



Executive Power

Vince Flynn

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CIA superagent Mitch Rapp battles global terrorism in a high-octane follow-up to The New York Times bestselling Separation of Power -- another chillingly authentic adventure from the master of the political thriller. Mitch Rapp's cover has been blown. After leading a team of commandos deep into Iraq to prevent Saddam Hussein from joining the nuclear arms race, he was publicly hailed by the president as the single most important person in the fight against terrorism. But after years of working covertly behind the scenes, Rapp now lives in the glare of the public spotlight, lauded by the nation and an easy target for virtually every terrorist from Jakarta to London.

As special advisor on counterterrorism to CIA director Dr. Irene Kennedy, Rapp is ready to fight the war on terrorism from CIA headquarters rather than the front line. That is, until a platoon of Navy SEALs, sent to the Philippines to save an American family kidnapped by radical Islamic terrorists, is caught in a deadly ambush. The mission had been top secret -- so who told the enemy? All evidence points to the State Department and the Philippine embassy. But a greater threat still lurks. An unknown assassin working closely with the highest powers in the Middle East is bent on igniting war. Now, with the world watching his every move, will Rapp be able to overcome this anonymous foe and once again keep the flames of war from raging?

Transporting us into an intriguing geopolitical puzzle full of deadly motives, covert operatives, and all the true-to-life insider detail we've come to expect from Vince Flynn, "Executive Power" is a high-flying story that delivers shattering suspense with the velocity of a 9mmbullet.

Executive Power Details

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From Reader Review Executive Power for online ebook

Fred says

Number 6 in the chronological order of the Mitch Rapp series, Executive Power, was another good read from author Vince Flynn. I have thoroughly enjoyed all of the previous 5 Mitch Rapp books, however, this story was somewhat slower than the others. Since Mitch's cover was blown in the previous book, Separation of Powers, Flynn sends Mitch's character in another direction. It appears that Mitch's life is now more administrative and husbandly than ever before. He is desperately trying to leave his life of killing behind for a more normal life. He struggles with his wife's persistence that he completely detaches himself from his past. This becomes a serious problem. (He really needs to put her in her place. She can be a real bitch sometimes.) There was a lot more political twists and turns in this novel instead of the typical dark, quiet, incredibly descriptive assassinations that Mitch is so great at. That being said, Mitch still comes through as a great American hero, in the fact that he can only take so much of the office life before he just has to get involved.

I still liked this book very much, however, I can only hope that Mitch plays more of the assassin role in the rest of the series.

Richard says

6.5/10

This was a disappointing entry into the stellar series in my opinion. There were three main plot elements and as it transpired there wasn't a great deal to link them in the end.

You can't fault Vince Flynn's ability to add a good bit of action/adrenaline sequence in which is what we got with a hostage rescue mission in the Philippines but there was no real need for this in the greater scheme of things. It's almost like the main plot wasn't long enough or filled with enough testosterone for the publishers so they copied and pasted this into the story.

The main plot itself was the usual terrorist scenario but trying to aid Palestine which was a new angle for me. There were a few info dumps I found interesting as I have no knowledge of the strife in this part of the world but the plot itself was a little drawn out and then ended all too quickly.

I have a small concern for the series going forward as Mitch Rapp (the main guy/badass) has hung up his pistols to have a more sober office job and the family life. As previously stated, it is the action scenes that draw me in here and I just don't see where they are going to come from now.

I will continue this series though even with slight concerns on the direction it will take as Vince Flynn was a great author able to weave a complex, action fuelled tale.

If you like this try "Killing Floor" by Lee Child or "24" by Keifer Sutherland

ChopinFC says

Imagine: going to the movies and not being able to eat popcorn; or ordering a burger and french fries and not having ketchup available or even going to the beach and not being able to swim in the ocean!

This is how frustrating this book felt to me! This is the sixth installation of Mitch Rapp's adventure, you know the super agent from the CIA who is a leader in covert operations, a martial arts expert, who takes pleasure in killing terrorists and enemies of the state.

The previous reiterations, especially the first three books of the series, were quite good! They had a mix of fast action, believable world stage espionage and a fairly linear yet enjoyable plot line. However the series have definitely been plagued by storyline fatigue.

One would expect to see Mitch Rapp involved in death defying high action sequences against terrorists in this latest book. What we got instead was a stale novel with absolutely no action and the most ridiculous plot and dialogue! Character development? Don't even think about it...

I really don't want to quit on Mr Flynn's series, but there are so many other good books out there waiting for me that I just have to prioritize from now on. Bummer!

2 stars

:(

P.S. Winn says

Global terrorism is on the rise and CIA agent Mitch Rapp is on the case. The author does a great job on a fiction novel that has the feel of reality.

Michael says

This is the 6th of the Mitch Rapp series and the 6th that I've read as I've read them all in order.

This was a notch below the previous 5 books. Not a bad book but not what I've been led to expect considering those 5 books. Mitch didn't seem quite the same, whether that was due to his personal relationships or the change in jobs or that he is now much less than covert. Another factor could be that I've read so many of the series in a relatively short period of time that I'm somewhat burnt out.

I have the 7th book, Memorial Day, sitting on my nightstand and I might read that next or one of the other 5 books on the stand. Either way I hope the next one is back up to the others.

In this book, Mitch exceeds his authority and angers both his S.O. and his boss. He's successful but he comes away with a wound in his buttocks. (Not much of a spoiler if at all.)

Subsequently, he becomes involved in a major problem regarding Israel and the Palestinians which, if not thwarted may lead to all out war in the Middle East. Rapp must deal with the situation within the limitations

of his new position, all the while dealing with politicians and tribal jealousies.

It's not a bad read, just not quite at the level of the earlier books. I've experienced this with other authors and who can bat a 1.000 every time?

Linda Munro says

Every time I ordered this book from the library it would arrive with several other 7-day books and I was never able to complete the book before it had to be back. This time, as soon as I got the book, I sat and read it.

The Mitch Rapp series are full of adventure, terror and page turners from the start; no wonder there is always a waiting list for these Vince Flynn books!

While all books in the series make the reader believe they are actually reading a case from a current newspaper account; this book finds Mitch on the other end of the picture, behind a desk at CIA headquarters.

In a previous episode Rapp is outed by a Congressman and now terrorists world-wide are out to kill Rapp, which means Rapp's job as an American assassin is over, or is it?

This book proves that the general American public cannot always believe or trust those who are elected and/or appointed to represent our best interest; therefore Rapp must decide the best course to avenge an ambushed Seal team and rescue an American family who has been held captive by a terrorist group hiding on the Philippine islands.

Ashish Iyer says

Seemed to be shorter than other Mitch Rapp books but had all of the elements you come to expect for this series. No real complaints but I didn't really feel "wowed" at the end of it. I wouldn't say I was disappointed though. All in all it was a good read.

The Cats Mother says

6th in the Mitch Rapp series, if you include the two prequel books. This one has Mitch travelling to the Philippines to rescue an American family kidnapped by terrorists, while a Palestinian assassin is plotting to make the UN vote for statehood. This is the first book of the series set after 9/11 but it is only referred to in passing, which seems odd when read now, but it is over a decade old. There's the usual mix of action, intrigue and politics, and we get to see a more human side of Rapp - he even cooks dinner! I don't know enough about Middle East politics to be sure which characters are real and which made up, but it was all pretty interesting and I look forward to the next one.

Samuel says

THE UNIONS

“Never interrupt your enemy when he is making a mistake.”- Napoleon.

Welcome to the second story arc of the Mitch Rapp saga. I like to call this one the "matrimony arc", due to it spanning Mr Rapp's marriage. Don't worry though. White picket fences aren't for the war on terror's blunt instrument, and the three acts that make up this part of the series features some of the more severe threats Rapp encounters.

Back in the day, before Al Qaeda and Daesh made the Middle East a constantly burning geopolitical hot spot, the main political problem in the region was the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. A lesson on how chronic backstabbing, cynicism and unhealthy levels of sometimes justifiable paranoia can screw up the best laid plans, and break the most wide-eyed idealists, even with more pressing issues taking the center stage, it continue on with no end in sight. Mr Flynn said Executive Power was a parable of sorts. Of how whatever moralizing and idealism had been sucked out of the war. And how the Palestinians had been reduced to nothing but a mere foreign policy implement by Middle Eastern nations who wished to use and abuse them as a cudgel to bash Israel. Now, the thing about this book is that it's actually two stories which are disconnected throughout much of the book. Normally such a disjointed feel would have brought down a lesser writer. But Mr Flynn saves it with some great plotting, and the introduction of a character who manages to steal the show from Mitch Rapp. Now to the review. Government assassins never die. But do they fade away?

The novel begins in the Philippines. DEVGRU are attempting to make an insertion on an island. Unfortunately, they're rumbled, met with a welcome committee and forced to withdraw with casualties. Across the Pacific, the newly wed Mitch Rapp and his wife Ann relax on their honeymoon. While mostly happy, Rapp is still annoyed about having been burned in the last book. In Monte Carlo, a Palestinian agent provocateur meets with a patron he loathes to begin the implementation of a very complex business proposal. And back in Langley Virginia, DCI Irene Kennedy is working overtime on a special project, intending to make an example of those who forget "loose lips sink ships". These threads come together to create one of the more audacious schemes Mitch Rapp has faced.

Okay, in terms of plot, Executive Power is a mixed bag. Primarily due to the anti-climax of the ending but mostly due to the previously mentioned disconnect between the two plotlines. For some, it can seem Flynn was trying to write two different stories. Nevertheless, one of them, featuring the Palestinian agent provocateur, is some of Flynn's best writing, while the other, Mitch Rapp's Philippine business trip, has a few good action scenes, despite being a bit more bland at times. The settings are also a bit more varied compared to later Mitch Rapp novels. Sure, Washington features, but a third of the book takes place in the Philippine jungle at night and the Gaza strip. Flynn successfully captures the claustrophobia of the former and the gritty wretchedness of the latter. As for the main research, it's once again classic Flynn. Some pretty exotic kit such as the excellent AS-VAL rifle and the classic, All-American Barrett M82 feature prominently, along with jungle warfare/surveillance tactics.

Now to the characters. Only two standouts this time around. First Mitch as always. This is the book where his "badass" credentials started to become more apparent, especially since this was his coming out the DC's legion of bureaucratic busy-bodies who would come to hate and fear him. From laying down the law on a

hapless paper-pusher who catastrophically forgot about the things he wasn't supposed to have said, to taking on half the Abu Sayaf organization with nothing but a few friends and his suppressed Beretta 92FS, this is the book which signaled Mitch's evolution from just another government assassin, to the man who quite possibly inspired Jack Bauer.

But unfortunately, Mitch was faced by someone who completely stole the show from him. And it's the antagonist of all people, a character who is by far the most sympathetic and complex villain in the Mitch Rapp series. Meet David, real name Jabril. He's an agent provocateur. While loathing Israel's law enforcement and intelligence community, he also despises the collection of terrorist organizations who have set up shop in his neck of the woods. So, following that timeless Middle Eastern proverb, "the enemy of my enemy is my friend", he forms a short-lived partnership with Mossad to decapitate the terrorist leadership. He does his job but due to the jackass director general of Mossad cocking things up with an Apache helicopter, decides to go after Israel as well. Unlike your usual Middle Eastern villain, David isn't a homicidal mass murderer. He's got brains, and thinks up a far more brilliant and insidious scheme at getting even. By the end, near the climax, he manages to have his target teetering on the edge of diplomatic oblivion as their only ally considers throwing them under the bus for the Mossad director's mistake. It's tragic that Jabril and Rapp never got to have a confrontation, but it's also unfortunate that Flynn never again tried to make his antagonists as captivating or complex as David.

So, Executive Power? Overall, it's a mixed bag. While the some of the story arcs drag the book down, it's saved by Mitch's evolution into the counter-terrorist operative we all know and love, along with Flynn's best antagonist executing the false flag operation to end all false flag operations.

Moderately Recommended.

karl says

This is about the 3rd or 4th CIA, special ops, our stud hero is "Rapp", reads like believable current events, fiction novel by Vince Flynn that I have read. I love his stuff, but maybe my Sunday Times friends would not stoop this low. It's exciting, there are two stories being developed at the same time, and those two stories meet near the end in a dramatic way. Flynn is from the Twin Cities. You can tell he probably is a fan of Dick Cheney, and not a fan of p.c. Prius-driving folks. Flynn throws out a lot of technical things about planes, ships, guns, armament ... but doesn't slather it on like Tom Clancy!

Benjamin Thomas says

This one didn't seem quite up to Vince Flynn's standards although I am having trouble putting my finger on exactly why. It might be because it deals a lot with the Israel/Palestine political situation which isn't my favorite. Or it might be because there are really two separate stories here, two novellas really, that only minimally tie-in together.

And Mitch Rapp's wife is really starting to annoy me.

Dave Schumaker says

Sometimes, I'm not sure why I keep reading these books. It's basically a guy's version of a romance novel. Spies! Bad guys! Action! Cheesy dialog! It's a literary version of the television show 24.

That said, any story involving Mitch Rapp is a page turner, no matter how poorly written or how much the author's disdain for things like the UN, diplomacy, and liberal universities seep through the story.

Break down:

- + 4 stars for mostly gripping story
- 1 star for a totally lame way to off the antagonist
- 1 star for awkward discussions and moments involving Mitch's wife and his boss.

That leaves us with 2 stars. Sounds about right.

William says

We learn linguistically by 'pushing the envelope' absorbing a better word, but not by dumbing down a word's meaning to the level of colloquial misuse. :>decimate means to reduce by 10% not annihilation as used in the book

I don't like Anna Reilly. The character of Mitchell Rapp, as I know him, would not place himself in that position. She is very strong willed reporter. I wouldn't see a nature biologist picking up a coral snake barehanded because they admire it's beauty.

I like to listen to audio when I can. So thru my pubic library I accessed the audio from www.hoopladigital.com. The adventure in the Philippines was almost non-existent. So be careful. I hope that the awkwardness of this sixth Rapp book is caused by transition of character.

Paul O'Neill says

Excellent, best one so far!!

If you enjoyed the tv show, 24, then you'll love this. One of my favourite series, Flynn never fails to disappoint.

ElaineY says

REVIEW OF 2ND LISTEN; SEPT 19, 2017

This time EP was a 5-star listen from the start until the final lap. I felt Flynn dropped the ball at the end and I had to take away a star. Two stars the first time I listened to this, four stars this time round.

The first time I listened to this I didn't know where Flynn was going with the dual arcs - one featuring David aka Jabril Khatabi and the other, Mitch Rapp, of course. These two arcs do not come together until towards the end of the book and it took a second attempt before I could follow. My second attempt was successful because I now knew that for 80% of the way EP is like reading two separate books. I no longer tried to tie the two threads as one normally would do, and, thus, ending up frustrated. This second time around, I allowed Flynn to tell David's story and let him tie up the two threads when he was ready to do so. I would recommend anyone about to read this installment approach the book this way.

Despite my enjoying the book very much, there are weak spots and the weakest was the way Flynn offed the villains - not just the scene where David and Omar are killed off (both so anti-climactic) but I felt rather misled by Flynn where these two characters are concerned. I liked how David was portrayed - not at all the stereotypical Palestinian (or Arab, heck, the usual Middle-Eastern!) terrorist and I liked, very much, that there was that other angle, that other side, to him - a highly-educated, Renaissance man, even, who had a love for his land that is as legitimate as any Zionist's, and who hurts when the innocent are hurt in the endless battle for their slice of this planet. Omar was the stereotypical Saudi prince whose days and nights revolve around his sybaritic indulgences. He's portrayed as fat and lazy and lacking in the smarts department.

With those impressions etched, unmistakably, in my mind, I was thrown for a loop when David abandons his more noble self and acts like your typical terrorist whose only goal is to see a Palestinian state regardless of the collateral damage. Where the hell did the David the Renaissance Man go and when/how did Jabril the garden-variety terrorist take his place? Then the lazy, self-indulgent, stupid Omar becomes an evil, scheming Arab prince? Not just a sudden development but a really sudden change that occurs in a single scene! I was thinking 'hey! That's not how you painted these two guys!' and either Flynn forgot how he characterized these two men or he deliberately set out to mislead me.

Ah well. That said, I still enjoyed this installment, especially the DC shenanigans. Anna needs to die. Soon.

REVIEW OF AUDIOBOOK; NOVEMBER 16, 2015

Narrator: George Guidall

I must have been very tired as I couldn't follow the story. There were two storylines going on throughout the book and seemed unconnected but you know it is so it adds to the frustration. With audio, it's even more frustrating as I couldn't go back and check for something I missed. But in the end, it didn't seem to matter because all I needed was to listen to Rapp's rant in the final quarter and got the gist of the entire book in five minutes. Samuel's review sums everything up that I want to say but can't be bothered.

All through the audiobook, I kept wondering who the heck was David. The book was mostly about him, not Mitch Rapp, and I even wondered if I had picked the wrong book. But no, it was Rapp but maybe Flynn forgot. In any case, I felt somewhat derailed - it wasn't really the kind of Rapp book I've come to enjoy not just because this stranger called David hijacked it, but because Mitch is still battling that cow he's married to. There are 14 books - 7 more to go - and I'm hoping I won't have to put up with Anna for 7 more books. Not unless she gets her head straight and stop being such a pain the ass.

Not an installment I enjoyed but I love Rapp in action so I'm going to check out Book 7 and see if it sounds more like the Rapp I like or I should take a break and do a serial killer instead.
