



Deliver Us from Evil

David Baldacci

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Evan Waller is a monster. He has built a fortune from his willingness to buy and sell anything... and anyone. In search of new opportunities, Waller has just begun a new business venture: one that could lead to millions of deaths all over the globe.

On Waller's trail is Shaw, the mysterious operative from The Whole Truth, who must prevent Waller from closing his latest deal. Shaw's one chance to bring him down will come in the most unlikely of places: a serene, bucolic village in Provence.

But Waller's depravity and ruthlessness go deeper than Shaw knows. And now, there is someone else pursuing Waller in Provence—Reggie Campion, an agent for a secret vigilante group headquartered in a musty old English estate—and she has an agenda of her own.

Hunting the same man, unaware of each other's mission, Shaw and Reggie will be caught in a deadly duel of nerve and wits. Hitchcockian in its intimate buildup of suspense, and filled with the kind of breathtaking plot turns and remarkable characters that are David Baldacci's hallmark, Deliver Us from Evil is the most gripping thriller of the year.

Deliver Us from Evil Details

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From Reader Review Deliver Us from Evil for online ebook

JBradford says

This is a sequel to *The Whole Truth*, which really does not have to be read first but it probably would help. Shaw, still working for an unidentified US government agency under the control of Frank (who has a scar across the top of his bald head where Shaw once shot him, perhaps in some book I have not yet found) has a new assignment: to capture a despotic Canadian who is planning to provide some Muslim terrorists with some heavily enhanced uranium smuggled out of the collapsed Russian empire, so that they can build an atomic bomb. Unknown to him and the US agency, however, there is a privately-funded British group also targeting the same bad guy, because they have discovered through research that he actually started life as a brutal Russian colonel who killed thousands of people under Stalin's reign, and this group's mission in life is to hunt down former Nazi evildoers and kill them; since they seem to have run out of former Nazi officers, they're branching out. It also happens that their lead assassin is a beautiful young woman who has problems in her own past. Inevitably, of course, the two groups wind up doing their operations at the same time, which adds to the confusion--which is complicated still further by still a third element that wants to see the evildoer's life to end for a different reason.

I find Baldacci's plots a little overcomplicated, and the characters sometimes do things that just do not seem natural--as though the actions were written more for cinematic effect, although I am not personally aware that any of Baldacci's novels have been made into films. For that matter, the whole thing about why Shaw keeps working for Frank or why Reggie, the news heroine for this novel (although the heroine of the previous one is still hanging around, too) does what she does remains unfathomable. Despite these things, the story moves fairly well and holds the reader's interest right to the end ... and the end after the end ... and the non-ending after that. There clearly will be another sequel.

Melenia says

2018 - Five star read until about 70%... then it goes downhill. Still a decent read. Probably won't read it again though

2015 - Good read

Amy says

One word: awful. I don't know what's wrong with Baldacci, but this is the second of his last two books that have been truly bad. I always admired Baldacci for knowing how to expertly walk the line between having a compelling, suspenseful story, and having lots of graphic violence. With this novel he has crossed the line into gratuitous violence without a real purpose, and that really adds nothing to the story. The guy was a bad guy, a serious torturer, we get it...move on! Unnecessary. And the ending? Are you serious? Guy "causes" harm to girl because of his work, guy cuts off girl...I feel like we've been here before, yes?

Crystal says

I am disappointed with Baldacci. The reason I enjoyed his books in the past was that he weaves a great story without the typical sex, language, violence, etc. I knew this book would be darker from his others from the title, but Baldacci included sex and gratuitous violence that added nothing to the story. I would only recommend this book to die-hard Baldacci fans but skip chapters 1, 2 & 37!!!! These chapters are so far past the line of decency that you can no longer see the line. Chapters 1 & 2 have too much explicit sex and chapter 37 is a gross, disturbing, detailed description of graphic torture & violence. I skipped the majority of these chapters and suggest that you do to if you insist on reading this disturbing book.

Helen says

Shaw is a dangerous man to know, but he meets some intriguing characters and some real monsters.

kartik narayanan says

Another underwhelming book by Baldacci. This series has been shit and none of Baldacci's trademarks are evident. The plot is moronic and the characters behave as though they were in a YA novel with their whingeing and relationship angst.

WTF did I read. Stay away from the Shaw series.

Sarah says

As an audio book, it's difficult to skip sections; and that was a problem in this book because of the graphic violence. Not a pleasant book to keep me company on the rush hour drive. I enjoyed the Reggie / Shaw relationship, but at the end I thought Reggie lost her edge and was not as strong a heroine or leader as she started out to be. Evan Waller was a good and convincing villain. Other characters like Witt rang true; the others like Professor Mallory and Allen Rice seemed more formulaic than real.

I stopped listening about 3/4 through because I could sense what was coming (one of our heroes was sure to be captured by Evan and torture would ensue). I may have been wrong but I wasn't that invested in Reggie and Shaw's relationship to endure the rest of the book.

Hearing it aloud also emphasized the lengthy background story - there were a couple chapters on Evan (his safe room in his home in Canada and at his house in the 'polar tundra') where there wasn't a single line of dialog. The narrative was overbearing, and at times, unnecessary.

I enjoy Baldacci's books and love to listen to Ron McLarty's voice (he's superb with the accents and differentiating characters, and seems to slip out of character or water down an accent only a few times making it difficult to know who's speaking). I recommend all Baldacci's books and these audio books except

this one, which is not for the squeamish.

Andy says

Back to form for Baldacci after True Blue. I thoroughly enjoyed this follow up to The Whole Truth and hearing more about Shaw's exploits. Jack Reacher he may not be, but nevertheless Shaw is a pretty decent hero. The book fairly rollicked along and I could barely put it down.

Some of the reviews have mentioned gratuitous violence... I have to be honest this was fairly infrequent and mostly necessary, not gratuitous. Fedir Kuchin was one of the most evil people on the planet and capable of horrendous acts against fellow human beings - how are you supposed to get that across properly without explaining some of the terrible things that he did or was doing? Just say he's really bad? What's the flip-side... that Shaw is a nice person and good at his job? The two of them have a bit of a set-to and the good guy wins? It would be different I think if he was a nazi like the opening mission. The horrors of the holocaust are well known and little explanation is required to describe somebody who played an active role in it. I had never heard of the Holodomor and the atrocities in the Ukraine under Stalin's leadership and description was necessary to understand the scale of the genocide.

Baldacci's characterisation was better in this one than the Whole Truth and you do come away knowing more about Shaw and wanting to know what happens to him, Katie, Reggie etc next. I look forward to the next one!

Gina says

Deliver Us From Evil by David Baldacci.

I am really surprised at the 4-star rating for this book by other readers. They must have gotten something from DUFE that I completely missed.

What didn't I like? The characters for the most part. Overall they seemed whiny and unlikeable and I'm talking the "good guys" not the monster, Evan Waller. He at least was true to his character.

Katie James, reporter: A renowned journalist in her 40's and single. Let's not forget single because "we all know" that successful women in their 40's can't have or have had a successful relationship along the way too. In the first book she forces her way into a situation/operation Shaw is working, as journalists do. They spend a few weeks "together" working around the terrorist operation. I put together in "" because they weren't even in the same country a good part of the time. So in DUFE Katie decides that even though Shaw's fiancé (the only woman/person he ever let get close to him.blah.blah.) died in the last book, that there is something "between" them and she must have him. She calls him so often that like most men he just stops answering the phone. So she calls his boss (of a super-secret international spy organization!) and bugs him. She flies from San Francisco to Paris "just to see him and make sure he is alive and well". Really? James acts like a 16-yr-old in 'luuuuuv'. She is annoying and pathetic. I was SO disappointed when DB did not kill her off. I would have actually helped the monster shoot straighter just to get rid of her. And seriously Baldacci? You went to great lengths to describe the big caliber that would have no trouble bringing down a caribou or polar bear, yet Katie lives through a chest shot? How stupid do you think readers of this genre are? You even

described the "huge exit wound in her back" and still the bitch did not die. Ugh.

Shaw, 6'6" international man of mystery: A cross between Edward Munch's 'The Scream' and Eeyore (woe is me...). Shaw buried his fiancé in the last book and feels guilty about her death maybe being related to his anti-terrorist operation. I get that. But then he extends his realm of guilt "Katie wouldn't have been shot at if not for me..." Excuse me, we see enough of this in the real world of people not taking responsibility for their actions. Katie forced her way into that situation and put herself in harm's way. This is just more of Shaw's 'poor me, everything is my fault, I don't deserve anyone good...' BS. And even when Reggie, Witt and Dominic go to Canada with him, he's guilty "this is all because of me.." Um, no, it's because they also tried to kill Evan Waller. Shaw is a martyr so there must be another book coming that will bring him together with another love. Unfortunately it will probably be Katie James instead of Reggie or someone else, and in that case I probably won't bother to read it.

Smart and capable but not especially likeable. And for me these characteristics do not translate into "sensitive, caring, a man I want to spend my life with, dream about or sigh over."

Frank, Shaw's boss: Really a supporting character but since he's Shaw's boss he gets to throw out lines like "You didn't deserve Anna and you don't deserve Katie." Talk about kicking a guy! A terrorist shot your fiancé so you didn't deserve her? Katie forced her way into the situation and got shot at and you don't want a stalking psychopath so "you don't deserve her"? Really? Sounds like Frank is mad that Katie wants Shaw and not him. Shaw doesn't want some stupid woman throwing herself at him, practically stalking him, just a few months after his fiancé's death, and this is cause for ridicule? Shaw slept with Reggie once after they escaped from the cave shootout with Waller's gang, so what? We've all heard of that post-stress adrenaline stuff. Big deal. And Shaw actually likes Reggie, he thinks he "cares deeply" about Katie but quite frankly I think it's just more guilt because it's all tied up in Anna's death.

Evan Waller, monster: At least Waller's character acted like he was supposed to, evil to the core and proud of it. Former KGB and "the real butcher of Kiev" did not change his stripes, ever.

p.s. Way to go, Pascal! I knew it!

Hey authors, here's a tip from readers. Just because you live with characters every day for months/years before the next book comes out and feel like it's been soooo long since the loved one died does not mean it is the same for readers. For us, the 'loved one' died ... IN THE LAST BOOK. So if you are going to move Character X onward, provide some time-framing context in the next book. i.e. "For months X was barely able to", "Y still thinks about D even though it's been ...", etc. Give us some context to move on, otherwise to us it's "Sheesh, your loved one just died and now you're madly in love, hopping into bed..." And by some I mean more than one time. If you want readers to identify with a character's guilt then give us good reason to. Throwing out a few self-serving lines like "because of my work, everyone close to me dies" is old and worn out and not believable anymore.

And I can't blame the audio reader for the poor showing of this book. Ron McLarty has read many of Baldacci's books and done a wonderful job on each. The fault with "Deliver Us From Evil" lies solely with the author, David Baldacci.

As always, I'd love to hear feedback or rebuttal!

Mike (the Paladin) says

David Baldacci has written lots of books. Some of them I like, some of them I'm okay with, some of them I don't like (at all). This one falls in the "okay" area.

The first A. Shaw book I liked much better. There is also a sort of irony here as I just read another thriller that went down the same somewhat overused road. In the first book A's (yes A is his name not an initial) "love of his life" was killed and he went deeply into depression. However he did still manage to function...

Well to be fair he functions here to, but with a lot of angsty illogical actions. I had several "oh come on moments" in this one.

In some ways you could almost call this Mr. and Mrs. Smith meets *The Most Dangerous Game*...well except there's no odd strange double triangle in either of those.

And that's all I'll say about any of that as I don't want to give anything spoilery. Let us just say that A fails again as a "professional" and the book moves somewhat farther from the internal reality of the story. Still it (finally as I just said about another angsty thriller) pulls itself together and gets on with the story (in about the last third of the book).

Look, you may not be as annoyed (and occasionally bored) as I was with the story. Try it yourself and see.

John says

Wow! I have always been a Baldacci fan, but this book really pushed the envelope for me in a couple of ways. First and foremost, this book has moments of descriptive terror, which I for one was not prepared for. Second, as a devoted fan, I am unaccustomed to the author leaving loose ends and/or unresolved issues...he did both in this book.

Despite my comments above, I very much enjoyed this read. The book is a typical Baldacci format where the good guys are up against the bad guys. However, I guess my reading of history has never really taken me inside a torturing monsters mind, and that's exactly where Baldacci takes you a couple of times in a very vivid way. I wasn't quite prepared for the visceral result his descriptions had on me.

The novel is quick paced and takes you on a whirlwind tour of several places around the globe. The parts in London rang true to my visits there in the past so I felt "at home" with the book in that respect.

However, it is my best guess that somewhere down the road, there's a sequel or a continuation of the story of the lead characters. Perhaps that sequel has been written and I just haven't read it yet. (If someone has specific information about any continuation of these characters in another Baldacci book, please email me.) I say this because, for the first time ever, the author sort of left the reader emotionally holding an empty bag of unresolved issues.

All-in-all, it IS a good story and well worth your time. As usual, the author keeps you guessing a little, and the characters ARE interesting and developed well. And, if there actually IS a follow-up book to this one, then perhaps I'll have some of my questions answered when I read that one?

Kristi says

Ok, so I didn't enjoy this book as much as other Baldacci books. I knew it would be darker - it is called "Deliver Us From Evil" and is about an x-KGB guy who killed and tortured 100,000's of people during the cold war, and then escaped before he was captured, and became a business man dealing in human trafficking. I still read it because I was excited for the return of Shaw from The Whole Truth.

I still enjoyed Shaw as the main character, and most of the story was typical Baldacci - exciting and full of twists. But this is the first time I ever read a Baldacci book and thought "why did he have to put that in? He could have left that out and still told the story." One of my favorite things about Baldacci is that he tells a great story without throwing in unnecessary sex, language, violence, etc. But in this book, he had one chapter (chapter 37) that really went too far. It was talking about Evan Waller torturing a Muslim that had double crossed him, and got very explicit and detailed. And frankly, just gross and disturbing. I read the chapter, because Baldacci books have so many twist and turns, that I didn't want to miss something, but there isn't anything there that you need to know for the rest of the story other than Waller tortured the muslim and that he is beyond cruel (which you have pretty much already figured out in the previous 36 chapters). The only other information that comes into play later is in the last 2 paragraphs of the chapter, and it isn't even an intragal part of the story.

So, I'd only recommend this book to die-hard Baldacci fans who want to know the continuation of Shaw's story - but skip chapter 37!!!!

Raquel says

I don't know why the commotion of having some sexual topics, mild strong language, and very explicit violence scene is. I mean, the very first few chapters didn't aroused any feelings other than intrigue and it was clear as water that it wasn't erotica. Yes, one chapter in particular does have a strong and painful torture, but I guess that just enhances Evan's evilness. Personally, I think this book challenges the reader to think what is evil and why evil breeds in some of us. Not a lot of books can mentally challenge you to answer those questions while it entertains you. I must say that I never read about a character like Fedir Kuchin. He's charming, lethal, old, and strong. It's impossible to dislike him or to not fall for his ways. Yet, he's evil... yet, you see the reasons why he's evil. I recommend this book to any person that wants to be thrilled, see action, sparks of romance, and mystery all the way while you're challenged to understand evilness itself.

Xana says

A escrita de Baldacci é fluída e simples.

Este foi outro livro dele que me manteve sempre interessada, apesar de ser um livro grande não cansou.

Conta histórias brutais, de forma crua, que me deixou arrepiada por vezes.

Adorei Reggie, é uma personagem forte e de convicções. E Shaw, apesar de brutalizado, também me conquistou.

Muito bom!!

Rod says

fast unpredictable another stand out from one of our favorite Writers.

pleased to see Katie made it so there is potential for them getting back together

its going to be interesting to see which way David Baldacci will go if there will be a sequel

it goes into my favs this one not sure which one to start next i have three more waiting to read

"The Winner" "last man Standing" And The Finisher all on the kindle any suggestions which one to read next?
