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Against All Enemies (A Jonathan Grave Thriller Book 7)





Synopsis

Jonathan Grave finds it hard to believe that a fellow combat vet has gone rogue, killing American agents and leaking sensitive intel to hostile foreign interests. With black ops assassins on the trail of his old friend, Grave sets out to get to him first. He finds far more than he bargained for. Not only the wily operative, but evidence of a conspiracy so dangerous, so far-reaching, that an unthinkable tragedy is in-motion. Grave and his elite team of specialists must expose a deadly high-level secret â "and do it in time to avert a catastrophe of historic proportionsâ |

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Any John Gilstrap novel packs the punch of a rocket-propelled grenade--on steroids! Gilstrap is the New York Times bestselling author of intense hostage rescue thrillers featuring Jonathan "Digger" Grave and Brian Van de Muelebrocke, who, gratefully, has the abbreviated moniker Boxers. From a military background, both had sworn to obey the orders of the President and protect the United States "against all enemies, foreign and domestic."The vilified President Tony Darmond has been reelected, with the narrowest vote margin since the hanging chad election of 2000. "[T]he Darmond administration is the most dangerous group that's ever sat in Washington."Dylan "Boomer" Nasbe, a

former member of Jonathan's elite Middle-East Unit, has gone rogue, reportedly killing three government alphabet-acronym operatives. Coincidentally, a congressional representative is assassinated, and a senator stares into the barrel of a sawed-off shotgun. Thickening the mix is a group of anarchists called Patriots Army, a militia that intends to topple the Darmond administration and "eliminate the structural barriers that kept voters from having the voice they earned." Even "The National Command Authority is planning a coup."This novel begins in Afghanistan, where Nasbe witnesses a young informant tortured to death. Jonathan learns that his friend is dead meat, unless he's brought back to the States. How, then, does Nasbe wind up on Jonathan's Black Ops team, along with Boxers and Jolaine (covert name "She Devil"), to invade Patriots Army? Those ragtag militia members "weren't even soldiers. They were amateurs with guns and delusions."Tentacles of intrigue reach into FBI headquarters and military hierarchy. Lines are crossed and new ones drawn.

The weak spots in this book have been pointed out with varying degrees of clarity and civility (gah, I read the comments.) The most succinct of them call out a troubling trend of modern political thrillers to stress the political rather than the thriller. Instead of good vs. evil, it is getting framed as left vs. right, quite often with references to an evil socialist president who somehow stole the office and plans to keep it by taking all the guns from good Americans. We have William Johnstone for that. We don't need it from our mainstream big name thrillers. I love how Gilstrap has embraced the Batman analogy that many reviewers, myself included, have put forward throughout the series. Digger Grave is the epitome of the Chaotic Good archetype. However, in the Caped Crusader's 75-year history, no one has ever discussed how Bruce Wayne votes or what political party Commissioner Gordon belongs to. It was straight good vs. bad. Political thrillers could do worse than stick to that credo. That said, the subject of the book, a shadowy militia with not only plans to overthrow the government, but also the means and will to do it is a deep and fascinating subject that I hope continues to be probed and plumbed by talented and skilled thriller writers like Gilstrap. Against the backdrop of the Oregon situation and this week's Newsweek cover story on the history and development of the militia movement, this is not a "liberal" issue.

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