



Thriller 2

Clive Cussler (Editor) , Javier Sierra (Contributor) , Mariah Stewart (Contributor) , Jeffery Deaver (Contributor) , Joan Johnston (Contributor) , R.L. Stine (Contributor) , Jon Land (Contributor) , Simon Wood (Contributor) , more... Harry Hunsicker (Contributor) , Lisa Jackson (Contributor) , Tim Maleeny (Contributor) , Phillip Margolin (Contributor) , Kathleen Antrim (Contributor) , Carla Neggers (Contributor) , Gary Braver (Contributor) , Sean Chercover (Contributor) , Ridley Pearson (Contributor) , Blake Crouch (Contributor) , Marcus Sakey (Contributor) , Joe Hartlaub (Contributor) , David Herwson (Contributor) , Lawrence Light (Contributor) , David J. Montgomery (Contributor) ... less

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When some of the top thriller writers in the world came together in "Thriller: Stories To Keep You Up All Night, " they became a part of one of the most successful short-story anthologies ever published. The highly anticipated "Thriller 2: Stories You Just Can't Put Down" is even bigger. From Jeffery Deaver's tale of international terrorism to Lisa Jackson's dysfunctional family in the California wine country to Ridley Pearson's horrifying serial killer, this collection has something for everyone. Twenty-three bestselling and hot new authors in the genre have submitted original stories to make up this unforgettable blockbuster. Turn off your phone.

Shut down your computer.

Say goodbye to your friends and family. Be prepared to read for days.

Thriller 2 Details

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Author : Clive Cussler (Editor) , Javier Sierra (Contributor) , Mariah Stewart (Contributor) , Jeffery Deaver (Contributor) , Joan Johnston (Contributor) , R.L. Stine (Contributor) , Jon Land (Contributor) , Simon Wood (Contributor) , more... Harry Hunsicker (Contributor) , Lisa Jackson (Contributor) , Tim Maleeny (Contributor) , Phillip Margolin (Contributor) , Kathleen Antrim (Contributor) , Carla Neggers (Contributor) , Gary Braver (Contributor) , Sean Chercover (Contributor) , Ridley Pearson (Contributor) , Blake Crouch (Contributor) , Marcus Sakey (Contributor) , Joe Hartlaub (Contributor) , David Herwson (Contributor) , Lawrence Light (Contributor) , David J. Montgomery (Contributor) ...less

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From Reader Review Thriller 2 for online ebook

William says

A wonderfully thrilling collection of short fiction from some of today's best mystery writers, Thriller 2 is every bit as good as its predecessor. The best stories are the ones written by Ridley Pearson, Sean Chercover, Harry Hunsicker, Phillip Margolin, Joe Hartlaub & Joan Johnston. the biggest disappointment was easily the story "Bedtime for Mr. Li" by David J. Montgomery. I won't ruin it completely, but the whole story follows an assassin who is about to kill an incompetent Chinese spy, and then...well, I said I wouldn't ruin the story, but the ending, needless to say, was terrible. Not in a frustrating "I did not see that coming" but more of a "that's it???" kind of way. All in all, this will keep most fans of the genre happy.

Dustin Crazy little brown owl says

This was an interesting collection. I initially found this after being on a Blake Crouch Kick & trying to find more by the author - ironically, his story was not among my favorites in Thriller 2. I think this is a nice way to meet new authors & their writing voice/style.

My personal favorite stories include:

The House on Pine Terrace by Phillip Margolin
The Desert Here And The Deseret Far Away by Marcus Sakey
Vintage Death by Lisa Jackson
The Fifth World by Javier Sierra
Through A Veil Darkly by Kathleen Antrim
Protecting The Innocent by Simon Wood

I would be interested in reading more by these specific authors based on their short story contribution to Thriller 2.

Steven says

Thriller 2 was a lot of fun. I did find a few stories that were interesting, but from my perspective/opinion they didn't feel like a thriller type story. They were good stories from the beginning of the book till the end and held my attention. Infact is was a very quick read and I recommend these Thriller books big time. Although, I recommend the editors of these titles take a little more time proof reading as there were lots of boo boos here and there.

Gary says

Great short stories from some authors I have never encountered before. The one by R. L. Stine creeped me out, I will never, ever trust a monkey angin for the rest of my life...

Gina says

I didn't think I would enjoy this so much but i did. Among my favourites include (1) The House On Pine Terrace, (2) Ghost Writer, (3) Watch Out For My Girl, (4) Boldt's Broken Angel, (5) Can You Help Me Out Here, (6) Suspension Of Disbelief, (7) Protecting The Innocent. This book is a must-read for thriller lovers!

Paul M. says

Some good short stories

Mark Soone says

Based upon my ratings my actual tally is 3.179 stars....being a lover of short stories and getting much enjoyment from this series I would call it 3.5 were that an option. I love collections like this because you get a chance to acquaint yourself with some established thriller writers whom you might not have heard of or read otherwise. It also gives you a chance to see how many of these gifted authors are able to bridge the gap from full length features, and try thier hands at the often neglected and under appreciated art of short stories. It is amazing how many authors neglect this field of thier art and it has always boggled my mind how many people start thier reviews by saying I don't really like short stories....To me they are brilliant ways to express oneself, and as a reader to find quick literary fixes. Oh well to each their own. There are some very brilliant reads, some so so reads, and some that left me totally disappointed....and although no where near the best anthology I have read it was still very rewarding to me as a reader!

01 The Weapon by Jeffery Deaver- 4 stars

Deaver continues to impress me with his short stories, and in truth I will say that I enjoy them much more than his full length novels (although I enjoy them as well!). He has recently joined Stephen King and jeffery archer as my favorite authors of short stories on a consistant basis. In this installment he deals with the triple edged sword of national security, and opens up the can of worms as to how far we are justifiable in going to protect that freedom and security in defense of a nation. In this installment a covert government organization gets news of a new weapon that is destined to be used against us. In trying to protect our freedom these agents and interagators go to a variety of lengths to induce information out of their lone suspect...only to find it is a clever ruse to ferret out just these types of actions. A very intriguing read!

02 Remaking by Blake Crouch- 3.5 stars

I have never heard of this author before, but am likely to at the very least check him out again before the year is over. In this story I was not necesarily overly enamored with the authors prose and narrative, yet the plot sucked me in completely. At first I thought I was reading a horrific tale of a potential kidnapper and/or pedophile...what I got instead was a clever twist of a heartbroken man, seeking an end to his pain albeit in a socially unacceptable manner.

03 Iced by Harry Hunsicker- 2 stars

Never heard of Hunsicker before, and I am unlikely to get any better acquainted than I am now. This was not really a horrible story or anything...it just didn't do anything for me. A couple of junkies in a torid affair seek revenge on a blackmailer...and then they go on a killing spree looking for that big score along the way. The

action gets it the stars, but outside of that the characters were unlikeable and since it was hard to care what happened to them...it was hard to care about the whole story.

04 Justice Served by Mariah Stewart- 3 stars

I have never heard of Stewart, and even though this story did not wow me I will still probably check her out in the future. I loved her narrative style of telling this story. I could feel the cowardice, the regret, the desire for vigilante justice and if not for such a disappointing ending I may even have gone 4 stars.

05 The Circles by David Hewson- 1 star

Wow, I have not heard of Hewson and certainly hope that his full length novels are more entertaining than this was...it is doubtful that I will ever find that information out first hand. I find it unlikely that I will engage this author again. This story just did not connect with me on any level.

06 A Roomful of Witnesses by R.L. Stine- 4 stars

I love the narrative way this story is told. I love R.L. Stine both his tween and YA work including some short stories...this was my first encounter with him on an adult based level (I assume that is what this was, at least as evidenced by some graphic language that is not in his other works). This was a cool story about 2 ex-cons, who are working in a retirement home of sorts...simply blown away when I found out on what level. A humorous mystery ensues with a gruesome climax followed by a roomful of witnesses!

07 The House on Pine Terrace by Phillip Margolin- 4 stars

Never heard of Margolin but would be intrigued enough to try something else of his. What this story lacked in action, suspense and thrills it made up for in brilliant narrative and nice character development with a couple of plot twists thrown in along the way. I thought I was reading a story about a prostitute and a John...then a crime story...then a romance..what I finally got was a blend of all three brilliantly crafted in intricate layers of deception that all tie together neatly at the end!

08 The Desert Here and The Desert Far Away by Marcus Sakey- 2.5 stars

I have never even heard of Sakey prior to this, and even though I only rated it 2.5 stars I would be open to try out some more of his work. The plot never enticed me in this story, however I loved the narrative manner in which this story is told...That probably raised it from 2 to 2.5 for me. A boxer turned soldier, suffers from PTSD and makes some irrational decisions...Again I liked the writing style, the manner in which the story was told, I just never connected with characters and the plot did not resonate with me.

09 On The Run by Carla Neggers- 2 stars

I have never heard of Neggers and this story did not prompt to delve into her other books very much. I did like the narrative style of the story, it had an interesting premise with a fugitive and a mistaken identity of a NOT Federal Marshall (The fugitive thinks he is), a long time past death and hidden treasure..the sad part was the plot didn't develop an interest in me that increased.

10 Can You Help Me Out Here? by Robert Ferrigno- 3 stars

Never heard of Ferrigno, and not familiar with his work. This was not bad, but I still don't think I will be searching him out. I again enjoyed the manner in which this story was told, and found it eerily similar to the previous story. The plot developed nicely with an abduction, a forced journey to find a journal a double cross...The problem was I did not care...I did like the twist of an ending and that raised it from 2 to 3 stars.

11 Crossed Double by Joe Hartlaub- 2 stars

Never heard of Hartlaub and not likely to get better acquainted with him either. A story about a father and son having a conversation, about the son's problems with some criminal elements...penitentiaries, two-bit hoods, experienced underworld figures...the problem was I wasn't interested in the outcome, the plot wasn't exciting and the characters unlikeable.

12 The Lamented by Lawrence Light- 1 star

I seldom go 1 star...I have never heard of Light...and will not venture this road again without a gun to my head...I love short stories, but I couldn't believe how long this was. I had been reading for hours and hours and flipped the pages to see how many more were left, and when I saw that it was 51 I almost died...So I read for several more hours and flipped again assuming the end must be nearing, and behold there were 87 pages left....So I read for a few more days and KNEW the end was on the horizon when to my bewilderment there were 111 pages remaining!!!!!! I know, I just know that I have read full length novels in less time than this, and text books on typewriter maintenance that were more enthralling....In truth the story was only 21 pages long, but it seemed as though it would not end!

13 Vintage Death by Lisa Jackson- 3.5 stars

I have at least heard of Jackson, but am not real familiar with her works. I did however enjoy this story very much. I enjoyed again the narrative style very much (several tales in this collection have used that format), and I felt like someone was telling me a story. An old murder, rape, a new murder, abuse, deception, lies, fugitives this book had it all. Not great, but very enjoyable.

14 Suspension of Disbelief by Tim Maleeny- 4 stars

I have never heard of maleeny before but after this delightfully wicked story I may seek him out. Many of us have wished we could be a famous author....after reading this it may be better to sit in obscurity. We all know the publishing industry is a cutthroat buisness...but not this bad...I always wondered where some thriller writers come up with their horrfic ideas..perhaps this story opens a window into that??? Well worth the 20-30 minutes it takes to read!

15 A Calculated Risk by Sean Chercover- 4 stars

Wow, this was a hidden gem! I have never herd of Chercover before, but hope that I come across his work again. This started out slow and mysterious, but the ploting, suspense and calculated risk in the story were worth watching them unfold.

16 The 5th World by Javier Sierra- 2.5 stars

Well I was debating between 3.5 and 4 stars midway through this story, then it ended badly (for me) and I could almost go 2 stars. it started with an intriguing 2 seemingly unrelated murders, that quickly spliced together. The mystery connecting the 2 seemed to be generating steam..and then it turned into a sci-fi, appocolypse, multi-dimensional, varying planes of existance and ultimately man becoming god..I am not into sci-fi so it fell apart for me, whereas fans of sci-fi and those who tolerate it better than me may enjoy this, as I said the first half was a very enjoyable murder mystery!

17 Ghost Writer by Gary Braver- 4 stars

Never even heard of Braver, but after reading this would be more interested in checking out more of his work. This was a cool story about a writer who has lived past his prime and run out of ideas and inspiration. He is solicited as a ghostwriter, and although he is abohered at the idea desperation leads him to accept. What follows is a story that merges with hsi past, and guilt and fear drive him to a dreadful decision. I am not big on supernatural and although this has elements of it, I am not sure it could be rightly called that either.

18 Through A Veil Darkly by Kathleen Antrim- 3. 5 stars

Never heard of Antrim (maybe I don't read as much as I thought I do, I don't seem to know anyone!) but this was cool. At first I thought it would be a tiresome fear of militant Islamic extremists taking over the US. It turned into a story that mirriored that with a brillian scheme of deception....what followed was a case of delusion, personality disorders and the like. The ending was not quite what I expected or even wanted, but entertaining nonetheless!

19 Bedtime For Mr. Li by David J. Montgomery- 3 stars

Never heard of montgomery but this was cool. A likeable hitman, and a unlikeable or at least

unethical/immoral spy...This does not quite down like it should, but hey...it works!

20 Protecting The Innocent by Simon Wood- 4 stars

Never heard of wood but this was so smooth and easy to read, that hopefully I will encounter more of his work. A man in love discovers an overprotective and overbearing brother...a love interest who is constantly being kilted and left by her lovers...but nothing is quite what it seems. A cool ending as well!

21 Watch Out For My Girl by Joan Johnston- 4stars

never heard of Johnston, but would be very interested in reading more of her work. This was a coolstory with a brother pledged to make sure no one messes with his brothers girl. In the line of his protective pledge he is the one who oversteps the bounds of his own pledge. Both are racked with guilt and enter a psychotic couple into the mix and everything spirals out of control. Very cool!

22 Killing Time by Jon Land- 3.5 stars

never heard of Land but this was very cool. What happens when a group of terrosits, launch a mission unaware of an equally deadly hitman...what ensues is a somewhat predictable but wild ride.

23 Boldt's Broken Angel by Ridley Pearson- 5 stars

I love just about anything by Pearson, and his Lou Boldt/Daphane Matthews series ranks alongside of Michael Connely's Harry Bosch series as the personally most entertaining of the crime/suspense genre. This story for me was the highlight of this anthology, although I am not sure it qualifies as a short story or novella or what the differentiating factors are. If you are a Pearson/Boldt fan this is a shorter faster paced version of what you are already used to. If you are new to Boldt, I would recommend getting acquainted with him through the series first...although personal I think it fares well as a stand alone story, it may not resonate with those not as attached to the characters.

Christine Kayser says

A few of the stories in this book were excellent. Most were mediocre. Some were just plain bad. It's apparently really difficult to write a short story that doesn't feel like you just rushed to an ending. I found a couple of new authors whose work I'll probably check out, which was my goal in reading a short story anthology. But man, this was difficult to get through at times.

Cameron Mitchell says

Some of these stories were great.... some were not.... most were in between. I am generally not a great fan of short sotries anyway. I find that they are too compressed and don't develop the plot enough. However, a few (very few) really held my interest and I thought they were in fact very good. The majority, however, were good or okay if you had absolutely nothing else to read. Then there were the really bad ones, some of which had no point, most of which made me almost give up (something I very rarely do). There was even one that litterally made me want to gouge my eyes out. Second person is a narrative that should never have been invented.

??????? ????? says

Christie says

The first stories were ok, but I wouldn't classify them as thrillers. The last 10 stories were amazing. The story Protecting the Innocent by Simon Wood was the best. Second best was the last story by Ridley Pearson. I'm definitely going to read more by these 2 authors.
