



## **Deadlock**

*Robert Liparulo*

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Hutch is a newspaper columnist, single dad . . . and last defense against a lunatic's high-tech killing machine.

Special Forces veteran-turned-billionaire Brendan Page has some dirty not-so-little secrets. He's built an empire on supplying futuristic weapons and highly trained soldiers to the world's most powerful armies.

But he's saved his most destructive weapons for himself.

John Hutchinson, a Denver newspaper columnist and avid bow-hunter, has figured out the truth about Brendan Page and is determined to bring him down. But he's up against a warmonger linked to assassinations, kidnappings, and terrorist activities.

Hutch quickly uncovers a plan that seems unfathomable in its recklessness and loss of life. Yet he's just one man up against impossible odds--with no Plan B. Thankfully, it's just the kind of environment Hutch thrives best in . . . "if "he can survive the next three days.

"Deadlock" will grab you from the riveting first page to its white-knuckle climax.

"With a blistering pace and irresistible characters, "Deadlock" is the best of high-octane suspense."

- Gayle Lynds, "New York Times "best-selling author of "The Last Spymaster"

## **Deadlock Details**

Date : Published March 1st 2009 by Thomas Nelson Publishers

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Author : Robert Liparulo

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## From Reader Review Deadlock for online ebook

### Mark A Powell says

A continuation of his last book, Deadfall, Liparulo picks up the story of John "Hutch" Hutchinson, this time in his native Colorado. Hutch has become obsessed with taking down Brendan Page, the father of Deadfall's villain. What lengths will Hutch go to in order to see justice done? Although the setting changes, Liparulo continues to write in a very action-driven style that is light on character depth or plot. A decent effort, but ends up lacking.

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### Jeffrey says

John Hutcheson is a reporter in Denver, who while on vacation in Canada apparently thwarted some kind of plot by Declan Page to kill a bunch of people there (the action took place in the prior novel). Hutch, who is divorced is having his kids Macie and Logan visit him while he is also being visited by Laura and her son Dillon who were with him in Canada. Hutch believes that Page's father is using his military company to train older teens to fight as soldiers. In the opening of the novel, a squad from his company is involved in a secret mission --which one guy thinks is merely part of a video collection, but who learns that the actors being killed are real people including children. Hutch gets contacted by a psychologist Nichols who used to work for Page who claims he has information about Page's plans, and Hutch tries to investigate Page while the visit goes on. He is called to Page's corporate headquarters to interview Page and while at a hotel after his visit is sent a video that shows Laura, Dillon, Macie and Logan being live videoed. Page is showing the video to Hutch to get him to stop investigating him, but something goes wrong, Logan is kidnapped and Page sends his men to kill Laura and the others as well as Hutch.

The novel then slides into a battle between Hutch and the family against three hit squads from Page and ultimately a contest between Page and Hutch.

The book moves fast and the the action is quick in the latter stages. Hutch is believable as an action hero but not much as a reporter. He is not an expert with guns but is an accomplished archer and the ending is a little surprising although in reality I never thought the action was mysterious, and you always know who is going to win out in the end.

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### Mark Kipper says

Excellent book! Lots (LOTS!) of action and adventure, but without sacrificing great character development. The story brings up some really cool topics--the nature of privatized armies and obsession, the struggle an average person goes through trying to balance life and work. All of it nicely entwined within a killer shoot-em-up type story. Kept me up two nights in a row.

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### Laura says

Deadlock is the follow-up to Deadfall A John Hutchinson Novel. Although it isn't necessary to have read Deadfall, it does explain relationships between the characters. I recommend reading it to understand the whole backstory.

This book picks up a year after Deadfall. John Hutchinson, "Hutch", vowed to change his family situation and get shared custody of his children. He has it now, but doesn't share enough quality time since he is obsessed with Brenden Page, the father of the killer of his friends and Laura Fuller's husband, Tom. When Laura and her son, Dillon, visit Hutch, his obsession takes a fateful turn.

I was engrossed in this book almost from page one. It was very quick-paced and easy to read. Deadfall took me a week to read because it dragged a little and had a few ideas that were a little out there for me, but this one only took me a day to finish. The soldier training ideas were all very believable and possible. Brenden Page was a good villain that was easy to dislike.

This is an excellent, well-written book. Occasionally, the metaphors/similes or descriptions are a little over-the-top, but not too distracting.

This book includes bloody death scenes, but not overly descriptive. It does not include any foul language.

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### **Gloria says**

This sequel to Deadfall occurs about a year after those events. During the past year, Hutch has become obsessed with digging into Brendan Page, Declan's father, and his military industrial projects.

Page tolerated Hutch's investigations until Hitch got a tip from a scientist. The scientist's family was massacred by a special ops team and Nichols was killed later. Page wanted to send a message to Hutch, so he got Hutch away from his family and sent a "surveillance team", also special ops, to show Hutch his reach and scare him into backing off. It went wrong. (view spoiler)

I found the book hard to get into at the beginning, but as the action picked up, the book was hard to put down. It's a straight thriller, just like the prior book, and includes some parental thoughts because as Hutch got more obsessed with Page, he kept promising things or outings with his children and not spending time with them.

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### **Ed says**

This is a continuation from "Deadfall" fighting the same evil influence that was introduced in John Hutchinson #1. I believe there is more action in this volume than in Deadfall. There are also many challenges Hutch faces in this book concerning the relationship he has with his own children. A great thriller that keeps you in the book with lots of excitement. The enemy is not a foreign country, but what could happen in our own country if the wrong people take charge.

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### **Cheryl says**

John Hutchinson is a journalist for the Denver Post and a avid bow hunter. While out with his girlfriend and her son, he receives a phone call from a Dr. Dorian Nichols. Dr. Nichols rambles on about they are all dead...meaning his family. He tells John that the police are after him and that he didn't kill them. What he says next really gets John's attention. He implements that Brendan Page is somehow involved.

Brendan is a billionaire military industrialist, who John has been trying to bring down since the incident in Canada involving Declan going rogue. Declan went on a killing spree. Page's latest top secret project is training soldiers for his Quick-Response Black Ops "QRBO" project. QRBO are teams of four who's goal is to move in quickly, eliminate the target and get back out. Page's training of soldier's consists of having them go through a vitural reality simulation training program. The catch is that the bullets are real and so is the blood.

I picked up this book not realizing that it was the next book in a long of books to feature John Hutchinson. I did not have a problem with this but I did have a problem with the fact that this story incorporated events that happened in what I can guess to be the prior story. I could pick up that there was history between Page and Hutch that involved events that took place in Canada. This was brought up a lot through out the story. It drove me crazy as I was trying to figure out what happened but couldn't till about half way into the book. Then I had a pretty good idea of what transpired. Having said all this, Deadlock is the first book I have read by this author and it won't be the last.

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### **Candy Wright says**

Great book! Suspense and excitement from the beginning. Clean, no language. Will even recommend to my kids.

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### **Shadowrider says**

Excellent book. Definitely want to have read the first book Dead Fall to understand where Hutch is coming from. I love the fact that Hutch's choice of weapon is the bow and arrow when it comes to protecting himself as well. Mr. Liparulo turned out a definte page turner. I finished the book in less than a week.

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### **Amanda Willie says**

#### **Started slow but ended well**

Good book. Great characters, well developed. There were several slow parts with almost thought monologues, I felt like those were a bit much. The story was great and made up for the overabundance of information. I'll keep reading the Hutch books. Excited for the crossover with the immortals...that should be interesting.

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### **Rebecca says**

Deadlock is the second John Hutchinson book by Robert Liparulo (the first being Deadfall). You do not have to have read Deadfall in order to enjoy Deadlock as it reads well as a stand alone novel. Personally, I would recommend reading Deadfall first for two reasons 1) it's crazy good and 2) some of the relationships, characters, and dynamics are better understood with the background provided in Deadfall.

As for a review of Deadlock. An exceptional thriller and suspense novel. From page one the reader is sucked into the story with an action-packed, ripping tale of danger, love, technology, and determination.

Hutch is a single father but his experience the previous year leaves him preoccupied and vulnerable to the attack of Page, owner of a super high tech company that trains military soldiers and the father of last year's problem. Is the attack a father's vengeance or is he just protecting his own hide?

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### **RJ McGill says**

In Deadlock, we are given a glimpse, (that will hopefully remain fictional), into the chilling possibilities and consequences that go hand in hand with advancing technology, especially when money, status and greed replace integrity, morality and accountability. The futuristic element is just beyond the setting sun of tomorrow, but not so much so that it becomes unforeseeable. The situations that play out are frighteningly similar to those we have seen on the news in recent months. The combination of fantasy and reality, creative imagination and good research have yielded an interesting, provocative novel, that moves quickly and keeps the reader involved.

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### **Lee says**

This was a nice follow up to "Deadfall". A high tech thriller, with the newspaper protagonist, that just won't quit going after the bad guy. Most of the story took place in Denver, so some of the places and references made to the metro area were cool. A quick read, with a touch of a David & Goliath matchup.

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### **Richard says**

Deadlock continues the story of bow hunter John Hutchinson. The first novel being Deadfall.

Following the incident in Canada, Hutchinson has gone back to writing for his local newspaper. And he's obsessed with bringing down Brendan Page, father of the killer in Deadfall and owner of the best Blackwater-esque agency.

Page uses virtual reality to train his soldiers to view blood as blue and people, whether adult, children, male or female as a generic person who is the enemy. Basically, he's using video gamers ability to play first person shooter games well and bringing it into the real world.

After a face-to-face meeting with Hutchinson, Page decides to send him a message to leave him alone. This message gets scrambled and Hutchinson's son is kidnapped and people die. This sends Hutchinson into a race to find his son and exact revenge on Page.

This book reads fast because of the short chapters. The characters are fleshed out so it's more than a summer easy action read. However I was disappointed in the number of times the characters used a cuss word. I thought this was a book published by a Christian company.

Outside of that one minor flaw, Deadlock is almost as good as Deadfall.

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### **Janna says**

I am a huge fan of Robert's books. His YA books are some of my favorite and I really liked "Comes a Horseman". The concept for "Deadlock" was intriguing... is it a video game, is it reality, rogue soldiers for hire. My only regret is that I did not read "Deadfall" before I dove into this one, especially since it was sitting on my bookshelf just begging for me to pick it up. Granted, it was not necessary to read Deadfall first, but it would have answered a lot of little questions much sooner, with a lot of the characters being returning characters it would have simplified my thought process. But that aside, this book was awesome! I read it in less than a day (and it is not a small book). I believe that Robert Liparulo is the Tom Clancy, John Grisham kind of author for Christians, gritty, keep you on the edge of your seat, intrigue, murder, mystery, suspense... written for guys but great for girls!

In Deadlock there are strong characters, including Laura who is quite capable of kicking butt on her own - especially as mama bear protecting her cubs. Hutch is a one man Rambo - but the kids are pretty incredible too - give Dillon a bow and arrow and get out of his way! The bad guys are really bad, unless they are confused about what is reality and what is just a game. Good is found in unlikely places and bad is just everywhere. Can Hutch save his kids from Outis? Is Brendan Page really as evil as he wants Hutch to think he is? How can Hutch protect his family from the one man that can cause killing anywhere in the world? This is one ride you want to be on with Hutch... you might just want to ride along on Deadfall first.

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