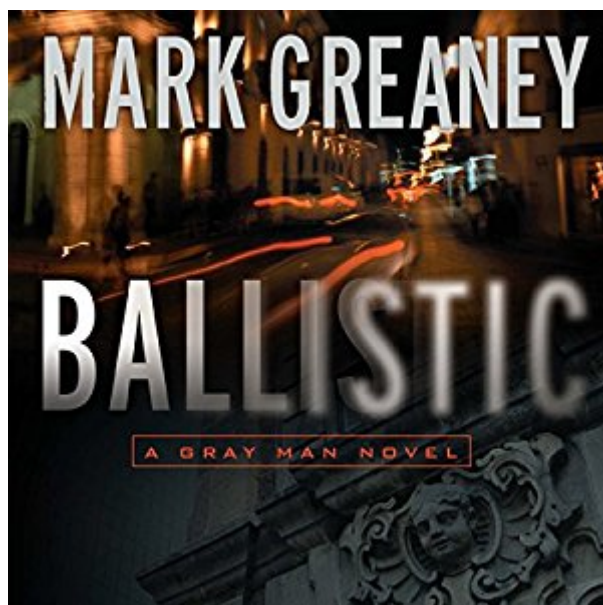


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Ballistic: A Gray Man Novel



Synopsis

Ex-CIA assassin Court Gentry thought he could find refuge living in the rain forest. But his bloody past finds him when a vengeful Russian crime lord forces him to go on the run once again. Court makes his way to one of the only men in the world he can trust - and arrives too late. His friend is dead and buried. Years before, Eddie Gamboa had saved Court's life. Now, Eddie has been murdered by the notorious Mexican drug cartel he fought to take down. And Court soon finds himself drawn into a war he never wanted. But in this war, there are no sides - only survivors....

Book Information

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> Mystery, Thriller & Suspense > Thrillers & Suspense > Spies & Politics > Political

Customer Reviews

I LOVE THIS SERIES! I usually read romance, paranormal, and regency novels, but Mark Greaney is a gripping storyteller, and I cannot put his books down! Once you meet The Gray man in the story, you will absolutely fall in love with this author's writing! The plots and pacing are rapid, heart-stuttering, and real. (Lee Child, Stephen Hunter, Robert Ludlum, move on over -- you have some serious competition!) Try one of these thrillers, you will NOT be disappointed!

Anyone familiar with the first two novels in The Gray Man series (The Gray Man (A Gray Man Novel) and On Target (A Gray Man Novel)) will know they are filled with action and adventure throughout the book. This third entry is certainly no exception. Author Mark Greaney takes the reader on a thrill ride that would make any amusement park proud. Moving from one challenge to the next Courtland Gentry's exploits kept my attention riveted to the pages of this book. Court has

been hiding out from all the many factions who want to see him dead, most recently his ex-boss, Russian mobster Gregor Sidorenko. Hiding in the back-of-beyond jungles of South America worked for seven months but now a manhunter has found Gentry and it's time to move on. With only escape in mind Gentry is waiting in a bus station when he happens to hear a television news story concerning a man he once shared a prison cell with in Laos. Could this Eduardo Gamboa be the same Eddie Gamble he had known back in that prison? Because if so, then Court does not believe the man he had known could be guilty of what these news reports said. Before long Gentry finds himself a very unwilling actor in the bloody business of drugs and other crimes between two feuding Mexican drug lords. Between his former bosses in the CIA, his former boss in the Russian mob, and now these armed and decidedly dangerous Mexican criminals it will take an expert in survival to come out of this mess alive. I enjoyed this book very much, in fact I have come to expect that from Greaney. It seemed as if there was action taking place almost every minute and the excitement factor was ramped up to heart pounding level for most of the novel. I don't read thrillers or adventure novels to spend my time hearing about how somebody's day went at the office. If I'm looking for adventure, then that's what I want. I'm asking an author to entertain me and take me out of the humdrum. As a reader I gained a little more insight into the background of Court Gentry, but there is still much more left to be revealed - I hope - in future novels. There was one specific element in the novel where I would have liked to get some additional narrative. The story eventually revolves around a kidnapping with Gentry fighting to rescue that victim. Not just the reader, but Gentry himself lost all contact with that victim for a very long period of time. I began to wonder what it was that made The Gray Man so sure this hostage was even still alive. A few quick peeks into how the person was being treated would have helped the sympathetic and curious sides of my nature. Court Gentry has more lives than a multitude of cats, but without his specialized ability to find his target, make plans which succeed, and remove the bad guys, there would not be much reason for him to exist as a fictional character. I'll take him just as the talented author writes him and be glad to do so. So, Mr Greaney, when can we expect book number four?

The Gray Man is an assassin with principles. He kills the bad guys. He kills in self defense. He makes the impossible possible. He is one real cool customer. And at the same time he himself is being hunted down to be killed by other government agencies (USA is the lead hunter). This book is the THIRD of five of Gray Man novels. I've read all five. Greaney really does in depth research for all of his books. Greaney goes all over the world looking, talking, interviewing to really add a "now" reality to plot Gray Man's weird look at the life he leads. And and all the twists and turns that

happens...you'll find yourself with five or six pages to finish and Greaney hits you with twists. When you read about The Gray Man, his story ain't over until it's over.....Be sure you start with book #1 (The Gray Man) then in sequence to book #5 (Back Blast).

I love the classic "good guy get's the bad guy" action story, and this is one of many thousands that fit that description. In fact, that's just about all you'll get in this book; no real mysteries as to "who done it", or the good guy who's really a bad guy. It's all right out front, in your face, good vs. evil, and lots of it, particularly plain and simple revenge killing, and a whole bunch of impossible (and extremely improbable) situations in which the hero can prevail . I will say that I learned (via description if not fact) a great deal about Mexico, the blight of Mexican drug cartels, and the apparent "look the other way" view of many in the Mexican military and law enforcement. Yes, this is a work of fiction, but if only a small percentage of the very descriptive narrative is true, then experiencing any of the incredible geography and history that Mexico must have to offer, will definitely not be in my future.

I really dislike writing reviews even though some authors are quite inspiring. Reading is one of my favorites forms of entertainment and with the advent ebooks and self published authors, the number of new published books are staggering. It seems the only way to get to the books/authors I like are to leave a review. Most books I read already have well thought out reviews that I generally agree with. In most cases I only leave a review if I either really enjoyed the book or hated it. So, for this particular book I concur with the other five star reviews and leave this review to show support and to encourage timely future books. I thank the author for an affordable good story.

I like Court Gentry, and other characters like him. Sometimes he ends up with stuff that there is no explanation for.....gun, knife, backpack, etc ,but the story of a Bad Guy with a good heart is fun as he dispatches guys even worse than he is.

This was a riveting and suspenseful . The Gray man, Jose, or Six showed a different side this time. I found myself rooting for him, praying for him and wanting him to win. This book was so worth the read. I highly recommend this book to others the entire series is worth the read,

Mark Greaney's Gray Man series are the best I've read. As a retired CIA officer, former law enforcement officer and lifelong martial artist, the authenticity Mark weaves into his novels makes

them all the more gripping for those of us who walked that path professionally.

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