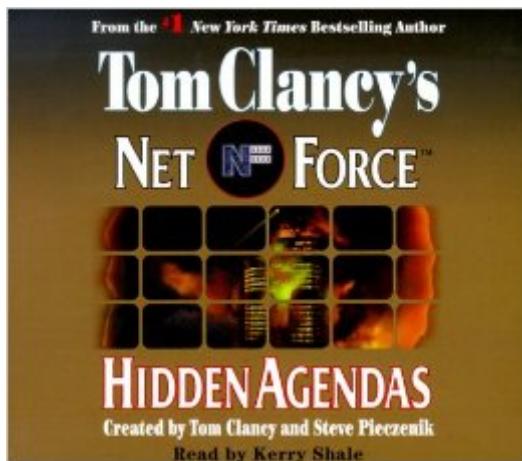


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# Hidden Agendas (Tom Clancy's Net Force, No. 2)



## **Synopsis**

Read by Kerry Shale3 CDs, 4 hoursIn the year 2010, computers are the new superpower.Â Â Those who control them control the world.Â Â To enforce the New Laws, Congress creates the ultimate computer security agency with the FBI: the Net Force. Instructions on how to make a bomb...a list of every U.S. spy in the Euro-Asian theater...Someone with access to classified information is posting it on the Internet-and it's costing lives.Â Â Net Force Commander Alex Michaels is in the hot seat.Â Â Now, before a hostile Senate committee, he must justify the very existence of the Net Force. Meanwhile, a virus is unleashed that throws the federal financial systems into chaos.Â Â And the Net Force operatives must hunt the wily hacker through the twists and turns of cyberspace-down a path that leads them dangerously close to home...

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

I was hanging around the Pentagon when Hunt for Red October hit the streets. It was talked about in every gathering, during coffee at every conference, and in every cocktail party into the night. Folks at the Navy Annex and Ballston were wide eyed that someone had the knowledge and audacity to write such a tale. None of us could put it down. The same was true for every other Clancy novel including the hard cover edition of Executive Orders which very nearly cracked my ribs a few times when I went to sleep after reading into the early hours. Then, I'm on a plane with a copy of Hidden Agendas. I sit back, read the first few pages, look at the cover to be sure that my son hadn't substituted one of his Pokemon books. Then, I waded through the rest of it, sad and then

angry that one of our most prolific and enjoyable writers would permit his name to be seen in the same neighborhood with such fluffy material. There was no substance there Tommy, no angst, no depth, no real threat. There was only a pair of one-dimensional bad boys and this Net Force gang, most of whom Jack Ryan would have assigned as door guards at the State Department. Give it a rest Tommy. If you don't want to write, then enjoy all that success has brought you. If this Pieczenik fellow is holding you hostage someplace, let us know and we'll rescue you. Otherwise, please, don't sully the great and global stories you've shared with us. Go lay on the beach somewhere and give your own imagination free rein once again.

Early works were solid. I've been a true fan and read from Red October through to Clear and Present Danger. What's clear is this book is well below par. Its more along the lines of a Sue Grafton novel as in "T is for Terrible". The Danger is that Tom & Steve put their names on it. I feel like a teacher catching students cheating on an exam. Either this isn't their work or this isn't the work I know their capable of. I can't recommend this and would like a refund. A few technical points - And I'm not a writer but just some obvious flaws. 1. Poor dialog. 2/10 The same phrasing is used by multiple characters. Sometimes on the same page! (Granny sickle & Howard sickle - this is lame. A first year writer could do better) 2. Concepts - 3.5/10 I agree the VR approach is laughable. 3. The printed book - 0/10 - Half the book is either smudged or blurred on poor quality paper. This is obviously a publisher cashing in on Tom's name. Previously I didn't think twice about a new Clancy novel. Now I'll have to skim the book first to see if its even worth consideration.

Hidden Agendas follows on from the first book where the head of Net Force (Steve Day) was assassinated by terrorists, in steps Alex Michaels to take over the ship with his trusted team of computer experts, Toni Fiorella and Jay Gridley. Without giving too much away, someone was not only able to get their hands on top secret information but is posting it on the net, sending the world into chaos. Michaels and his team are sent on a wild goose chase on the info they are being allowed to gather on the suspect, it seems no-one is safe from these terrorists. I have read both books and find them quick paced and hard to put down. There is Action, suspense, humor and a touch of romance thrown in for good measure. If the first two books are anything to go by, I'm buying the rest and I can't wait for the TV series.

Good book. Easy read. It's what I've come to expect from the Tom Clancy team. Lots of character history and development along with the human touch. Tons of action and interesting plot twists.

Computer hacking is a limited genre but there are interesting switches to keep your mind engaged.

Really poorly written. Little intrigue or adventure. Piece meal writing, by the two authors. What a waste of time.

I've read every Clancy novel, since Red October & Red Storm Rising. These were great. This one is trash. Why did it take two people to write this junk? They stretch the concept of Virtual Reality to unbelievable levels, seemingly just to put people in period costumes/sceneries. Instead of using it in a credible way, they turn it into a gimmick. The character interaction is quite pathetic (everybody gets lucky with the best looking woman, without half trying). More like a porn movie. Clancy novels used to have oodles of technical detail. He used to be a real source of insight in how the military and its technologies work. Now he seems to just crank out Hollywood'isms just for its own sake. I'm sorry that Mr. Clancy felt the need to put his name to this. His "brand" is going down the tubes.

I am ready to admit that it is my fault that I don't like this Tom Clancy (or whoever wrote it) novel. I am just not ready for the silliness of computer programmers, concerned about and employed to combat cyber crime, espionage, dirty tricks, and viruses, writing code to make their job into a computer game just to make work fun. The story line was as unbelievable as, and read like, a comic book, but as far as I could determine, did not have pictures. This is the first and the last of my "Clancy" novels.... I just don't have enough reading time to waste on trash stories when there are so many good books available. Maybe if I went back to the 1980's books that Clancy really wrote, I would have a better impression of his genre, but I doubt that I will.

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