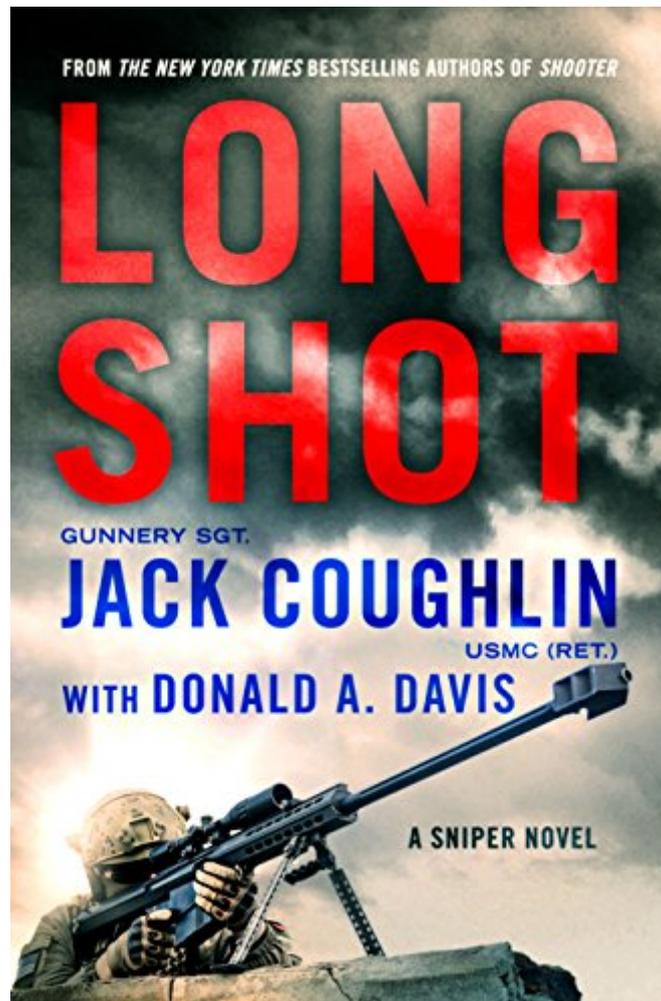


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Long Shot: A Sniper Novel (Kyle Swanson Sniper Novels)



Synopsis

A top Russian intelligence agent has defected to the West and the only man with whom he will speak is Kyle Swanson, who busted him out of the U.S. Marine Corps Scout/Sniper School years ago. The defector proves to be an Edward Snowden-type gold mine of amazing secrets about the When, Where and How of President Vladimir Putin's next grab for lost Soviet territory. But Swanson, now a special contractor with the CIA, soon begins to believe that it is all fool's gold being sprinkled by Moscow to ignite an open military fight with NATO and the United States. Using his own deadly methods, the sniper sets out to find the truth, but to slow him down, the Russians kidnap Swanson's beautiful friend Calico, the CIA station chief in Estonia. From Italy to the Arctic Circle, Kyle Swanson is on the hunt, convinced that the defector actually is running a complex plot to hand Russia a kingdom in the north. But Swanson seems always to be a step behind because there is a traitor within his own chain of command. To stop the madness, Swanson must deliver a kill shot a hundred miles away from a border bridge in Estonia, where a Russian Army waits on the far shore as a government official crosses over with an invitation to invade.

Book Information

File Size: 1270 KB

Print Length: 301 pages

Page Numbers Source ISBN: 1250072956

Publisher: St. Martin's Press (August 16, 2016)

Publication Date: August 16, 2016

Sold by: Amazon Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B01B1NC0V6

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #4,146 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #27 in Books

> Mystery, Thriller & Suspense > Thrillers & Suspense > Spies & Politics > Terrorism #29

in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Literature & Fiction > Genre Fiction > War #30 in Kindle Store

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Customer Reviews

I won't go into a plot recitation here, as you can get that from the book's Product Page, and since you're now reading reviews I'll assume you've already read that. I've followed this series right from the first book, and thoroughly enjoyed it. Aside from the solid storytelling, it's also been fascinating to watch protagonist Kyle Swanson grow in his role as a "troubleshooter" (literally) for the American intel community. He's now reached the point at which he's no longer just a triggerman with uncanny skills. In this book he's actually taking actions that have a much bigger influence on the country's overall strategy in the military and intelligence arenas. He's becoming somewhat of a James Bond character. It's all been highly entertaining, and this book is no exception. These guys know how to tell a story, and keep their readers engaged. I always look forward to the publication of the next book in this series, and look forward to Swanson's next adventure.

I have sincerely enjoyed The Kyle Swanson novels. This story could have been today's headlines, as it all revolves around a plot for Russian expansion into the neighboring independent neighbor's as they are currently doing in the Ukraine. One of the things I appreciate about Coughlin is his gritty realism, and how Kyle isn't a superman. Like us, he gets tired, he doesn't always figure things out at the time an event occurs, he feels deeply the loss of a comrade, and he bleeds when stabbed or otherwise wounded. We have some interesting new characters, and suffer betrayal at the highest levels. All told, it's a great new book, and I look forward to Kyle Swanson's next great adventure.

I have all 16 of the Kyle Swanson series. Do you like military themed novels? Check out Sgt. Jack Coughlin, retired Marine, great story teller. Well written, believable plots with no phony, ridiculous garbage stretching the imagination. Just good reads, every last one of them. I rate them with my other favorites in the genre, Stephen Hunter and Scott McEwen. I won't review the story. If you like the premise, check them out. I doubt you'll be sorry.

This new novel in this series continues to keep the reader wanting more. There are old tricks and new tricks as technology evolves. Kyle uses all of this to again save the world from the bad guys. I enjoyed this book!

For the most part, I liked Long Shot. It has a breezy tone to it and plenty of action. Not all of the action makes sense though. My biggest problem is this: The Russians enter into Finnish airspace and kill I believe it was 8 Finnish soldiers. The United States President feels that it is time for

retaliation as he is sick and tired of this behavior. So, the United States plans a retaliatory act that includes exactly zero US troops. Sure, Kyle Swanson is a sometime CIA operative, but he then enlists two British soldiers. In my humble opinion, the American military would have easily taken on this task without either Swanson or the Brits. (Consider the reaction of the public to this act makes it even worse.) But wait, there's more! Swanson and his British team bring a civilian, a young Estonian girl, along with them on the mission. In what reality does this take place? An untrained civilian? Only in a novel, and even then only in a novel that doesn't care so much about credibility. This reader was aghast! Sort of.

I have liked all the Swanson books so far and overlooked some of the mistakes in previous ones. But I question now, if Jack Coughlin is who he says he is, what involvement beyond his name does he have with these books?! It doesn't require being a sniper to know that "would leave the muzzle at a velocity of 11,091 foot-pounds of energy" , is completely wrong. That may be somewhat close to the actual muzzle energy of a .50 cal bullet, but velocity is not measured in ft/lbs of energy. This mistake was only a couple pages into the book. Not expecting much from this one now.

First, this book is a bit of a fraud. Actually it is a fairly good beach read which I would have given 5 stars for pure entertainment EXCEPT that the book pretends that Jack Coughlin is the author along with Donald Davis. I don't believe for an instant that Coughlin has even read the book, much less co-authored it -- there are just too many glaring errors that a Marine Gunny would never make. Example 1: On page 273 and subsequent pages the author (Davis) has the president setting Defcon 4, which Davis thinks is the next-to highest level. WRONG! -- There are 5 Defcon (Defense Condition) levels: 1-5. Davis thinks level 5 is the highest but it's the opposite. Level 5 is the lowest and Level 1 is the highest. Coughlin would know this. Example 2: Davis writes that the B2 bomber is so old and obsolete that only 20 are left in service. Really??? Actually it is our most state-of-the-art stealth bomber and only 20 were ever BUILT before Bill Clinton cancelled the program, which is very unfortunate. (Actually 21 were built but 1 crashed). Coughlin should know this. I rest my case: I believe that Coughlin is just sitting back drinking beer and cashing royalty checks while Davis rents his reputation. He doesn't even read these things. The New York Times and Washington Post reviewers would never catch any of this because no one there has a clue about the U.S. military.

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