



## The Second Perimeter

*Mike Lawson*

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The dazzling sequel to *The Inside Ring* finds Joe DeMarco, the Speaker of the House's all-purpose "fixer" in a battle of wits against a lethal female spy.

When the Secretary of the Navy's nephew says he believes that two colleagues at a U.S. naval base may be committing fraud, his uncle is skeptical. Reluctant to launch an official investigation based on a relative's vague suspicions, the secretary asks House Speaker, John Mahoney, to send his troubleshooter, DeMarco, to check out the story. As DeMarco and his friend Emma, a retired DIA agent, began to investigate what they thought was a low-stakes government swindle, they come to the terrifying realization that an espionage ring has infiltrated the naval base.

The leader of the espionage cell is a woman with whom Emma has a history that goes back to the cold war. Their encounter destroyed the woman's once promising career and turned her into a ruthless operative who cares about only one thing: destroying Emma, the person responsible for her shame, dishonor, and shattered life. DeMarco has never been near a spy in his life - at least not that he knew of - and now he's dealing with a foreign agent who is more deadly than anyone he's ever encountered.

## The Second Perimeter Details

Date : Published July 18th 2006 by DoubleDay

ISBN : 9780385515320

Author : Mike Lawson

Format : Hardcover 321 pages

Genre : Thriller, Fiction, Mystery, Suspense

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## From Reader Review The Second Perimeter for online ebook

### barry d giroux says

So far love the series-already prchased 3 and 4

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### Pierre Tassé says

Took some time to get going but it came out very good. When a book finishes too fast you know there are some missing components. In my mind, Emma could be a great character to go back in time and develop her and see how she got to where she is at today. DeMarco is not that thrilling of a guy...I know, it's a book...yes! Exactly!! I don't want to read about just "ordinary" ...I am ordinary! I want someone with some thought and macho..so Mike Lawson, start thinking....

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### Crt says

What a blast. Easy to read and great humor.

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### Bev Taylor says

also known as the second perimeter

joe demarco works for the speaker of the house - but he does not! he is not on a payroll and is hidden in the basement - officially he is an enforcer

a case of fraud is suspected at a naval base and together with emma, ex dia, he does to investigate. they think there will be nothing in it as the man who raised the issue, a nephew of a high ranking naval official, is known to raise issues loudly about nothing

h/e they soon find out that they have stumbled on something mote lethal.

spies or another country, turned spies, rogue spies - plus a woman who is emma's deadliest enemy after she captured her two decades ago during the cold war

a very well researched and written novel with great characterisation - u will be rooting for them all!

lawson has a unique style of writing that really gets to u - especially the conversation or comments joe makes to himself

enjoy!

4.5 stars

bev

### **Shawn Fairweather says**

A solid popcorn thriller for a weekend read. I've become a fan of Lawson and his DeMarco character after taking a shot in the dark stab at his first novel in the series and book #2 was a good follow up. Nothing really groundbreaking here, but that doesn't discount the fun that I experienced reading it. Mystery, chases, action, betrayal etc. Fans of a military/spy setting will take joy in reading this. For the most part, the reader will not need to read book 1 but there are some subtle nuances that you may not get. Strap in though, it does move fast and as for me, it worked out well to break up the fantasy novels that I typically read. Recommended!

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### **Teri Pre says**

I think Scott Brick (narrator) is the only reason I'm going to consider the third book in the series.

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### **Plum-crazy says**

The blurb reads *The brand new nerve-shattering thriller from the highly--acclaimed author of 'The Inside Ring', perfect for fans of Lee Child.* A bold claim! So was it perfect for this Lee Child fan?

Well, it was certainly a good enough read but perhaps a little overlong as I felt my interest dwindling in parts. However, I would happily read more from this author & certainly in this series.

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### **Valerie says**

I really enjoy his books. Full of mystery and government intrigue and suspense. Ready for the next installment in this series.

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### **Frank says**

[library audiobook]

Strong female protagonist, Emma, although she's not the named hero. Several lesbian characters. Involvement of Speaker of the House (seems to be a democrat) is over the top. How the nemesis kills all those people never really explained.

I expect I will read another by Lawson when it comes up on the library list.

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### **Versel Rush says**

I waited a while before doing a review--sometimes my mind changes when everything settles. In this case, it

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didn't

I liked the book but it was not as good as the first of the Joe DeMarco series.

I don't "do" plot synopsis--you can get that from Amazon or Goodreads or the back of the book.

I still like the characters (Joe as well as the recurring ones). The plotting was good as well. So, why did I give it 3 stars instead of 5?

The book was too inconsistent. There were times that everything churned along so quickly, I couldn't put it down. The dialogue was believable and the scene exciting. Then, from nowhere, the story would "mush" down into some dullness that I could only read 2 or 3 pages before I had to stop, having been worn down by Lawson's writing.

The "long mystery" (as opposed to the short one that is wrapped up early in the book) requires so much backstory telling that, after a while, you just don't want to read about it any more.

I do intend to read the 3rd installment, I refuse to give up on DeMarco now. I'm just hoping for better.

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### **JoAnn/QuAppelle says**

I have now read all of the Joe DeMarco thrillers by Mike Lawson and cannot wait to read the new one, due out in October.

This one was a page-turner just like all of Lawson's others, and kept me guessing to the end. I love the fast pace that keeps me turning pages late into the night!

Lawson's stories are (mostly) believable and have enough detail so that the reader knows that this is an author who knows what he is writing about. I could do without his slight amount of editorializing, but try not to let it spoil the ride for me.

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### **Judi says**

This is the 2nd in the series about Joe DeMarco. He has an office in the sub-basement of the White House, with a job title no one knows and he works exclusively for the speaker of the house, John Mohaney. When Mohaney has a "friend" that needs help with something, he sends Joe to investigate. Usually it is for members of the house, senate, or the divisions in the White House. This one is a favor for the Secretary of the Navy..His nephew, who is in the Navy, says something is not right in the department he works in and thinks fraud is being committed..This is wher Joe steps in with his friend, Emma..You gotta love Emma who is an ex-DIA agent and one more strong woman.

While investigating this case, Emma finds that one of the Chinese agents that she killed, has returned. But how? Emma had killed the agent's boyfriend and now the woman agent has returned to kill Emma and get her revenge.

You know what I like about Joe..I like that he isn't one of these super man type that can do everything and avoid bullets. He doesn't know how to take the safety off of a Uzi, he doesn't have a gun, but with his wits,

he seems to make it through.

I loved the scene with Mahoney and being kidnapped by the Vietnamese teenagers..You have to love this character. Great book and now I am on to read the 3rd in the series.

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### **Matt says**

Lawson writes another great novel, using a great mix of characters, including Joe DeMarco, to bring this political thriller to life.

I enjoyed the underlying themes of the book and it ran ong quite well, at least until the last quarter, where I found that things starte dragging, through a tangential storyline.

I have come to like DeMarco and will keep reading the books, but hope that Lawson injects more thriller and politics into the next in the series.

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### **Mjblois says**

3.5 Stars

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### **S.R. Lobban says**

I'm reading this at the moment and am halfway through it.

To be honest, I have a problem with it. The fact it says "If you like Lee Child, you'll love this" would imply that this is going to be the same standard as a Lee Child book. So far, I don't think it is. It doesn't have half of the detail that a Jack Reacher story has. With Lee Child's books you (okay, I) believe that he knows the towns and cities that he writes about. I don't believe that is the case with Mike Lawson

Also, given that it is a Joe DeMarco Novel, the lead character has basically done nothing so far. There is so little about him, I don't feel anything for him at all.

Having said that, it is an easy read. The short chapters help get through the book quickly. And... the plot is okay.

I was surprised to see a load of 5 star reviews for this book, so maybe I need to keep going because it will get better and my review will change when I finish it.

So now finished it!!!

Okay, it did improve a bit, but I do still have issues.

Over 70 chapters, most of them have a blank page preceding it. So that makes 60ish blank pages. Why?

I still think the main character does nothing and... THIS IS A SPOILER... Why does the Prologue feature an event that is going to take place at the end of the story? This means throughout the story, I knew that Emma was not going to die, nor was Lei Mei or Carmody. I think it was unnecessary to do that.

I'll stick to my 2 stars, it was okay, but "If you like Lee Childs, read Lee Child (not Mike Lawson)"

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