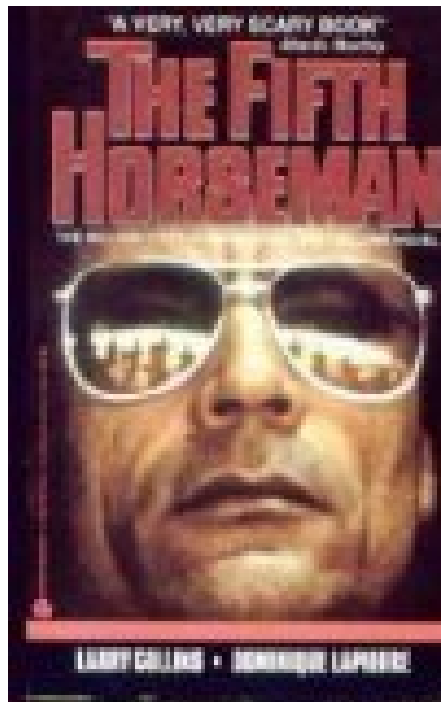




The Fifth Horseman

Larry Collins , Dominique Lapierre

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In a suspenseful novel of terrorist threat, Libyan leader Qaddafi holds New York City hostage with the threat of setting off a hidden nuclear bomb.

The Fifth Horseman Details

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From Reader Review The Fifth Horseman for online ebook

David Catagua says

Un libro q te mantiene en vilo hasta la última escena, sin embargo no llega a 5 estrellas, me pregunto si realmente la película se basó en este libro xq a pesar de las similitudes son muy diferentes.

Diane Verdi says

Couldn't put it down. These 2 writers are impeccable in their details. Lots of suspense.

Claudio Valverde says

Los autores, Dominique Lapierre y Larry Collins, nos narran la historia de un chantaje nuclear de enormes dimensiones. El coronel Gadafi, presidente de Libia y líder la la liga pan-árabe logra hacer pasar un artefacto explosivo nuclear de gran calibre a Nueva York, y allí ocultarlo custodiado por unos agentes terroristas capaces de defenderlo con su vida. Con la amenaza nuclear en juego, se pide el rescate al presidente de los Estados Unidos Jimmy Carter, aunque no se le menciona por su nombre en toda la novela) que consiga que Israel retire a sus colonos de los territorios palestinos si no quiere que haga detonar la bomba y borre Nueva York de la faz de la tierra. Fue escrito en 1980. Es una historia interesante, se lee muy rápido. Estos autores también han escrito otro excelente libro "OH, Jerusalem, pues es muy buena ya que explica como se origina el conflicto entre israelíes y palestinos que en su momento convivían pacíficamente como buenos vecinos. En el caso de "Oh, Jerusalem" se trata de una narración con rigor histórico en tanto que "El quinto jinete" es una ficción.

Mike says

3rd reading - Just finishing two of my favorites from the early 80s - this story and "The Sixth Commandment" by Lawrence Sanders.

Here, Libyan/Palestinian terrorists have planted a hydrogen bomb in New York City. The ultimatum is that the U.S. must force Israel to depart the lands they've taken from the Arab people. We have multiple players - The President and his cabinet, who can't evacuate the people or the bomb will blow; the nuclear folks who spend the little time left searching for the needle in the haystack; my favorite, Angelo, a NYPD detective partnered with a young FBI agent looking for any Arabs in the neighborhood.

Great tension in this global police procedural.

2nd reading - I had originally read this when it came out in paperback in the early 80s. Awesome suspense involving a terrorist cell smuggling a dirty nuclear bomb into the states.

I thoroughly enjoyed the main character of NY police officer Angelo, an everyman looking for the needle in

the haystack. His life revolves around his girlfriend, Grace, and his Down Syndrome daughter.

One of the many good parts: using a lie detector that looks at eye patterns leads to unexpected results.

I re-read this 30 years later and the terrorism elements seem even more prescient in these times.

Alethea Hammer says

We live in an age where the 'Terrorist-with a nuke in New York' plot is a standard genre of our contemporary literature. This is one of the better written examples of the type, the characters are real and likable and the plot is fast paced. However it was published in 1980 and there are many jarring little things in the book which make it seem dated now. Such as using the term 'mongoloid' instead of Down's Syndrome, the lack of cell phones, and the navy's submarine nukes being controlled by punch card computers. But demonizing the Palestinians and the Libyans, that hasn't changed.

Henri Moreaux says

This wasn't a bad book, however I think it would have been aided by a bit of reduction in length and/or a bit more pace to the narrative.

The story itself is reasonably original, Libyan dictator Muammar Gaddafi holds the United States hostage by planting a thermonuclear bomb in New York and demanding the force the Israeli's to remove their settlements from Palestinian lands. So whilst the premise is very much a topic of its time - the 1980s - it still is compelling today.

There was plenty of background and lead up to all the events, I think whilst they were somewhat of interest and did give more atmosphere the story wouldn't have been hurt that much by leaving most of the events in France out completely, or relegated to a mere paragraph or two.

Overall, it was a decent book but not one I'd race out for.

Aymeric says

Ecrit par un journaliste.

Degré de détail qui ne trompera personne.

Toutes les échelles sont prises en compte, des plus hautes sphères de l'état au hommes du terrain.

Une montée en puissance du suspens menée à la perfection, tant le lecteur comprend au fur et à mesure les enjeux et intrications que ce chantage historique implique.

Si bien réalisé d'ailleurs, qu'on en reste presque sur sa faim dans les dernières pages qui passent trop vite.

Géopolitique internationale, physique nucléaire, enjeux de pouvoir, enquête policière, un must!

Habemus_apicellam says

Fanta-politica anacronistica

molto deludente: forse non bisognava leggerlo nel 2000, venti anni dopo gli eventi politici internazionali su cui gli autori costruiscono una vicenda di fanta-politica.... comunque ha uno stile piattino e scarsa originalità: mi sembra un soggetto per Hollywood (chiamare il dittatore Khadafi per ricordare Gheddafi è proprio un punto basso...)

Elizabeth Noble says

I haven't read a thriller in a while, and reading this (a too good one) made me realise how much of my patience have been taken away by the visual media. I kept thinking, why couldn't they make a movie out of this.! It was intense and amazing to have it inside your head, the world's various intelligence agency control rooms, government control rooms and their operations. Larry Collins and Dominique Lapierre never fails to impress me!

Michael says

A timeless story about terrorists desiring to set an explosion in New York unless the United States will agree to their demands and agrees to set up an independedt Palistinian state. Libyan Col. Mummar al-Qaddafi has given the US 36 hours to agree to his terms or else, he will set off the device, wiping New York off the map.

Det. Angelo Rocchia and his girlfriend, Grace Knewland are two of the New Yorkers who would be killed in the explosion. Over dinner, Grace tells Angelo how happy she is to learn of her unexpected pregnancy.

In Washington, DC, the President decides to find the answers and tells his agents not to worry about diplomatic immunity. The agents set up wire taps on Libyan diplomats.

Quentin Dewing, FBI assistant director for investigation is in charge of mobilizing his agents to examine all know terrorists' fingerprints and photographs.

The common man helps, from pimps to pickpockets each doing their best to find answers.

The terrorists, Laila Kajani, her brothers Whalid and Kamal have the device. Only Whalid exhibits any sense of remorse that he will be killing so many innocent people.

The authors have a background in reoprting and the story reads as if the it was taken from news bulletins from the local papers. The narrative style works well and the story is captivating.

Carmo says

Terrorismo não é um tema que me leve às prateleira de um livraria em busca de um livro, mas este Quinto Cavaleiro caiu-me no colo e foi impossível ignora-lo.

Comecei a leitura de pé atrás mas fiquei presa logo nos primeiros capítulos. Primeiro a uma escrita fluida que nos faz deslizar pelas páginas e depois pelo enredo que evolui rapidamente e atinge um ritmo imparável até ao final. Final que acaba por não ter nada de surpreendente mas que vale pelo suspense até às últimas linhas. Escrito no final dos anos setenta a duas mãos, Dominique Lapierre e Larry Collins fizeram um trabalho de investigação notável e rodearam-se de especialistas para que o livro não apresentasse falhas.

Terroristas ligados a Muammar Kadhafi, a eterna disputa sobre a Palestina, os colonatos Judeus e - obviamente - o envolvimento Norte Americano na questão árabe, formam um cocktail que culmina com uma bomba nuclear em Nova York e a ameaça de pulverizar a cidade e 10 milhões de pessoas. O tema não tem nada de original e, infelizmente, continua atual, mas está muito bem desenvolvido e contado com bastante rigor técnico.

Desde as primeiras páginas, e cada vez mais com o avançar da história, achei que este livro daria uma boa adaptação cinematográfica. Bons atores nas mãos de um bom realizador e teríamos filme para nos deixar colados ao ecrã a roer as unhas

Oscar E. says

Today anybody looking for news about international relations, terrorist groups, nuclear weapons, or secret warfare can simply surf the web. Lapierre and Collins successfully merged an imaginative, fully fictional concept with their knowledge of international relations and military operations, creating the hottest political military story you could imagine at the time. A page-turning thriller based on real global issues. So much so that Hollywood majors' abandoned project to make a movie out of it because it could inspire real terrorists. This very detailed and yet fast-paced thriller deserves six - well, okay, five plus - stars to me.

Geo Forman says

A nuclear bomb capable of destroying NYC is hidden in the city by Lybian agents as blackmail to get Israel to abandon their settlements on the west bank. Even though written in the 1980's, it is a plausible story today. The story does not suffer from the changed technology since its writing. The president decides it is best not to tell the population about the bomb because part of the threat is that if an evacuation of the city begins, the bomb will detonated immediately.

It is a race against time as officials try to find and dismantle the bomb before the 48 hour deadline expires. Naturally, it is a seasoned NYC police veteran who figures it all out but only with minutes to spare.

Axone says

J'ai commencé ce livre sans savoir ce qui m'attendait, à défaut d'avoir autre chose à lire, sans *a priori*...

Au fur et à mesure de la lecture, on est complètement happé par un thriller à couper le souffle, un peu à la 24 heures Chrono. Le temps se déroule tout naturellement, et l'urgence des situations nous oblige à rester dans le livre, à le dévorer en un éclair.

Pourtant paru 21 ans avant les attentats du World Trade Center, il est plus que jamais d'actualité et nous fait rentrer dans les coulisses du terrorisme, de l'espionnage, du contre-espionnage et du journalisme en écartant tous les préjugés qu'on pouvait avoir.

Selon la préface, de vraies études ont été menées par les auteurs pour ne rien inventer, ni déformer. À part le scénario, tout ce qui est raconté dans ce livre est une stricte réalité.

Et c'est ce qui rend ce livre si effrayant : On en vient à se demander à la dernière page ce qui empêche réellement une bombe H d'exploser en plein New York.

Le livre pointe aussi du doigt le "Devoir d'information" sacré des journalistes, cette quête de la vérité et de la transparence qui n'est pas forcément si souhaitable que ça.

Il ne vous reste qu'à le lire, Le Cinquième cavalier est génialissimement bien.

Quant à moi, il faut maintenant que j'arrive à l'oublier un peu pour pouvoir le relire !...

Linda Branham Greenwell says

A book about a threatened nuclear holocaust! A great doomer book

I read this a long time ago - and just now reread it

The prospect of an event such as this is everyone's worst nightmare. Yet it is precisely what the think tanks who are responsible for national security have on their agenda, and have for years...what to do...if.... This book is about the prospect of a nuclear attack in New York City

The prospect was so daunting that the US and USSR for decades pulled out all the stops to insure that a nuclear explosion would never be initiated at the expense of either side But at the same time everyone who has nuclear power has also invented every diabolical delivery vehicle, intellectual platform and system capable of destroying NY or MOSCOW in a NY minute. Now it is horribly realistic, save the inability to acquire and successfully detonate one .

Fanaticism is unpredictable. An extraordinary look into a fictional story which we should hope never strays from being fiction.
