



Voyage of the Devilfish

Michael DiMercurio

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Commander Michael Pacino is ordered on a mission of revenge to sink his father's killer, Admiral Alexi Novskoyy, who is aboard the Russian supersub Omega under the polar icecap about to deliver a surgical strike on the United States. The Russian Magnum nuclear torpedo dooms Pacino's USS Devilfish, which is trapped under thick polar ice and sinking fast.

Voyage of the Devilfish Details

Date : Published November 1st 2001 by Onyx (first published 1992)

ISBN : 9780451410122

Author : Michael DiMercurio

Format : Paperback 368 pages

Genre : Thriller, Fiction, War, Military Fiction

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From Reader Review Voyage of the Devilfish for online ebook

David G. Waddington says

Good

Good vvvv bvbbb ddvgfr bhg. Vfr. Cfr vfg. Vgh. Bvgfr vcd codes mbvgd vgf mjutf bug njdfr bd xfs eed

Matt Crumpton says

Well a blurb on this book stated "If you like Hunt for Red October, you will love this book." Well after reading it I feel the opposite. I love Red October, and I just like Devilfish.....barely. This book was okay, bordering on pretty good. It has some positives, and some negatives.

First, the positive. DiMercurio sure has the skins on the wall to know what he is writing about. I mean being an Annapolis graduate, and having an engineering degree from MIT, and serving as an officer aboard a U.S. Naval Submarine, qualifies him to write this stuff. I love naval warfare, and particularly submarines. I love the language and the naval jargon. Its good for my reading pleasure. At first the plot sounded a little like Red October since its about the Russians building a secret super sub, that has the capability to destroy all enemies, and is damn near indestructible itself. Well the similarity ends there which I was glad of. The plot was simple, and easy to follow. At about 150 pages in the novel seems to take off, and you get sucked in. An angry Russian Admiral using this sub to deploy 120 fast attack subs to take out major cities along the east coast of the U.S. Pretty good plot so far. Then you have 1 American sub being deployed to find this new Russian sub and stop it. Its seems to be setting up for a nice showdown....right? Wrong!!

Now the negatives. First, you would think with this scenario you would have a nice cat and mouse game between these rival subs. I mean you could have attacks and counter-attacks, and moves and counter-moves. Instead you get ONE confrontation with each ship getting a shot off and each ship damaging the other one. That's it!! This indestructible Russian sub that is double-hulled is damaged by a convenient new American torpedo, and the Russian nuclear torpedo fatally damages both ships. And that's it!! Really kind of a let down in my opinion.

Then there is the aspect of making the torpedoes, and missiles having human-like qualities. Really, he describes them as such. He describes a Russian cruise missile as "feeling" the air around itself, and a Russian nuc "disappointed" that it had not found its target and has to initiate a self destruct was kind of stupid for me. Also he compares one duties to a human trying to achieve orgasm.....really weird. Plus he would spend a couple of pages describing the missile and torpedo, and all of its functions which for me just bogged down the narrative in a few places. Others might be interested in that technical stuff but I am not.

Then the ending is very unsatisfying to say the least. You want the good guy to take down the bad guy, and you get the good guy recovering from almost death, and the bad guy being shipped back to Russia. Oh, and he is told that he should probably take the easy way out and kill himself before he gets back home.

LAME!!!!

So all in all, a good plot that is poorly executed. However, this is his first novel and he is a good writer with some promise. I am going to start the next book he wrote and see if there are any improvements over this book

Michael says

I bought book 4 of the Michael Pacino series on clearance. I soon after picked up this one. Dimercurio has a way of telling the story that just puts you in the spot, with an unpredictable plot. I'll be continuing this series soon.

John says

A lot of underwater activity, ranging from the North Atlantic to the U.S. East Coast to the polar icecap. The launch of a possible "game changing" Russian submarine that no one knew about causes the Navy to send Mike Pacino and the USS Devilfish on a top secret mission under the polar icecap to determine the intentions of the commander of the Russian submarine fleet. A sudden excursion of Russian submarines headed to the U. S. East Coast raises the situation to almost a panic level, despite the efforts of an agent in the Defense Department to downplay the problem. As submarines are lost, and lives are lost, will Pacino and his crew be able to prevent a global conflict.

Mark says

It was OK. Although the author doesn't know much about the Arctic sea ice. Or if he does know about it, then he didn't write that.

Basically I'm constantly amazed that someone who is hailed for accuracy in how submarines work, can miss so much in what I would have thought of as easy things to correct.

Overall (if you can ignore all the bits about the ice), then it was a decent read.

Boyd says

I received this book free of charge. I really enjoyed this book. It read fast and always made me want to get to the next chapter to see what would happen. I really do not know how much I would have paid for this book if it had not been free. But as a free book it is worth your time. If you like Tom Clancy novels this should be something you should like.

Corey says

Better than expected!

I have the problem of being a huge Tom Clancy and Vince Flynn fan. It has made me...well...snobby....about reading other books of the genre. However, I took a chance on this book and am glad I did. While the plot strains credulity at times the action is good and the writing is good as well. I will definitely read the other books in this series and am happy to have found this author!

Anyaraquel says

Great Read

A rocket sicken sub tale. Immensely enjoyable. Lots of fun high tech stuff, great settings and a wild sea story.

Debbie Zapata says

I like submarine stories and this was an exciting one, with the action zipping from one place to another, one sub to another. The author was a little heavy handed with the technical details of submarines, and even though I tried to not skip those parts, I did skim them. But even with these owner's manuals sections to read, this was a good story.

Ajith says

It is an entertaining, quick read !!

Neil says

It was okay. I liked parts of it; parts of it were *meh*, and parts of it were bland. Elements of it reminded me of *Hunt for Red October* and other parts reminded me of *To Kill the Potemkin*. Some of it flowed kinda fast, some of it was really slow. The character development, such as it was, was not-quite-okay and borderline nonexistent. It was not as exciting as I remember it being the first time I read it [twentyplus years ago]. I honestly do not know what to say about it - I think I might have been better off not reading this one [again] so that I could have kept the positive memories I had of the book.

I have to admit, I think the best part of the book for me was the diagrams of the two submarines at the front of the book. I loved them twentysome years ago, and I loved them now. Best part of the book, by far!

The monster Soviet super sub was crazy. It was gargantuan! It was so big, I was surprised the Americans could do anything to it that would adversely affect it. I still cannot wrap my mind over how big it was, and how quiet it was at the same time. The discussion of its propulsion system was pretty cool, I will not deny that. It was so big as to be a little farfetched, to me, but it was still a great concept to read about.

(view spoiler)

One thing I did find funny (view spoiler). Not sure why, but it made me laugh.

Something else that I found 'funny' [but not necessarily in a 'hahahah' kind of way] (view spoiler). I felt this was one of the weaker parts of the story by far.

The book was more anticlimactic than I realized. Perhaps it stems from a conversation I had with my brother when we watched *Crimson Tide* many, many moons ago. He pointed out that the movie was exceptionally anticlimactic, because the consequences were so great. The way movies tend to be made, to make it an 'end-of-the-world' scenario essentially requires the 'heroes' to save the day and save society as we know it by preventing the 'end-of-the-world' scenario from happening [nuclear war, in the case of the movie]. He felt the movie would have been better if it had been about a country in which "nobody cared if the population lived or died" that was threatened with destruction as opposed to a global conflagration. Of course, if the movie had been made 'today', they might have gone the other way in how the movie ended. So, back to the book. The book felt the same way to me. On the one hand, there was this 'huge build-up' of Russian forces, and then it amounted to essentially nothing. It's like, the author tried to get the tension all wound up in a tight ball, and then it started to unravel. Intentionally unravel. Something happened. Tensions went down. Something else happened. More tension was released. Then essentially a great, big 'nothing' / 'letdown' between the American sub and the Soviet super-sub, and the Soviet sub quietly concedes to the American sub, sinking into the dark, black depths of the polar sea. The American sub survives by the skin of its teeth, as it were, before sliding back into the depths. There was all this build-up and then, whoosh, nothing, at the end. I felt like saying, "That's it?!? That's all that happened?" I realize, at the same time, the ending in the book would be the 'preferable' ending in 'real life' (view spoiler). So perhaps it was a better ending than I initially gave it credit for being.

It would be kinda funny to read a book in which some crisis is averted with plenty of time to spare as opposed running down to the wire. :) Even if not funny, it would definitely be crazy, as it would be so 'different' than the norm.

One other thing that bugged me(view spoiler).

On a more personal note, I first read this when I was 'big' into fictional stories about US Navy submarines. Charles D. Taylor had written some stories about attack subs and boomers. Hendricks had also written a slew of books about underwater conflicts between Russian subs and American subs. I read quite a few of them, when I came across this book. I tried reading some of Bart Davis' books, but I could never quite get into them, for some reason. Regardless, I do remember 'loving' this book when I first read it [although the ID number of the sub always made me cringe]. I do remember enjoying most of the books I read, regardless of how far-fetched they might have been.

Overall, I am glad I read the book. It was not nearly as good as I remembered it being the first time I read it, but at least now I know.

Gregg Hopps says

A little bit too much detail on how a submarine works, but a decent book. I'm looking forward to reading the second book in the series.

Jean says

This is a new author for me. I understand it is his first book. The book is an exciting techno-thriller. Our protagonist is Cmdr. Michael Pacino who is the captain of the attack sub Devilfish. Michael's father was also a sub captain. As he leaves on his new assignment, Michael finds out that the Admiral aboard the new Russian submarine he is to track sank his father's sub twenty years ago.

The new Russian super-submarine, the Kaliningrad, is superior to the U.S. submarines. Admiral Alexei Novskoy plans a nuclear strike on the United States. He has gone rouge. Apparently, the Russians have a mole high up in the Pentagon. The suspense is palatable as the two submarines play hide and seek under the polar ice while Russian submarines line up along the United States eastern shores to launch nuclear missiles.

The book is well written with lots of action and suspense. The plot twists and turns. The characters are interesting and realistic. Apparently, the author was a former submarine officer and drawing on the experiences, DiMercurio makes the life and action on the submarine extremely realistic. I am definitely looking forward to reading more books by this author.

I read this as an audiobook downloaded from Audible. The book is just over twelve hours long. Gene Engine does a good job narrating the book. I first enjoyed Engine when he was the narrator for the Beaumont books by J. A. Jance. I think that Engine has the perfect voice for westerns. This is my first experience with him reading a submarine book. He does an average job with this book. This experience only re-enforces my view that he is superb as a western narrator.

Graeme Tindale says

While I am not a knowledgeable individual about submarine warfare, I think it is important to say that this is more like science fiction in terms of the events that transpire and the weapons used. That said, as I do enjoy science fiction, I found this a very interesting book to read. While it started off a little slowly, it quickly ramped up with multiple plots, interesting characters and fast nail-biting action. It kept me engrossed in the story right until the end.

I am certainly looking forward to reading the sequel.

Eric says

A fun, quick read, though it wandered into the "sea" of make believe, which is why the three stars, no more. I served in submarines, so I may be unduly critical.
