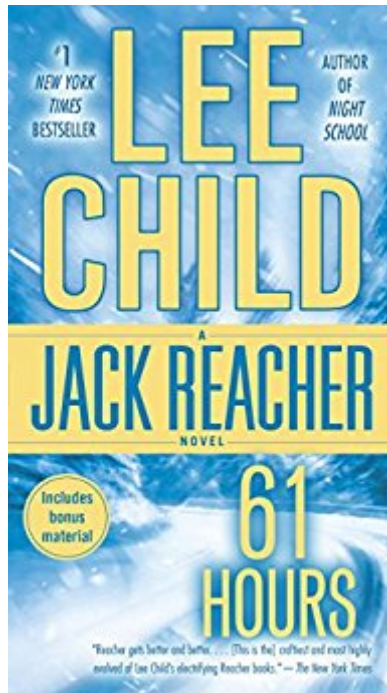




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61 Hours (Jack Reacher, Book 14)



Synopsis

#1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER “Reacher gets better and better. . . . [This is the] craftiest and most highly evolved of Lee Child’s electrifying Reacher books.” —Janet Maslin, The New York Times “Child is a superb craftsman of suspense, juggling several plots and keeping his herrings well-rouged. . . . Chances are you’ll want to seek out other Reacher adventures the moment you finish.” —Entertainment Weekly A bus crashes in a savage snowstorm and lands Jack Reacher in the middle of a deadly confrontation. In nearby Bolton, South Dakota, one brave woman is standing up for justice in a small town threatened by sinister forces. If she’s going to live long enough to testify, she’ll need help. Because a killer is coming to Bolton, a coldly proficient assassin who never misses. Reacher’s original plan was to keep on moving. But the next 61 hours will change everything. The secrets are deadlier and his enemies are stronger than he could have guessed—but so is the woman he’ll risk his life to save. BONUS: This edition contains an excerpt from Lee Child’s *Worth Dying For*. “Masterful . . . a tour-de-force of both structure and suspense.” —The Providence Journal “Child keeps his foot hard on the throttle. . . . This is Child in top form, but isn’t he always?” —Booklist (starred review) “Compulsively addictive [with] an explosive climax that will have you tearing out your hair until Reacher’s next appearance.” —The Miami Herald

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Customer Reviews

I have been a fan of Lee Child's Jack Reacher action novels for many years. I just completed reading this book 61 Hours and found it to be another suspenseful and action packed tale. The weather played a big part in this story. It is ice cold and snowing in South Dakota when the bus Jack was riding in went off the road and crashed near Bolton, South Dakota. There were mostly elderly people on the bus with the exception of Jack and the driver of the bus. Jack helped some of the injured people off the bus and it was freezing outside at this point. In a short while a police officer from Bolton arrived on the scene. The police department also brought a bus, which was used to transport prisoners to their federal lock up in Bolton. After all the injured and elderly boarded the bus and took them to various hotels and hospitals. Jack and police Officer Andrew Peterson of the Bolton Police Department begin talking and the real meat of the novel begins. The story gets a little more complicated because of the policies which have to be followed by Bolton P.D. when it comes to a prison riot and what the officers are assigned to do in such a case. There is also a serious problem with someone who is going to attempt to kill a witness who is supposed to testify against a connected thug. Jack gets involved with the problems of Bolton P.D. and the wind, snow and icy cold weather all add to the challenges Jack Reacher must meet. I never give away too much information when I review a novel because it spoils it for the reader. If you are a Jack Reacher fan you should check out this book, 61 Hours. I found it to be a somewhat suspenseful book because of the hours count down in the book. Rating: 5 Stars. Joseph J. Truncale (Author: Tactical Principles of the most effective combative systems)

I ONCE VIEWED THE REACHER BOOKS (AND THE REACHER CHARACTER) AS JUST A GOOD SUMMER READ. I PREVIOUSLY GAVE A 3 STAR REVIEW, AN OPINION I NOW REGRET AS NOT APPRECIATING HOW GOOD THESE BOOKS ARE. ONCE THE READER GETS OVER THE WAY IN WHICH REACHER GETS INTO THE NOVEL'S SET UP

PREDICAMENT (WHICH I NOW APPRECIATE MORE AS WELL), IT IS OFF TO THE RACES. AND A FUN RACE IT ALWAYS TURNS OUT TO BE. REACHER IS A HERO: DOGGED, POLITICALLY INCORRECT, TOUGH, AND WITH A CODE OF CONDUCT THAT SATISFIES IN THIS AGE WE LIVE IN. MAYBE IT IS NOT JUST REACHER WHO IS GETTING OLDER AND THUS MORE WORTHY OF RESPECT AS A HERO IN A NOVEL. PERHAPS THIS READER HAS MORE CAPACITY TO SEE HIS WORTH.

I have read all but one remaining "Jack Reacher" novel, and most are very good. This book, (although a page turner), I have to say, the ending could have been better developed. It almost seemed like "okay time to end this thing" and it's summed up and ended with a farfetched finish to what otherwise was a great story. Regarding character development, "The Russian" seemed to be nothing more than a convenient bad guy, lurking in the background, to do the double take at the very end, compared with the little old lady school teacher, with a huge character development, that ends up not having much at all to do with the ending of the book. Also, the very mysterious military installation? In the end, It's original purpose was simply ridiculous. Finally, Jack Reacher defends the "little guy" right? Well, the police chief is the little guy in this story but, (not to spoil the outcome) I will just say he is left to fend for himself. Worth reading yes. Best of Lee Child's work, not so much.

I'm a huge fan of Child's Reacher series, and I've read 16 so far... of which 61 Hours was easily the most disappointing. First, I knew instantly (on page 97) who the assassin was, and that's the first time that's ever happened to me with Child's work. Second, the author went way over the top with his expressed desire to put Reacher in a cold-weather environment, which manifests itself in repetitive descriptions of how cold it is. Third, the undercurrent of excitement common to the Reacher books is barely detectable here... the tension levels are relatively low and the pace is leisurely to the point of somnolence. And finally, while Child's books usually deliver a rich array of supporting characters, the only one in 61 Hours who feels both realistic and interesting is present in the story only as a voice on a phone. I'm glad I didn't read 61 Hours as my first exposure to Jack Reacher. There wouldn't have been a second.

I hate Lee Child's writing style. I hate it so much I am winding up buying every book he has written it seems. His iconic character Jack Reacher is very believable as is the genesis of him; i.e., military brat, served in the Army as a special policeman type role, decommissioned after 13 years, very lean and tough but a large build and so on. Still, he drives me nuts with the bare bones sentence

structuring. It's like he's Hemingway trying to write the Bible in 10 sentences. At times seems very choppy. Invariably, the book endings seem like he has lost interest in finishing them and his denouement are awful quick considering the length of time covered in the books. I guess all stories have to come to an end, but would like to see more definition in the endings.

Jack Reacher finds himself in unfamiliar territory as he defends an elderly witness in subfreezing South Dakota. It's a race against time as Reacher must figure out the identity of the assassin bent on murder. He finds a new colleague and possible love interest in Army MP Major Susan Turner. Reacher's main adversary is Mexican drug lord Plato, a sadistic fiend with an extreme Napoleonic Complex. Overall, this is one of the better Lee Child novels which is saying much since most of the Reacher thrillers are very good. The hero must deal with many obstacles, first and foremost being the subzero South Dakota weather. The only real downside of this book is that it is more typical police procedural with the police themselves being very flat characters. However the introduction of Susan Turner gives the book pop as she plays Oracle to Reacher's Batman.

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