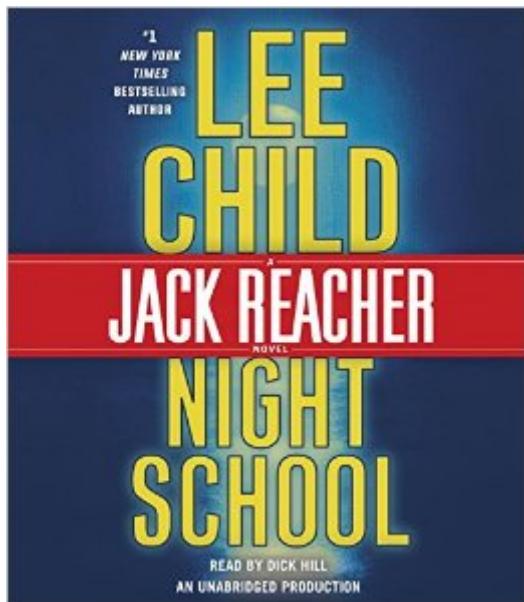


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Night School: A Jack Reacher Novel



Synopsis

The incomparable hero of Jack Reacher: Never Go Back takes readers to school in his most explosive novel yet. After eleven straight global #1 bestsellers, discover the thrillers that The New York Times calls "utterly addictive." It's 1996, and Reacher is still in the army. In the morning they give him a medal, and in the afternoon they send him back to school. That night he's off the grid. Out of sight, out of mind. Two other men are in the classroom: an FBI agent and a CIA analyst. Each is a first-rate operator, each is fresh off a big win, and each is wondering what the hell they are doing there. Then they find out: A Jihadist sleeper cell in Hamburg, Germany, has received an unexpected visitor: a Saudi courier, seeking safe haven while waiting to rendezvous with persons unknown. A CIA asset, undercover inside the cell, has overheard the courier whisper a chilling message: "The American wants a hundred million dollars." For what? And who from? Reacher and his two new friends are told to find the American. Reacher recruits the best soldier he has ever worked with: Sergeant Frances Neagley. Their mission heats up in more ways than one, while always keeping their eyes on the prize: If they don't get their man, the world will suffer an epic act of terrorism. From Langley to Hamburg, Jalalabad to Kiev, Night School moves like a bullet through a treacherous landscape of double crosses, faked identities, and new and terrible enemies, as Reacher maneuvers inside the game and outside the law. Praise for #1 bestselling author Lee Child and his Jack Reacher series: "Reacher [is] one of this century's most original, tantalizing pop-fiction heroes." —The Washington Post

From the Hardcover edition.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The answer is mostly because of his character Jack Reacher. I find it interesting that Mr. Child twice reiterates Jack's physical description at 6' 5" and 250 lbs. It's almost like Lee Child is trying to reclaim his character as he has been presented in the past 20 novels -- as opposed to having the "movie" Jack Reacher represented by 5' 7" Tom Cruise. No offense to Tom Cruise but I have known Jack Reacher for almost 20 years. And you are no Jack Reacher. In 1997 Lee Child presented Jack Reacher as a main character in "Killing Floor". Jack is not just a rugged and competent physical specimen, he is highly trained, has great instincts, can calculate numbers (and odds) rapidly in his head, is very intelligent, and can apply his skills immediately and with very little remorse (if any). This combination of attributes also makes him attractive to women. Jack represents what most manly men probably want to be. I have always been interested in the use of "chaos theory" as a problem solving tool. Chaos theory is a method of problem solving in the field of mathematics that deals with complex systems whose behavior is highly sensitive to slight changes in conditions, often small alterations can give rise to strikingly great consequences. Jack Reacher in combination with his main supporting cast are skilled at tossing out random thoughts that helps them leave no stone unturned. Peoples' minds often work in different ways and sometimes the solution that appears obvious to one person just turns out to be a "head fake". And so they move on to explore other potential outcomes.

Lee Child, in "Night School," takes us back to 1996, when Jack Reacher was a thirty-five year old army major who had served his country for twelve years. His superior officer, General Garber, orders him to report to the Pentagon, where he is supposed to take a continuing education course. However, this is merely a ruse to keep anyone from knowing that the President of the United States wants Jack and a select group of agents from the CIA and FBI to prevent a catastrophe. Alfred Ratcliffe, the National Security Adviser, and Ratcliffe's deputy, Dr. Marion Sinclair, inform Reacher and his colleagues that an Iranian spy working for the CIA in Hamburg, Germany, has learned that Middle-Eastern extremists are about to make a major purchase from an unidentified American. We are off to the races, and fortunately, Reacher is on our side. In addition to his prowess in hand-to-hand combat (he is six feet five and two hundred and fifty pounds of muscle), Jack is a thinker who analyzes data, makes critical decisions, deploys resources as needed, and uses his uncanny instincts to excellent advantage. He recruits the intelligent and competent Sergeant Frances Neagley to assist him. Jack and company face a daunting challenge: They must identify the key players in this proposed exchange; find out where and when the sale is supposed to take

place; and stop it from happening. All of this must be accomplished without alerting the public. Reacher ignores orders and sidesteps the law when it suits him. He knows that if he succeeds, he will be forgiven, but if he fails, he will be blamed and perhaps face prosecution."Night School" is a diverting throwback to the days before 9/11. The Internet and supercomputers had not yet changed the world.

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