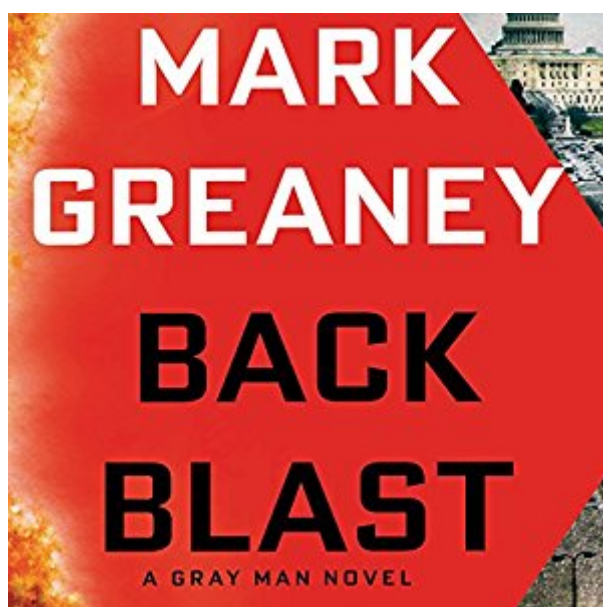


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Back Blast: A Gray Man Novel



Synopsis

From the number-one New York Times best-selling coauthor of Tom Clancy's Jack Ryan novels comes an all-new explosive thriller featuring the lethal assassin known as the Gray Man.... Court Gentry was the CIA's best agent. Until the day the agency turned against him and put out a kill-on-sight order. That's when the enigmatic international assassin called the Gray Man was born - and Court has been working for himself ever since. Now Court is back in Washington, looking for answers. He's determined to find out what happened all those years ago that made the agency turn against him. On his list to interrogate are his former partners and the men who sent him on his last mission. What he doesn't realize is that the questions that arose from that mission are still reverberating in the US intelligence community, and he's stumbled onto a secret that powerful people want kept under wraps. And now they have Court in their crosshairs. Court Gentry is used to having people on his trail, but this time it's on US soil - the last place he wants to be. Now he'll have to find the answers to his fate while evading capture...and avoiding death.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

In some of my other reviews, I generally reveal a bit about the books I'm reading. For the benefit of the reader, I'm going to be quite a bit more vague with "Back Blast". For Gray Man fans, fans of the genre, or for those that are perhaps discovering the series for the first time - this book deserves to be explored on its own, untainted by even a hint of plot spoilers. In creating "The Gray Man" series, Mark Greaney gave readers of the espionage and political/military thriller genre something special.

The magic ingredients, so to speak, in the Gray Man series aren't a hero name that you'd never hear outside of a fiction novel, or super-secret organizations run by either maniacal billionaires or heads of state bent on world domination. Or, even worse, the latest "Middle East terrorist have evil plot to destroy the world, kill the President, etc." The genre is completely polluted with this kind of "fiction", for all the wrong reasons. What makes the Gray Man special is that, to most people, he's just some guy with a somewhat complicated past, looking for answers. And, yet again, unlike most characters in the genre, he's not running from the Illuminati only to come back with some brilliant scheme at the end of the book and save the world. While he's certainly fighting to survive, Court Gentry is constantly running *toward* his enemies, sometimes with a plan, sometimes completely winging it. And the Gray Man doesn't always win. What he does do, however, is live to fight another day. And every day gets him closer to the truth. Until the arrival of "Back Blast", the reader is generally kept in a state of suspense about who burned Court Gentry and why. This is trademark Greaney - he made us wait for 5.

What A Blast! By Bob Gelms Mark Greaney's Back Blast is a go-for-broke wild ride that any fan of thrillers and/or espionage will just love. Mr. Greaney is a very successful writer of this genre and has, in fact, co-written quite a few of Tom Clancy's Jack Ryan novels. He is very good at what he does. The book features the infamous Grey Man. It is the fifth book in the series and the book that clears up all of the mystery behind the Grey Man himself. Courtland Gentry was the CIA's best spy. There are black-ops spy groups in the government and Gentry's group work in their shadow. He worked for the most secret group in the CIA. There are only a handful of people who even knew they exist. Five years ago Court had a "shoot to kill on sight" order levied against him. He didn't know why but in the process of the order being carried out he killed most of the members of his own group who were actually sent to eliminate him. That was the birth of the enigmatic Grey Man and he has been on the run and looking over his shoulder ever since. He has been taking intelligence jobs to make ends meet and the occasional assassination was not beyond his ken. The mystery has lasted through four Grey Man novels. It is the first one I have read and I can attest that you don't need to read the previous four to get what is going on. Mr. Greaney catches you up very smartly without having to rely on countless flashbacks to do so. Gentry decides he has had enough of running so he sneaks back into the USA. He has been living all over the world and that has become cumbersome. He is back in Washington DC to find out why the CIA is trying to kill him.

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