



## Dead Men's Harvest

*Matt Hilton*

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The Harvestman is back! And determined to wreak revenge on Joe Hunter.

When Rink is ambushed by a team of highly skilled killers, Joe is pretty sure his friend is being used as bait. And the intended prey is Hunter himself.

Joe has to go 'off radar' to rescue his friend. Their deadly game of cat and mouse reaches its climax on the rusty hulk of The Queen Sofia - a container ship used by human traffickers - moored off the North Carolina coast where Joe's ex-sister-in-law is being held hostage.

Against overwhelming odds, and amid a ferocious storm, Joe comes face to face with his old enemy Tubal Cain.

## Dead Men's Harvest Details

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Author : Matt Hilton

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## From Reader Review Dead Men's Harvest for online ebook

### Patricia says

Martin Maxwell, former Secret Service Agent, was nicknamed the Harvestman. Joe Hunter along with his best friend Jared Rington made Maxwell pay for his crimes but the government covered up his identity and buried him under the name Tubal Cain. The government, thinking he could be rehabilitated put him in prison as Prisoner 1854 thinking that the Harvestman could never escape but the government was wrong. Now Prisoner 1854-Tubal Cain-the Harvestman is loose and out to get even.

Joe Hunter is staying with Imogen, Kate Piers' sister. Joe was in love with Kate but Kate died trying to protect her sister. Two men, Ray Hartlaub and Charles Brigham, CIA agents, show up unexpectedly to take Joe to the cabin of Walter Conrad. Joe is informed that Conrad is dead. He had been killed at the cabin. Someone had been killed at the cabin but Joe wasn't buying the story that it was Walter and Joe insisted on seeing Walter and was taken to him.

Tubal Cain was looking for Joe's brother, John, who had been injured in the original fight where Tubal Cain was captured. Walter had already sent a party out to find Jared Rington to work with Joe but Rington was not to be found. Joe was able to find him but Tubal Cain had reached Rington first. When Joe located Jared he was in no condition to chase down a killer. Joe took Jared to a safe place to recuperate and went about the business of stopping the monster Tubal Cain.

Dead Men's Harvest is action packed. The reader is in for more than one surprise before the monster Tubal Cain is put to rest.

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### Speesh says

I don't do serial killers. Those with little 'quirks' especially. Those who 'taunt' the police, or collect things or who murder people and set them up in situations to follow a pattern. No. No. And just no. It doesn't happen. Outside Hollywood scriptwriters and novelists fevered minds. I don't do psychopathic killers either. They're psychopathic alright, but still ok enough to know it's wrong. They run away afterwards and try to avoid capture or arrest, don't they? That's all the evidence you need. 100 years of psychiatry dismissed just there.

However, in the case of Matt Hilton's *The Harvestman*, I'll make one of my (rare) exceptions. The second time around, anyway. You may remember The Harvestman from his previous outing in the first Joe Hunter book, *Dead Men's Dust*. There, he was very scary, mainly in the descriptions of his 'normality.' You know, how they show someone you know is a real nutcase killer, going about normal, daily activities. You know he's not normal and the more normal he acts, the more tense you are, waiting for him to crack and do something appalling. In *Dead Men's Dust*, that was ratcheted up to 11, and was incredibly effective. But I didn't take to him and was glad when he was hung drawn and quartered, blown up and pieces of his body scattered to the four winds. Or maybe not. Because, he's back. He's older, he's perhaps wiser, but he's still obsessed with dismembering Joe Hunter's brother, Joe Hunter, and just about anyone else he comes into contact with. Here, I'm enjoying the times when TH (as I call him) comes in. The second half, the latter third, are truly exceptional and the tension and thrills are wound up tighter and tighter to one hell of an

effective finale.

(You can miss this para out, if you want to).

Joe Hunter, well, he's still sometimes a bit of a problem. He means well, and he sure is useful with most forms of combat, armed or unarmed. And here, he takes less and less shit as the book progresses. Perhaps the least amount of shit he's ever taken. Certainly, throwing people out of moving helicopters isn't going to go down well with good ol' St Peter when Hunter gets up there. Back to the 'however' though. First. He never seems to think anyone associated with anyone bad who deserves killing, is in anyway guilty by association. They are sweet innocent lambs, clearly led with no free will of their own, into being associated with the villains. Family and friends of Mafia racketeers, for instance. They are totally, Daz-white innocents on their way to Sunday School when Joe H turns up. Mrs Mafia boss, surely only pauses helping little old ladies over the road, to say "*Hard day at the office, dear?*" to Joe Mafibossoso. And speaking of little old ladies, Joe Hunter sounds, at least in the first half here, like a SIG-Sauer, Ka-Bar-carrying little old lady. "*They're coming right at us Hunter!*" "*Hold on, Rink! What if I hit someone else? What if I accidentally hit someone, an innocent, heaven forbid, an innocent woman?!* *What does that make me, Rink?!* *How will I live with myse... BOOM!* Blam! Blam! Blam! Game over. If the perp hasn't shot him, then Rink or another of the Special Forces brethren, or the Harvesman's friends, will have. While you're reading it, screaming "*Get ON with it!*" Surely, that sort of thing gets weeded out of candidates on the first morning at Hereford? He, Hunter, improves as the book goes on, partly though, at the expense of Rink and other friends, who Hunter just HAS to 'protect.' "*Rink (who is in exactly the same, no way out, situation as Hunter) was relying on me, and so was my brother, John.*" Leaving aside the unnecessary naming of his brother, John, he constantly assumes that they are where they are **BECAUSE** of him, **ONLY** he can get them out of it, they need protecting and **ONLY** he can protect them. That's Rink, his public school-educated, professional librarian by trade, from a little cottage by a stream in rural Gloucestershire, who is a little backward, always trusts anyone and everyone and has to be led by the hand when he's outside the care home...no it isn't! It's ex-Special Forces, owner of a Detective Agency, enormous bloke Rink. You know, the one who said "*It's ok Hunter, I know what I'm getting into, I'll help you*" Rink.

(Welcome back!)

Otherwise, just dandy. It moves along at a good clip, and is head and shoulders above many other Thriller books you're likely to come across. Joe Hunter just needs to be a bit more ruthless and effective, to really live up to the Jack Reacher comparisons. Maybe a couple of hundred "*Hunter said nothing*"'s inserted here and there? It is tightly plotted and ultimately compulsive reading - it has to be, to get me to be thrilled reading about death-defying serial killers.

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### **Lisa Green says**

Not too bad once it got going. Quite gruesome in places, even for someone who is used to reading crime/military/hitmen type novels.

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### **Eric says**

Matt Hilton's Joe Hunter series is awesome!

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### **Iikka Antero Backman says**

I remember finding this book in the closet of my local high school's English classroom back in 2016 when I was supposed to write a book review for the course. It was the first time I had heard of the author, let alone Lee Child who was mentioned in the cover. I was intrigued by what was on the cover, especially the blurb: a counterterrorist-turned-vigilante-for-hire becoming the target of a well thought-out revenge plot made by a psychopathic serial killer named Tubal Cain (who has now become one of my favourite antagonists) and a smug businessman called Sigmund Petoskey. I find the characters and situations extremely interesting and the thrills are decent or as I'd like to say "gun powder combined with a more adult-oriented version of Courage the Cowardly Dog without supernatural elements or anthropomorphic animals". As you might expect, I fell in love with this series and I've had a craving for Hilton's material since. My favourite character has to be Joe, I just like his personality the best.

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### **Miles says**

The Harvestman is back! And determined to wreak revenge on Joe Hunter.

When Rink is ambushed by a team of highly skilled killers, Joe is pretty sure his friend is being used as bait. And the intended prey is Hunter himself.

Joe has to go 'off radar' to rescue his friend. Their deadly game of cat and mouse reaches its climax on the rusty hulk of The Queen Sofia - a container ship used by human traffickers - moored off the North Carolina coast where Joe's ex-sister-in-law is being held hostage.

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Phil Collins said it best when he sang the 1984 hit - number 1 in the US billboard chart and 2 in the UK (kept out by Lionel Richie's "Hello") - Against All Odds, better known as the Harvestman, Tubal Cain's return will surprise Joe Hunter fans but one thing is for sure, he's back with a thirst for revenge and a desire for blood – or should that be digits, but let's face it Cain isn't particular! There's something about Cain this time around; he's always been a despicable character but I found myself being sucked into his mentality, enjoying his crazy demeanour while he ponders the fate of his latest victims and re establishes himself in society.

Dead Men's Harvest is the fifth book I've read from Matt Hilton - the sixth in the long standing series featuring the enigmatic action man Joe Hunter - and although showing signs of ageing disgracefully I see no reason why Hunter should hang up his boots just yet! He still has what it takes to take on the bad guys and does it with such assurance that very few would question his credentials, and if they did he'd soon set them straight! One of the things I've enjoyed over the last year is discovering who Joe Hunter is and what he stands for. Matt Hilton has done a great job of shaping his protagonist over the series and little by little, book by book, he adds subtle nuisances adding depth and colour to a character and an errableness that makes him believable and realistic.

Full review on my blog:- <http://www.milorambles.com/2011/08/10...>

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### **Fiona Quinn says**

Does what is says on the tin. A fantastic fast paced adventure that was a pleasure to read.

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### **Paul Phillips says**

Another excellent thriller from Matt Hilton. Joe Hunter returns to face his nemesis - The Harvestman - whom he believed to be dead and buried. Excellent read and well worthy of any thriller readers collection.

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### **Nina says**

another excellent read from Matt, gruesome but great !

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### **Steve says**

Got this book thru an inter library due to the fact Hilton's books seem to be somewhat scarce in the area. I think it may be exposure more than anything because I came close to a 5 star rating. This is the 4th Joe Hunter book i read and was not disappointed.

Although the book started off somewhat slow it got intense especially the last part. Ruthless to say the least as well as well written. Matt Hilton is no doubt one of, if not my favorite author. I will be relentless (as Joe Hunter) to seek out and read Matt Hilton's remaining books in the Hunter series.

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### **Wilfred Goodwin says**

Will this be the last we heat of Tubal Cain.

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### **Michael says**

This was my first exposure to reading Matt Hilton's work and I felt that the suspense in "Dead Men's Harvest" was excellent. However, there was such a reliance on the evil of the antagonist, Tubal Cain, a.k.a. Martin Maxwell, a.k.a. The Harvestman that I had a feeling he would survive. He reminded me of Hannibal Lecter in his evilness.

The writing was crisp but the dialogue seemed done before and it was hard to see a difference between characters based on their similar speech patterns.

The main character, Joe Hunter, was likened to Jack Reacher on the blurb of the jacket cover but I failed to

see the resemblance. Hunter is a much more flawed character and even gullible at times. Reacher is the ultimate professional.

I also found it difficult when reading that certain characters thought to be dead were alive and one who was thought to be alive was dead.

I enjoy reading thrillers and the group of evil men in this book were unintelligent and foolish in much of their behavior leaving themselves open to attack.

Up to the conclusion, the plot did get my undivided attention but the ending disappointed.

2 1/2/ stars moving to 3 for the suspense.

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### **Randy says**

Joe Hunter has quickly became a favorite action character. Here, an old enemy resurfaces. The Harvestman, Jubal Cain, a man he thought he'd left dead. But Hunter had been betrayed by his old mentor, Walter Conrad.

Cain's life had been saved and he was put in maximum security.

But now he'd escaped and was after Hunters half brother, his friends, everybody he cared about, and Walter had turned to him once again to go after the monster that used to be a respected CIA agent.

An action filled novel, author Hilton knows how to write this stuff, the final showdown takes place on a rusting hulk adrift off North Carolina.

Worth a look.

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### **Steve says**

Hunter never fails to disappoint 6 books in a still as fresh as the first book(dead man dust) if your a Reacher fan you will enjoy Hilton and the Hunter series.

Good plot fast paced keeps the page turning.

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### **Karl says**

I've just finished reading this after finishing off the entire 144 issues of "Invincible" by Robert Kirkman. THAT was brilliant. This is good but I cannot honestly say that it will change my life and will not be something that I can go "OH YEAH" Macho-Man style as a recommendation. Solid writing and a good quick read and I will continue to read the rest of the series.

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