take his life or the life of those he loves.

Nail biting action which could've been ratcheted up more midway to end.

All in all a great thrill.

Thank you to Robert, the publisher, NetGalley, and Aldiko for this ARC in exchange for this honest review.

Bent Hansen says

Writing other books - including the excellent and entertaining Tracy Crosswhite series - Robert Dugoni has taken a 7-year break from his first major series about lawyer David Sloane and his investigator and friend Charles Jenkins. Actually, this book doesn't seem to be acknowledged as part of the Sloane series, which makes sense as Sloane has but a rather large supporting role in the book where Jenkins is the absolute main character.

This time around, Dugoni takes us - along with Jenkins - to Russia on an adventure that is nailbitingly exciting and gives us new insights on Jenkins that has only played a minor part in the "real" Sloane series. Dugoni masters both the international parts of the story as well as the domestic and courtroom parts, and the book grabs the reader straight away and doesn't let go until the very end.

One thing in the book annoyed me quite a lot: Dugoni includes quite a lot of transcribed Russian dialogue in the parts taking place in Russia (as Jenkins revives his Russian from his days as a CIA agent), and then spends the next sentence explaining the meaning to readers that don't understand Russian. That is unnecessary showing off, boring for people who don't understand Russian, and a simple waste of letters, if you ask me - and also a little embarrassing when the translation is wrong (which I found to be the case on at least one occasion).

Well, summing up, Dugoni continues his line of brilliant books - both thrillers and "other fiction" - and has added an international spy dimension to his Sloane series - or almost. New readers can easily jump into this book without having read any of the Sloane books due to the independent nature of this book.

[An ARC of the book was generously provided by the publisher through NetGalley in exchange for an honest review]

Vickie says

I enjoy Robert Dugoni's novels, especially his homicide detective, Tracy Crosswhite series. The Eighth Sister is a totally different genre and a return to characters introduced seven years ago, attorney David Sloane and his friend, Charles Jenkins.

Jenkins, former CIA agent is seemingly called back into duty and travels to and harrowingly escapes from Russia. But, was he really serving his country or his own financial interests? On trial for espionage, it is up to David Sloane to defend him against an antagonistic government.

Spy stories are not my favorite, but I thought I would try this one and was glad I did. As with most heroes in this genre, I found some of the action a bit of a stretch and a little too convenient, but the book was easy to follow and suspenseful. It moved along quickly and was ever so engrossing.

Matt says

First and foremost, a large thank you to NetGalley, Robert Dugoni, and Thomas & Mercer for providing me with a copy of this publication, which allows me to provide you with an unbiased review.

While Robert Dugoni is the author of two successful series, his standalone novels grip the reader just as effectively. There is something refreshing about an author who has so many ideas and whose name is indicative of stellar writing and plausible storylines. Charles Jenkins has been out of the spy game for many years. After serving as a CIA field agent in Mexico City, he left abruptly and eventually began work on his own security company. Four decades on, Jenkins has found solace in his wife, Alex, as well as a son, with a second child on the way. When a former Agency colleague pays a visit, Jenkins knows that it is not a

friendly check-in, especially after all this time. Jenkins soon learns that a number of Russian women are turning up dead in and around Moscow. While this is nothing concerning on the surface, they were all feeding secret intel to the Americans, part of a group called the 'Seven Sisters'. While these women were excellent at their jobs, none knew they were anything but isolated individuals defying Mother Russia during her time as the USSR. With the rise of Putin and a new authoritarian regime, whispers of the Seven Sisters re-emerged, especially since Putin was once a KGB officer and keenly interested in the rumours. Now, it would seem that there is an eighth sister working for Putin and the FSB; one who is tasked with sniffing out these traitors. Enter, Charles Jenkins, who is being sent to Russia under cover of checking up on one of his client's former offices, to seek to have the newest sister reveal herself and let the Americans take it from there. However, when Jenkins' mission is compromised, he becomes the hunted inside Russia, while the CIA denies any knowledge and will offer no help. Back in America, Alex is given instructions by her husband to leave their home and seek out David Sloane, a friend and established Seattle attorney. While Sloane and Alex know nothing of what is going on, they can only hope that Jenkins still has the antics he possessed forty years ago to extricate himself from this mess. Little does he know, his fight to get away from the FSB is only the start to the headaches that await him. Another stunning novel by Dugoni that reignites old Cold War drama, alongside some stunning legal developments. Recommended for those who love stories of espionage, especially the reader who is a longtime fan of Robert Dugoni's writing.

I always flock to a new Robert Dugoni novel, knowing that I will not be disappointed. Even his standalone pieces keep me intrigued, helping to fill the void that arises when I have to wait for the next instalment of his popular Tracy Crosswhite series. Dugoni enjoys filling his novels with details that are more poignant than fillers, keeping the reader educated as well as entertained from the opening paragraphs until the tumultuous final sentences. The development of his protagonist, Charles Jenkins was quite effective, hinting at a past within the Agency without offering up too many details. Pulling on this and linking it effectively to the Cold War-esque storyline helped the reader see the connection, as well as seek to know a little more. As the story progresses and Jenkins finds himself on the run, the reader learns a little more about Jenkins and his family, a core part of why he has stayed off the grid for so long. The story also tests Jenkins' resolve to better understand just how far he can go as an agency plant to extract needed information with ease. Working with that is a handful of characters, both in Russia's FSB and back in America, trying to help Jenkins flee the trouble in which he finds himself. Dugoni effectively juggles both sets of characters, developing a strong espionage theme throughout as the race to safety (or elimination) mounts with each passing page. Of particular note in the inclusion of David Sloane into the story. Longtime fans of Robert Dugoni will know that this was the author's first series protagonist and an effective lawyer he was. I cut my teeth on that series and respected Dugoni the more I read of it. Sloane, still a Seattle attorney, plays an effective and essential role, giving fans a jolt of excitement to see him back on the page. The story was quite strong, particularly in an age when Russia is back to play a key role on the international political and spy scene. Dugoni keeps the chapters flowing and the action mounting as the struggle for freedom becomes more desperate. Dugoni is on the mark with this piece and it goes to show just how masterful an author he has become.

Kudos, Mr. Dugoni, on another splendid addition to your writing list. I am always eager to see what you have in store for fans and was not disappointed with this effort.

Love/hate the review? An ever-growing collection of others appears at:
<http://pecheyponderings.wordpress.com/>

A Book for All Seasons, a different sort of Book Challenge: <https://www.goodreads.com/group/show/...>

Doug Yonce says

A novel novel from a superb novelist. I always look forward to the author's books, but this one was a total surprise. Expecting a Pacific Northwest lawyer thriller, I found myself, instead, transported into a completely different world. The author's research was obvious as he described new locales with detail that takes the reader with him. Character development continues to be a strength as you feel the fears, worries, determination, and triumphs. With such strong settings and characters, one could excuse a weak plot, but no need. The story moves at a great pace, keeping the pages turning. I received an advanced digital copy through #NetGalley in exchange for an honest review.

J. F. says

Book Review: The Eighth Sister by Robert Dugoni

Replete with action, gizmos and spy-speak, the critically-acclaimed author showcases the full range of his tremendous talent, and pens a spy thriller - a genre beyond the bounds of his prior work.

Although the plot morphs into a legal thriller in the last third of the book, in the style of the author's "David Sloane" legal series, the secret agent stuff is quite credible, opens a new level of excitement for his readers, and is quite a departure from his bestselling "Tracy Crosswhite" homicide detective series, and from his most recent book, the coming-of-age, touching and deeply religious "The Extraordinary Life of Sam Hell"

Odds are long against the protagonist, ex-CIA operative, Charles Jenkins, who is caught in a deadly web where the lines between friend and foe are blurred; a case of deeply embedded sleeper cells in Russia, a Russian counter-espionage officer out to get him, and a highly-placed Russian mole manipulating his betrayed country's agencies.

Jenkins - a hero who risked his life for his country finds himself in a dilemma, labelled a traitor to his country under the treacherous manipulations of the mole.

Who is the eight sister? Who are the seven other sisters? Will Jenkins and his family survive?

"He thought of Viktor Federov and of Carl Emerson, and of justice, often meted out in ways unexpected, for all of them."

Ian Fleming meets John Grisham - and more. The master storyteller does not disappointed, and whets the appetite for his next novel.

Review based on an advance reading copy provided by NetGalley, Amazon Publishing and Thomas & Mercer.

Scott Parsons says

Intriguing Spy Thriller

Charles Jenkins, who retired from the CIA years earlier because he did not agree with some of the activities being undertaken by his agency, now runs his own private security company. His company is struggling financially. So when his former bureau chief appears on his doorstep and offers him a contract to go to Moscow to try to determine who is betraying seven embedded spies known as the Seven Sisters Charles

accepts the assignment. When he arrives in Russia Charles discovers that the situation is much murkier than he was led to believe. As he attempts to track down who the seven sisters are(were) and reveal the so-called Eighth Sister (the betrayer), he becomes a person of interest to Russian intelligence and has several encounters with a senior Russian intelligence manager Victor Federov . Charles becomes embroiled with another Russian who is digging into these secrets. Soon Charles realizes that he has been betrayed by someone who knows his mission. Aided by the Russian he sets out to flee Russia but cannot fly out through the usual airports. So he and his companion drive to an obscure location on the Black Sea, with Turkey as his destination. In mad pursuit is the Russian intelligence chief Federov. With the assistance of a Turkey fishing captain Charles makes his way to Turkey and from there back to the States by subterfuge to elude his pursuers. Back in the States he finds he has been framed for espionage on behalf of Russia. He has to fight his accusers and seek to uncover the person who set him up and then betrayed him.

Well plotted and well written spy thriller with byzantine twists and turns. Highly recommended.

I received a pre-publication ARC of this novel via NetGalley

Dana-Adriana B. says

This is an alert spy book and I couldn't let it down. Charles Jenkins is asked to help with the Seven Sisters case. But in Moscow he finds out there is an eight sister. Really intriguing. Thank you Netgalley for this adventure.

Adrian Dooley says

I've read a lot of Dugonis books. A lot of the Tracy Crosswhite series and some of his stand alone books and I loved all of them. Given that, I was delighted to find out he had written a new book - The Eighth Sister.

This is a spy thriller of sorts but not necessarily the book I thought it was going to be. I didn't read the blurb about it at all so went in blind, confidently enough based on the author.

It's the story of Charles Jenkins, an ex CIA agent in his early sixties, retired from the CIA for almost forty years, he has moved to Washington, married with a young son and another child on the way, he runs a security firm.

Out of the blue his ex boss from his CIA operative days when based Mexico turns up with a proposal for him to be "reactivated" and go on a mission to Moscow to plant some information with the Russian authorities to draw out a secret agent. Having spent his former time in the CIA infiltrating KGB agents and being fluent in Russian, his boss tells him he is the ideal candidate. There is also a healthy monetary reward for completing the mission and with his business in serious financial trouble he reluctantly accepts and heads to Russia to begin the mission.

That's how the book starts and develops and spends a large chunk in Russia as he makes contact with Russian agent and the game of cat and mouse begins between the two of them. With this set up I expected the entirety of the book to be spent in Russia as Charles's mission and the secrets of it play out and are revealed. But it doesn't stay on script as his cover is kind of blown and it turns into a sort of road/chase type book and then a courtroom drama!

I really loved this book and the surprises it provided. Not so much the “reveals” but the surprise directions that it took. Just as I thought I knew what the main narrative of the book would be about it moved in a different direction. It felt like the narrative of three different books rolled into one. The thing is they all worked perfectly. If anything the book got better and better as it went on.

I’ve said it before but there is just something about Dugonis writing style and storytelling that just clicks with me. Every book I’ve read of his I’ve felt thoroughly satisfied at the end and no more so than this one. The book had me so much the more I got into it, that, as I write this review, I had 50% of it read at the start of this day and just spent the afternoon reading and completing the second half of it(which is some going for a rather pedestrian paced reader like myself). I got lost in the book, some classic rock on in the background to accompany it and a few cups of tea, a fantastic way to spend a wet and dreary afternoon.

Highly recommend, Mr Dugoni has yet to put a foot wrong in my reading experience. I’m off to amazon now to find the remaining books that I haven’t read in his series.

Many thanks to Netgalley, Thomas & Mercer and Robert Dugoni for an ARC in exchange for an honest review.

Jim says

Seattle area based lawyer ROBERT DUGONI has produced another extremely fast paced book, THE EIGHTH SISTER. It combines his talent as an international bestselling legal thriller writer with a new found ability to write espionage adventures. In this book, Dugoni features Charlie Jenkins, a long retired C.I.A. spy, who had cameo appearances in the David Sloane legal dramas.

After a short but unremarkable career in the spy agency, Jenkins retired to Camano Island about one hour north of Seattle, Washington. He sets himself up as a private investigator and security expert, most often working for attorney David Sloane. Eventually, Charlie marries Alex and they have a son C.J. The couple form a small multinational security firm. Its largest client has fallen behind on its payments to C.J. Security and Jenkins goes into debt to keep the business running. And Alex is about to have baby number two.

Along comes Carl Emerson, his former C.I.A. boss whom he has not seen in three or four decades. Carl offers Charlie a lot of money to do one more mission for the C.I.A. Jenkins is to go to Russia and make contact with the F.S.B., successor to the infamous KGB (Vladimir Putin’s former employer). His bona fides for this mission includes two names of deceased U.S. double agents who had been working in Russia.

The mission is jinxed from the start and Jenkins is forced to flee Russia through a back door. His escape takes him to the Black Sea, Turkey and the Greek island of Chios. Arriving safely back in Seattle, Charlie is arrested by the F.B.I. and charged with treason. His trial is handled by none other than David Sloane and his son Jake. No spy has ever been acquitted at a trial in the U.S. There is one courtroom scene that I predict will become a classic.

I highly recommend this combination spy thriller and courtroom drama. It is 400 pages long but I read it in a week of two hour binges.

GO! BUY! READ!

Jud Hanson says

Charles Jenkins is a family man and former spy. He's now enjoying retirement in Washington State, running his own security firm and expecting a new baby. Despite all this, he's in financial trouble. He therefore can't believe his luck when his old CIA boss shows up with a seemingly genuine opportunity: a mission for the CIA to save the lives of some undercover operatives inside Russia. Jenkins needs the money, so he accepts. Unfortunately, all is not what it seems and before long, Jenkins is on the run from the Russian authorities and can't expect any help from home. When he finally makes it home, he find himself charged with espionage and facing multiple life terms. His only hope is to somehow prove that he was on a legitimate mission for the CIA and that will only happen if he can outwit those who want to silence him.

The Eighth Sister by Robert Dugoni is almost the perfect spy novel. From a secret spy network to a retired spy coming out of retirement, this novel just doesn't quit. My favorite literary spy is a tossup between Ludlum's Jason Bourne and Bell's Alex Hawke. That said, a close second would be Dugoni's Charles Jenkins. Dugoni has also done a yeoman's job of creating the Russian character who doggedly pursues Jenkins across Russia and Southern Europe. I highly recommend this book to thriller fans and give it 5/5 stars.

A copy of the ebook is the only compensation received in exchange for this review.

Patty Nobles says

Reading is my passion and I have read many authors across a wide range of genres, but one author is in a class all his own. Robert Dugoni creates stories that hook you in from the first word to the very last. In his latest novel "The Eighth Sister" he brings in familiar characters, but with a completely different story. Charles Jenkins is a retired CIA operative who is enjoying the life he has created on his farm with his pregnant wife and his young child when he is convinced to do one more mission for his country. He soon discovers that everything is not what it is supposed to be. This is an edge of your seat thriller that will make the reader keep guessing until the very end. I was given an advanced copy of this book, and all of the opinions expressed in this review are my own.

Lori says

I would like to thank Netgalley and Thomas and Mercer for a copy of the book to read and review.

I have loved every book that I have read from this author and this was no exception. This was absolutely a wonderful, action packed spy thriller. I found myself reading so fast that I would have to backtrack to see what I missed, but I couldn't slow down because I was so anxious about what would happen next. I loved the characters and was especially glad that we were able to get things all tied up with a nice little bow.

Thank you Mr. Dugoni for giving me another wonderful story. I only wish that this was already out in hard copy because I know my Uncle would love this for Christmas.

As I was reading this book I kept thinking that this would make a wonderful movie, HINT HINT

Michele says

In “The Eighth Sister” by Robert Dugoni we are introduced to Charles Jenkins, a former CIA agent, who is asked to help his former employer with a case. He agrees, for a price, since he is having money problems. What Charles faces after he agrees is a race for his life – both in Russia and on American soil.

This book is fast paced and very realistic – a definite read. As a huge fan of the authors Tracy Crosswhite Series I had high expectations and they were all met.

I received this book through Net Galley and this is my honest review.
