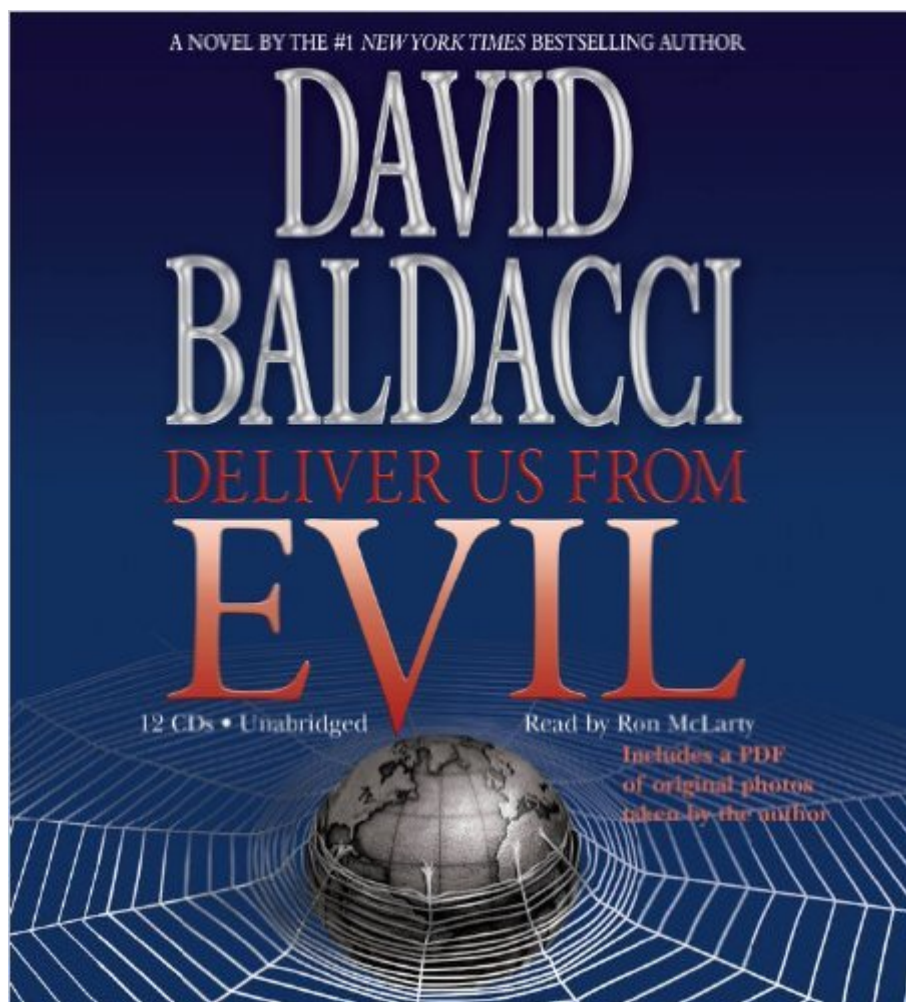


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Deliver Us From Evil (Shaw Series)



Synopsis

In South America a 96-year-old man of great wealth reads a book late one night and an hour later he lies dead in his bed, the secrets of his past starkly revealed. Six months later another mystery man lies dead at the bottom of his pool in a villa in Provence. This time, however, there's a witness at the scene: Shaw, the shadowy operative from *The Whole Truth*, who barely escapes with his life. Meanwhile, a half a world away, photojournalist Katie James is working on a story of international importance. But shortly after her meeting with a potential inside source, she is smuggled unconscious onto an airplane headed to an undisclosed destination. In the days to come, Katie and Shaw will be reunited in a deadly duel of nerve and wits against a surprising, secretive enemy and led around the world at a breakneck pace. Filled with the kind of breathtaking plot turns and remarkable characters that only David Baldacci can deliver, it will be the most explosive thriller of the year.

Book Information

Series: Shaw Series

Audio CD: 12 pages

Publisher: Grand Central Publishing; Unabridged edition (April 20, 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1600249647

ISBN-13: 978-1600249648

Product Dimensions: 5.2 x 1.8 x 5.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 11.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.8 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (784 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #992,311 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #53 in [Books > Books on CD > Authors, A-Z > \(B \) > Baldacci, David](#) #953 in [Books > Mystery, Thriller & Suspense > Thrillers & Suspense > Crime > Vigilante Justice](#) #1647 in [Books > Books on CD > Mystery & Thrillers](#)

Customer Reviews

Review of DELIVER US FROM EVIL - David Baldacci
WARNING - This story contains several extremely detailed scenes of torture and violence. It is not for the squeamish or individuals with a weak stomach or vivid imagination. They are not so frequent that I was unable to finish the book, and they are essential to the story so that it is difficult to skip them and fully comprehend the horror that is the basis of the narrative. However, if I had not been a fan of Baldacci and had not thoroughly enjoyed *THE WHOLE TRUTH*, the earlier novel in which the mysterious Shaw and his controller

Frank were introduced, I might have chosen not to finish the story since I am not a fan of the type of gruesome scenes scattered throughout this book. The focus of this story is the battle between good and evil. If the prospective reader has not read THE WHOLE TRUTH, I recommend that be read first to get the detailed backstory of Shaw; in addition, one of the key incidents in that book which changed Shaw's life irrevocably is an integral part of this story and thus reading this book would destroy much of the emotional impact of that story if read later. Shaw and Frank develop a plan to capture Evan Waller, a totally immoral Canadian businessman who is both a trafficker in human beings and has a new sideline of selling nuclear material to terrorists. They plan to neutralize his omnipresent bodyguards and kidnap him while he is on a rare holiday in Provence. Meanwhile, a parallel operation is planned by a secret unofficial rogue vigilante group operating out of England who hunt down and execute unapprehended war criminals, and which knows that Waller is actually a deep cover identity for a Ukrainian war criminal who faked his own death and disappeared decades ago.

I'm not a Kindle owner, so I'm not involved in the price issue that makes up so many of the reviews currently. So, this is mostly just my thoughts on the story. I did, however, read parts of this on a Sony eReader, and was surprised to find that the ebook has extras - like an alternative ending not found in the printed book. After the review of the story, I've added my thoughts separately on these.

Short Summary: Woman who's a part of a group of international vigilantes goes after people like ex-Nazi's and KGB agents who have slaughtered masses. Her path crosses super-secret spy agent Shaw's as he goes after the same guy for a different reason. Will they get him? Or will he get them? And, will Shaw get the girl in the end?

Here's the ups and downs of it to me:

1. Fast-paced international plot and action: As always, Baldacci keeps the plot and action just zinging along - and this time on a globe-trotting trip through Europe the U.S., and a trip down world history memory lane. That along with his ability to keep the twists and turns coming, kept me turning the pages.
2. Interesting, occasionally over-the-top cast of characters: Reggie is a highlight, as the dedicated hard-core vigilante with a heart. She's a nice match-up for Shaw. The evil guys are really evil, and enjoy wallowing in their evilness. For me, this went over the top sometimes, creating bad guy caricatures. It seems torture scenes and violence were thrown in, just to be sure we get that head evil guy is REALLY, REALLY evil.
3. I really had to force myself to suspend disbelief on this one: Half-way through the book, I realized the complicated plot the vigilantes use to trap the bad guy vs. other options is just ridiculous.

In David Baldacci's new thriller "Deliver Us from Evil," the story starts off with Reggie Champion--a femme fatale who murders an elderly ex-Nazi and returns to her secret agency which specializes in carrying out justice, for a new assignment. She is assigned to travel to Provence where ex-KGB agent and mass murderer of the Ukrainian people--Fedir Kuchin, nowadays a legitimate Canadian businessman who goes by the name of Evan Waller--is due to spend his vacation. Reggie rents a villa next to his, and waits for his arrival. Meanwhile Shaw, who works for a rival agency, has similar orders. His boss Frank portrays Waller as a human trafficker who kidnaps young girls from Asia and sells them into the sex industry. Most bothersome is Waller's connection to nuclear remnants from the former Soviet Union and his plan to sell them to Muslim fundamentalists, to make explosives. Shaw's plan involves tackling Waller during his guided tourist excursion in the caves. As Shaw travels to Provence to carry out his own agenda regarding Waller, he meets Reggie who is posing as a rich and clueless socialite. Unaware of her true purpose, Shaw also plays the game and poses as a lobbyist. Suspicious of each other, they form a brief bond until the arrival of their target changes everything. Soon enough, Reggie is dangerously flirting with Waller as Shaw is becoming increasingly nervous about their safety. Meanwhile, Waller has a near-death experience of his own while meeting with his nuclear buyers, and vows to carry out revenge. Overall, the plot is interesting if a bit predictable. I enjoyed the love triangle between Reggie, Waller, and Shaw. Baldacci succeeds in portraying his characters as either sympathetic or evil.

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