



Killer Intent

Tony Kent

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As seen on ITV in the Zoe Ball Book Club

An assassin's bullet. A deadly conspiracy. But who is calling the shots?

'A twisty, action-packed conspiracy thriller. Kent knows how to bring the thrills' -- MASON CROSS, author of the Carter Blake series

When an attempted assassination sparks a chain reaction of explosive events across London, Britain's elite security forces seem powerless to stop the chaos threatening to overwhelm the government.

As the dark and deadly conspiracy unfolds, three strangers find their fates entwined: Joe Dempsey, a deadly military intelligence officer; Sarah Truman, a CNN reporter determined to get her headline; and Michael Devlin, a Belfast-born criminal barrister with a secret past.

As the circle of those they can trust grows ever smaller, Dempsey, Devlin and Truman are forced to work in the shadows, caught in a life-or-death race against the clock, before the terrible plot can consume them all.

A 'Must-have new read for 2018', chosen by the *Sunday Express*

An *Irish Independent* 'Top Tips for 2018' pick

"A compelling combination of political drama and lethal action. There are echoes of Michael Dobbs's *House Of Cards* but there is more derring-do in Kent's twisty tale, which has all the makings of a best-seller" -- **DAILY MAIL**

***** "An astute, cleverly plotted and scarily plausible conspiracy thriller with plenty of twists" -- ***The Daily Express***

"Let's hear some applause from thriller fans! Yes, a new star has arrived with a humdinger that could keep you up all night. I was hooked from the start. The first chapter drips with cold sweat ... packs a storytelling punch, rather like early Jack Higgins" -- ***Peterborough Evening Telegraph***

"Killer Intent is not only considered but cleverly layered, unpredictable and best of all really great fun to read... My advice: Put it on your "must have" list for January." - **LIZ LOVES BOOKS**

"A perfectly plotted blockbuster of a book with killer intent" -- **IMRAN MAHMOOD, author of *You Don't Know Me***

"This is an absolute knockout debut novel from Tony Kent and with more of Devlin and Dempsey promised, I for one can't wait" -- ***Shotsmag***

Killer Intent Details

Date : Published December 14th 2017 by Elliott & Thompson

ISBN :

Author : Tony Kent

Format : Kindle Edition 448 pages

Genre : Thriller, Fiction, Mystery, Crime

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From Reader Review Killer Intent for online ebook

Roy says

This is an intense political conspiracy action thriller, in the vein of Ludlam/Clancy style. The story follows 3 main POVs. A ex special security officer, a lawyer and a reporter who all get caught up in the action. There is a 4th shady character who may or may not be controlled by some all powerful figure. Intense fast paced read. My only critique is that the number of characters at the start can make the story feel a little convoluted however after the 70-90 page mark it all comes together.

Jon says

Excellent!

The best read in ages. I'm looking forward to more from this author as he has obviously got a great talent for edge of your seat plots.

Kate says

Such a good political, conspiracy and action thriller. Intriguing characters and tense throughout. The violence feels very real and, as a result, parts of the novel are particularly powerful and even upsetting. Highly recommended.

Bookread2day says

Every once in a while a new author appears on the writing scene with an amazing first novel. Tony Kent is one of those new novelist with his first amazing book, Killer Intent that's an action tight page turning thriller. I'm really looking forward to his new novel Marked for Death that will be published Seventh of February in 2019. I believe that Tony Kent will be one of those novelist to keep on looking out for in the future.

☆ BJ's Book Blog ☆Janeane ☆ says

Copy received from S & S Australia for an honest review

This book. Boy, this book. I was intrigued by the blurb, but wasn't really sure what I was in for.

What I was in for was an adrenaline packed story, full of murder, political intrigue an plot twist after plot twist.

It did take me about 50 pages to get my head around who was whom, however once I had that in place I

couldn't stop turning the pages.

It was a guessing game to see who the bad guys really were - I had my suspicions about half way through.

This book harked back to the days of the IRA, the terrorist attacks on Britain, the tensions between England and Northern Ireland. Our world is a highly charged political place at the moment, and who knows what our governments are really getting up to/

Killer Intent was a great change of pace from what I had been reading. Tony Kent is a new author to me, however I will be checking out more of his work in the future.

Denise says

The attempted assassination of a former US president on British soil marks the beginning of a deadly chain of events threatening to overturn the current government while three strangers looking into the attack - Joe Dempsey, an elite soldier working for military intelligence; Sarah Truman, an ambitious CNN reporter chasing the story of a lifetime; and Michael Devlin, a lawyer hiding a shady past in Northern Ireland - all find clues that there might be more going on than meets the eye and begin to unravel a high-reaching conspiracy.

Engaging and entertaining, but ultimately the big twists were too predictable and the whole thing was somewhat lacking in subtlety, complexity and finesse in regards to plotting, characters and writing.

Bree T says

I don't naturally gravitate towards this sort of story but occasionally it's good to mix it up with something I don't normally read and this has some big wraps on it so I decided to give it a go. It's set in England, beginning at a highly public event featuring not only England's Prime Minister but both the current and a former President from the United States. Obviously security is complicated and it's a mix of top British security and the American Secret Service having to work together. Things go horribly wrong with an assassination attempt on a former President, throwing everything into chaos.

From there the story splinters into about four parts – Joe Dempsey works for the British agency DDS – Department of Domestic Security. He's a former military man, a highly trained and gifted operative who has worked as a sniper or "fixer of problems", among other things. Dempsey recognises some of the work on the botched assassination attempt as someone from his past, someone he definitely needs to take care of. Sarah Truman is an American journalist living and working in London and she alone holds a key piece of information that could blow a government cover up wide open. Her investigations lead her to Michael Devlin, a criminal barrister from Belfast, making both of them targets. They flee to Michael's home town for both protection and information, uncovering the kind of conspiracy terrorist plot that could shock the world. And then there's the enigmatic "Joshua", a gun for hire who is held fast to his task by the one pulling all the

strings.

Terrorism is not something anyone is unfamiliar with these days and it makes a great backdrop for this story although Tony Kent swerves away from the more commonly portrayed scenarios of the Middle East or Russia. Instead he elects to use 'The Troubles' for his story, increasing the tensions again between England and Northern Ireland. It's made for some aggression as England's current Prime Minister is seen as 'soft' on the IRA-style terrorists, releasing prisoners and mediating, rather than taking a hard uncompromising line that England is not to be trifled with. It's clear that England has sent a lot of military personnel to Northern Ireland and many have been lost. The event at the beginning of the book is to thank military servers for their sacrifice and emotions are running on high.

I enjoyed this book a lot – it's very fast paced and at the beginning you wonder where it's all going but it begins to tie all the threads together in a really compelling way. In the way of action novels, everyone is pretty much amazing – Joe Dempsey is one of the greatest soldiers that Britain has ever produced, matched only by his nemesis and it's clear the two are heading for a showdown. Sarah is full of courage. She endures some truly physically and mentally exhausting and traumatising events in this book but manages to pull herself together each time and keep going. She's motivated by the truth and the story and it's lucky that she falls in with Michael Devlin, who is definitely more than just a barrister who happens to be from Belfast. Michael also has mad skills of course and even better than that, mad connections which enable him to not only acquire the information he seeks but also protection and security, helping keep both Sarah and him alive. The three of them are really entertaining characters with a good dynamic – Sarah and Michael work well together and Joe has the ability to put pieces of a cover up puzzle together at an alarmingly fast rate and insert himself into any situation anywhere in order to take control and help bring everything under order. The cat and mouse game between him and his nemesis/former mentor was really well done and it was sort of surprising to me that I liked that character, even though he was doing some horrible things.

I'm not sure if we'll see any of these characters again – it could go either way. I'd be happy to read another book featuring any combination of the characters in this one but if not, there's definitely enough here to give the reader an idea for how things may go in the future for most of the players. This is a super exciting action packed debut that details a lot of things incredibly well (politics, terrorist organisations, conspiracy theories, cover ups, military secrets to name just a few) and I'm definitely going to keep Tony Kent on my radar for the future.

A copy of this book was provided by the publisher for the purpose of an honest review

Andy Wormald says

I found this to be a highly charged thriller of the highest quality, full on action, slick and fast paced.

Starting with the attempted assassination of a former US president in London, fate and circumstances soon bring together two of the main protagonists in a race to uncover the truth that will bring their own very survival into doubt.

The author has created a great cast of characters with an explosive story and plot line to match, the story flows at a pace guaranteed to make the pages turn in a race to reach the climactic ending

This doesn't read as a debut novel such is the quality and nature of the writing

A fantastic start in what is going to be a terrific series, very reminiscent of early Jack Higgins

Definitely going to be one of the best reads of 2018 would highly recommend, will definitely leave you wanting more

Judy Odom says

Killer Intent is an intense political thriller and as the pages turn you aren't sure who is the villain or the mastermind behind the carnage that has resulted in assassination of government officials and the resulting deaths of those who knew just a little too much.

The characters were well defined, you felt that you were there with them fighting the fight. The pages turn quickly and you will think of the book long after it has ended. Give it a try .

Thanks to Lovereading UK for the opportunity to read this book

Rod says

"The sudden tightening of his jaw. The stiffening of his nondescript clothing. The calming, strengthening intake of breath. All the signs of a man about to act."

Thanks to NetGalley for the ARC.

This is a high-octane thriller that grabs hold quickly and doesn't let go. A fast, suspenseful read with a satisfying conclusion. Don't be put off by the lame title.

Carolyn says

This is a high intensity political thriller with an assassination plot threatening to kick off new hostilities between Britain and Northern Ireland. Great characters - an ex-security force soldier Joe Dempsey, a young, ambitious reporter Sarah Truman and Michael Devlin, a solicitor from a shady Irish family all racing against time and a very dangerous man hired by an unknown powerful character determined to change the course of history. Plenty of fast paced action in this gripping and intense plot!

With thanks to Netgalley and Simon and Schuster for an ARC to read.

Glenys Jones says

Really enjoyed this book fast action packed thriller , loved the plot and the characters were well written and likeable', with real good baddies, loved the ending which opens up so many possibilities

Ruth Jones says

Ok, but it was obvious from about chapter 50 who the baddies were...too many easy clues.

Liz Barnsley says

Killer Intent is a proper thriller. By that I mean it's actually thrilling, whilst showing a huge amount of depth in both plot and character. I'm a fan. It was GREAT.

So our political landscape is pretty FUBAR at the moment, we know this, but I'm kind of hoping that behind the scenes things are somewhat less House of Cards than is happening in this story – bullets are flying, people are dying, there's a devilish plot going on somewhere and Joe Dempsey is determined to dig down to the very roots of it. Starting with a bang, almost literally, then taking the reader on an often breathtaking race to the finish, Killer Intent is not only considered but cleverly layered, unpredictable and best of all really great fun to read.

It is brilliantly written to have maximum effect and you'll get hook line and sinker into this twisty tale of mayhem, you'll probably fall in love with at least 2 of the characters (if not more) and I'm really quite happy that this is going to be a series because as soon as I'd finished it I wanted more. Thought provoking as well as entertaining, Killer Intent for me was a huge reading hit – so much to appreciate, definitely worth giving a nod to Sarah Truman who was the kind of female protagonist we need more of, no hint from anywhere that she couldn't and wouldn't keep up with all our alpha males. Plus there is a strong emotional edge to all of the characters that makes you stick with them through it all.

Taking place over a very short period of time, building an interesting background to be explored presumably in later novels and with a taut, tense and exciting story unfolding, I'm more than happy to highly recommend Killer Intent to any thriller fan. And a few non thriller fans. Ok all of you too...

Incredibly immersive with bang on prose and an intriguingly complex web of deceit that doesn't feel at all unlikely. Killer Intent in a nutshell.

My advice: Put it on your "must have" list for January.

Jeannette says

Book blurb...

Britain's elite security forces seem powerless when an audacious attempt is made to assassinate a former US president in London. This becomes the spark which ignites a chain reaction of explosive events that will see old political sympathies rekindled and personal loyalties betrayed.

Joe Dempsey, a deadly military intelligence officer who witnesses this botched assassination, soon realises that this is just one small part of a complex and dark conspiracy, and only he can stop it. The fallout draws both Dempsey and CNN reporter Sarah Truman into parallel investigations, each compelled to discover the sinister truth behind these violent events. All too quickly they are running out of time as the future of the British government is crumbling. Thrown into these events is Michael Devlin, a Belfast-born criminal barrister with a secret past.

It's a life or death race against the clock. Dempsey, Devlin and Truman are forced to work in the shadows and call on forgotten loyalties before a lethal showdown presents a devastating finale.

Killer Intent is the first novel to feature deadly military intelligence officer Joe Dempsey, Irish barrister

Michael Devlin and American TV reporter Sarah Truman, in a compelling new series from high-profile barrister Tony Kent.

My thoughts...

This is a complex plot involving acts of both good and evil. I was wrapped up in the story from the beginning and felt for characters, Sarah and Michael, who find themselves on a collision course with evil.

A story mixed up with politics, greed and loyalty, the plot cleverly trickles clues as to who is behind the evil.

On this occasion I did figure out who the bad guy was, but I was so invested in the story it didn't matter? I was happy to go with the flow with this one. Fabulous!. Thank you.

This review is also published on <http://www.readroundoz.wordpress.com>
