



Vector

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A disgruntled Russian emigre is poised to lash out at the adoptive nation he believes has denied him the American dream. A former technician in the Soviet biological weapons systems, he possesses the knowledge to unleash into the streets of New York City the ultimate terror: a modern bioweapon. But before he executes his final act of vengeance, he must first experiment on a few unsuspecting victims ...

Vector Details

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From Reader Review Vector for online ebook

Jayanth says

My first Robin Cook read and I have to say I liked it.

I was interested in the book because it is a bioterrorism, medical thriller. The book started off spectacularly, setting up the plot about a planned bioterrorist attack, starting the thriller part of the book right from the get go. But the thrill element is pushed into the back seat after a while as the author shifts the focus of the story to the preparation and execution of the attack, which was not what I was expecting and hence I was a bit disappointed. Nevertheless, there were numerous moments of intense suspense as all the characters that were cleverly setup cross each others paths.

The book was not what I was expecting after reading the summary. But it was a pretty good medical crime thriller in the end.

Sarah says

This book was phenomenal, as least in my opinion. I love how Cook created his M.E.'s and had them find out details that, if they missed, would have flawed the book. The characters in the novel are lovable (well, minus Yuri, Steve, Curt, and Co.) and quirky in the best possible ways.

What I thoroughly enjoyed were the parts at the hospital. Now, yes, I know I probably sound like a freak there, but hear me out. I enjoy medical lingo, so being able to understand a novel and dive into it is key to me. Normally, I see that medical lingo and me enjoying the novel don't go hand-in-hand, so again...this was amazing.

Conclusion

I'll read this again sometime. Probably not for a while, though, seeing as my book list of to-reads is growing pretty fast. Well that and how annoying Yuri and Co. were. Seriously. They were perhaps the only bad part of the book. I understand the need for an antagonist(s), but they were downright irritating.

Tagcaver says

I like reading medical mysteries, and this was a pretty good book along those lines. However, I felt the author left us hanging at the end by not revealing anything more about Laurie's potential fiancée, Paul. Was he caught up in the drama that happened at the end or not? Nothing more is said about his connection to anything else that goes on in the book. Did he and Laurie stay together or not? It might have gotten another star if not for this.

Carole says

Jack Stapleton and Laurie Montgomery, medical examiners in New York City, are back again, this time to uncover and hopefully stop a plot to unleash anthrax on the city. Note: This novel came out in 1999, before 9/11 and all that followed.

Lisa Green says

Something of a slow starter, but really picked up pace in the second half. Interesting science, believable characters, and a superb ending.

It's been a while since I have read a Robin Cook novel, but I think the others I've read were more gripping and enjoyable, hence the 3 star rating.

Shagun Tripathi says

Not the very best of Robin Cook, but holds on the central theme. The writing is gripping and effortless, however, the plot seemed pretty basic. I could almost run the predictions in my head. Although what must be appreciated here is the deep research that has gone into building the context of the novel for a few instances of Google and one comes up with actual incidents, places, dates that corroborate with the facts into which fiction has been woven in this thriller.

Having read too many thrillers over the years I can say that anthrax and Vector, Russia feature in several thrillers that try to spin a story on bio-weapons, although this one may be far ahead of others in the timeline, it is certainly not as gripping as it could have been had this ploy not been overused by others in their work. A good one to kill some time at lengthy layovers, catch up on gun models (I am about Glock, Heckler & Koch, Beretta 9mms and Uzi submachines) and some biology (bacteria cultures) and travel around the USA (East Coast is where all wars, aliens, attacks, world-changing events happen, ALWAYS).

Caitlin says

This is the fourth book in the 'Jack Stapleton and Laurie Montgomery' series and I have to say it is probably my least favourite. I am normally all for this series, particularly due to Jack as he is such a great character, but this book missed the mark in the plot line. It did have a promising premise, Jack investigating a couple suspicious deaths due to Anthrax and Botulism, but that was pretty much all of the science, medicine and investigation Jack does. At least half of the book is dedicated to following the Russian at the center of the bio-terrorism (I cannot even remember his name) and his terror plot with a group of white supremacists to take down the system. I honestly did not care for this character and all of the focus on this storyline at the expense of the medical aspect of what should be a 'medical thriller'.

Heather Spence says

I had to read this book as a requirement so it took a lot of the satisfaction out of it but there is almost always

something going on. Although, it's not in a high-speed action sort of way but instead makes you use your brain and enjoy the thought and emotion behind what the main characters do. Hits very close to home after the anthrax scares after 9/11.

Perri says

Haven't read a Robin Cook book in a long time, so thought I'd give this a go. For a best selling author, I was a bit surprised at the clunky writing and underdeveloped character development. I'm wondering if I reread Coma, I have the same reaction. I liked the exciting story line and the short chapters kept the action moving. A bonus half star for a so satisfying ending.

Jess says

Horrendous writing, but who doesn't enjoy the wacky hijinks that ensue when a disgruntled Russian emigre and an vengeful bunch of white supremacists cross paths? Bio-weapons, terrorism by pest control truck- this is the perfect bargain basement book for a lazy day (if you're lucky, you'll find a Robin Cook omnibus for double the fun!).

Joy Norman says

Loved the book I will definitely will be reading more of his books. He was informative an worked a conceivable story around bioterrorism. What I find is scary at the end of his book is where some of these things have already taken place

Nathan Diaz says

This novel, like many others written by Robin cook is quite creepy. Creepy in the sense that bioweapons can easily be made in someone's basement if they have the know how and drive. With a jerry-rigged microbiological containment room that can fit into someones basement, simple legal substances can be transformed into the deadliest agents. Homemade pulverisers and air vents, combined with culture tanks are the ingredients to backyard super weapons... This book has relevance to today's real life attacks in the U.K, and I think it's a subject that many people overlook or are completely oblivious to.

With these eye opening ideas aside, Vector is an easy read. Don't expect too much from it, but know you'll have fun in your spare time reading it. The writing is nothing special, but I'm a fan of the Character Jack Stapleton. Jack is a character that makes frequent appearances in Cook's work. The witty and extremely fit medical examiner that spends his time playing basketball in the roughest part of town, pissing off his boss, and racing around town on his bike invariably uses his whit and intelligence to get things solved. I can't really compare this work to the Hot zone, but it has a spot on my bookshelf!

Lynn Orser says

I enjoy Robin Cook's novels even though I do not understand the medical terms, I can get the picture as he explains the circumstance. The Laurie and Jack series is good at the character development unfolds during the series of books. Lots of interesting people come in contact with these tow ME's. Enjoy.

Sandi says

Not his best but I enjoyed it.

Maetta says

This is part of the Laurie Montgomery/Jack Stapleton medical examiner series. Jack is having a devil of a time figuring out what killed a rug dealer. Finally he discovers that it was anthrax. What he doesn't know is that the Peoples Aryan Army and a disgruntled Russian have plans for a terrorist attack on NYC and this was just a test run. Lots of actions and twists of fate to make this an enjoyable read.
