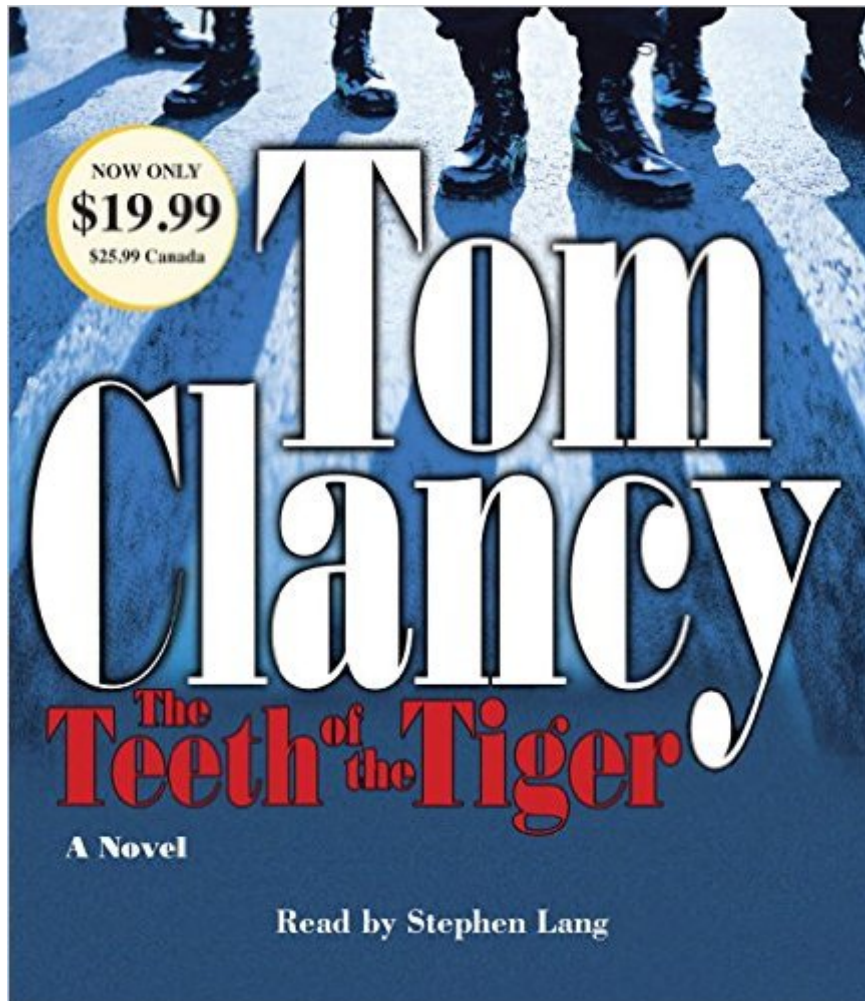


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The Teeth Of The Tiger (A Jack Ryan Novel)



Synopsis

A man named Mohammed sits in a café in Vienna, about to propose a deal to a Colombian. Mohammed has a strong network of agents and sympathizers throughout Europe and the Middle East, and the Colombian has an equally strong drug network throughout America. What if they were to form an alliance, to combine all their assets and connections? The potential for profits would be enormous—and the potential for destruction unimaginable. In the Brave New World of terrorism—where anybody with a spare AK-47, a knowledge of kitchen chemistry, or simply the will to die can become a player—the old rules no longer apply. No matter what new governmental organizations come into being, the only truly effective ones are those that are quick and agile, free of oversight and restrictions...and outside the system. Way outside the system. In a nondescript office building in suburban Maryland, the firm Hendley Associates does a profitable business in stocks, bonds, and international currencies, but its true mission is quite different: to identify and locate terrorist threats, and then deal with them, in whatever manner necessary. Established with the knowledge of President John Patrick Ryan, "the Campus" is always on the lookout for promising new talent, its recruiters scattered throughout the armed forces and government agencies—and three men are about to cross its radar. The first is Dominic Caruso, a rookie FBI agent, barely a year out of Quantico, whose decisive actions resolve a particularly brutal kidnap/murder case. The second is Caruso's brother, Brian, a Marine captain just back from his first combat action in Afghanistan, and already a man to watch. And the third is their cousin...a young man named Jack Ryan, Jr. Jack was raised on intrigue. As his father moved through the ranks of the CIA and then into the White House, Jack received a life course in the world and the way it operates from agents, statesmen, analysts, Secret Service men, and black ops specialists such as John Clark and Ding Chavez. He wants to put it all to work now—but when he knocks on the front door of "the Campus," he finds that nothing has prepared him for what he is about to encounter. For it is indeed a different world out there, and in here...and it is about to become far more dangerous. From the Paperback edition.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

How disappointing. This book desperately needed an editor to throw it back at Clancy for a rewrite. It was, in many ways, stupid. Loaded with utterly unbelievable events. If the world of international espionage really functions like this, we are all in big trouble. I don't remember any previous Clancy books being this childish. Foolish dialogue, especially between the Caruso twins. I never got to like them because they talked like such idiots from start to finish. And those nicknames were utterly annoying. Jack Jr. is not much better. In fact, there isn't an intelligent person in this whole book, which tells me that it's actually the author who lacks intelligence. One glaring example: The rookie spook, Jack Jr., talks openly in public to the twins about top secret info he's learned on the job, naming names of someone who will be their first "target." I immediately assume that Jack will soon be in big trouble for his "loose lips." Nope. Clancy never deals with it at all, even though the twins tell their superior that Jack filled them in. (Oh, you told them about this super-classified info without authorization? No problem, kid.) What nonsense. And there were many other similar flaws. Like them ID'ing their target in Vienna by happening to remember seeing him in Munich. "We're not certain he's the guy, but we're pretty sure so let's just go ahead and kill him." Just stupid. And get this: The 20-something Caruso boys, when comparing Ferraris to women, refer to Grace Kelly and Maureen O'Hara. Grace Kelly and Maureen O'Hara ?! Is Clancy out of his mind? They were both dead before either of these kids were born. Maybe Clancy himself fantasizes about those gals, but it's ludicrous to think his young characters would ever say such a thing.

In case it isn't obvious from the preceding 482 reviews, this book is a disaster, and not even worth reading if someone gives it to you for free. When Clancy first burst onto the scene with Red October, he was an unbelievable breath of fresh air, excellent writing, believable plots and characters, and nail-biting suspense. The fact that he managed to continue his run through several more books is a testament to his skill as a writer. Unfortunately, after getting Jack into the White

House, Clancy began to lose steam, with Red Rabbit being an extraordinary disappointment to his fans. With Teeth of the Tiger, however, our favorite novelist has really hit rock bottom (well, actually the real rock bottom was his simply execrable "collaborations" on OpForce where he sold his name, but I'm talking here about his own writing.) There is a saying that when a television show "jumps the shark" it has turned the corner and is headed for oblivion, and that may well be the case here. Tiger is a simply miserable book, with zero plotting, completely implausible scenarios, ridiculous characters who are both boring and poorly written, no suspense...in fact, there isn't a single decent thing one could write about this book! Despite all of the above (as if they weren't enough) what saddened me most of all was the way Clancy wrote the characters of the twin brothers. Come on! How many successful attorneys-turned-FBI-agents go around speaking like troglodytes who couldn't get a high-school diploma?? These days, it seems that whenever Clancy puts dialogue in the mouths of "young people", all he can come up with stuff like "hey, Bro, whatcha doing?" or things of that ilk. And Jack comes across as obnoxious, impatient and not-very-bright...certainly not someone whom you would cheer on. Ah well...

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