



## The Good Traitor

*Ryan Quinn*

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The US ambassador to China is killed in a suspicious plane crash just days after a news article links Chinese spies to US business interests. The American intelligence community is left scrambling to investigate possible connections between the crash and a series of other high-profile deaths.

On the other side of the world, ex-CIA operative Kera Mersal returns to the United States determined to clear her name after being branded a traitor for exposing illegal government surveillance. There, former colleague and fellow fugitive J. D. Jones contacts her with a new assignment: find out who is staging accidents to murder news sources. As the news site continues to publish stories about top-secret CIA programs and Chinese government corruption, Mersal reunites with old allies to uncover the truth and prove her loyalty to her country once and for all. But Mersal's investigations put her on the trail of a sinister hacker whose own motives may influence a vaster—and more deadly—geopolitical conspiracy than either of the world's two largest superpowers is prepared to handle.

## The Good Traitor Details

Date : Published April 5th 2016 by Thomas & Mercer

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Author : Ryan Quinn

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## From Reader Review The Good Traitor for online ebook

### Luke Rooney says

I enjoyed Ryan Quinn's first tech thriller, End of Secrets, so I read this book as soon as I could. Very glad to see he continues to write real characters in thought-provoking situations, in a clear style. Also, he researches a lot — the elements that play like science fiction here are all things that are in actual development right now. You can learn about them 5 years before the rest of the world by reading this book.

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### Jak60 says

The story is OK but kind of light, and at times somewhat implausible. The author is not immune from stereotypes and clichés (all hackers are pale, idealistic weirdos drinking litres of Red Bull....).

I read The Good Traitor after the two books by Adam Brooks (Night Heron and Spy Games) and I could not avoid comparing the authors and their work, which present several similarities: they are both emerging writers, they both are trying to modernise the espionage genre. But I must confess Ryan Quinn's work is not at Adam Brook's level.

The tradecraft as presented here is rather light stuff, the plot lacks depth and complexity, the characters are too simple.

Here's the difference between an OK book and a great one.

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### Garry Athanacio says

#### Interesting book

I enjoyed the book, it was easy reading. The plot was great and I had trouble putting the book down.

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### vivian says

#### Great story line

Great story line. Fantastical read about computers knowingly running how the people get news and how it controls their lives

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### Samantha says

Summary from Goodreads:

"The US ambassador to China is killed in a suspicious plane crash just days after a news article links Chinese spies to US business interests. The American intelligence community is left scrambling to investigate possible connections between the crash and a series of other high-profile deaths.

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On the other side of the world, ex-CIA operative Kera Mersal returns to the United States determined to clear her name after being branded a traitor for exposing illegal government surveillance. There, former colleague and fellow fugitive J. D. Jones contacts her with a new assignment: find out who is staging accidents to murder news sources. As the news site continues to publish stories about top-secret CIA programs and Chinese government corruption, Mersal reunites with old allies to uncover the truth and prove her loyalty to her country once and for all. But Mersal's investigations put her on the trail of a sinister hacker whose own motives may influence a vaster—and more deadly—geopolitical conspiracy than either of the world's two largest superpowers is prepared to handle."

My Thoughts:

The Good Traitor was a book that I couldn't resist picking up because it just sounded a bit different from my more recent reads. I'm a sucker for a thriller pretty much all of the time but add in spies and "top-secret CIA programs" and this book went on to my TBR wishlist just like that. I may be the world's moodiest reader but books like this are what helps keep my reading interesting and stops me from getting a case of the book slumps. This book just felt like such a refreshing change of pace and I enjoyed every minute of it. The story focuses on Kera Mersal who is on the run herself as she has been branded a traitor to the U.S. government. I loved Kera's character and really enjoyed reading about the different things that she had learned from being in the CIA. All of the different identities that she had created, the ways that she went about covering her tracks so that no one could find her....all of those things had me so completely intrigued. It really gets you thinking about how much of a footprint you leave just by things you share on the internet, using your phone, or other things like that. It is crazy!

I also really enjoyed the mystery portion of this book. There was a ton of suspense surrounding what was really going on. I found myself guessing the entire time which I really loved. The author used technology to add another layer of suspense which almost sounds weird saying it like that. But then when I tell you that I won't be getting on an elevator anytime soon thanks to this book- well, maybe that will help you understand a bit more without ruining anything. The thing I found scariest about this book is how accurate it almost is when it comes to the media and how easily they can portray things in a certain light. I don't think it is a spoiler to share that Kera wasn't really a traitor but she never stood a chance thanks to all of the media attention surrounding what happened. It just makes you think and even though this is a fictional read it left me a bit uneasy. Too close to possible truths perhaps? All I can really tell you is that I couldn't put this book down. I finished it in a matter of days because I just didn't want to stop reading. I would love to read more about Kera but the author did a really great job of wrapping up this book. That ending was so intense! This definitely was the perfect read for the mood I was in and I enjoyed it all the more because of it.

Overall, I really liked this book and am eager to read more by this author. This was such a suspenseful and thrilling read for me and I couldn't get enough. It just felt like a breath of fresh air which I couldn't help but appreciate. I need more books like this in my life! I would recommend this one to both fans of mysteries and thrillers. It is a great ride and I can't wait to hear what others think of it. Recommended!!

Bottom Line: A book that just fit my reading mood perfectly! I love when this happens!

Disclosure: I received a copy of this book thanks to the publisher as part of a PICT book tour.

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**Madeleine Walton says**

**Slow start, better ending**

Slow start for contextual purposes, but progressively gets better throughout the book. An interesting fiction, would recommend for all levels of readers.

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### **Victor Gentile says**

Ryan Quinn in his new book, “The Good Traitor” Book Two in the Kera Mersal series published by Thomas & Mercer gives us another adventure with Kera Mersal.

From the back cover: The US ambassador to China is killed in a suspicious plane crash just days after a news article links Chinese spies to US business interests. The American intelligence community is left scrambling to investigate possible connections between the crash and a series of other high-profile deaths.

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Ryan Quinn has given us a spy novel, but not just any spy novel this one deals with the possibility that there is an entity out there that is causing accidents so that there could be news. The very idea of that is frightening. Then Kera also has to deal with terrorist activity involving hacking into computer systems. Plus she also is trying to clear her name after being branded a traitor from the previous book. Mr. Quinn has given us a terrific character with Kera Mersal, she is quite engrossing and we come to care for her and want her to succeed. That is not such an easy task as the bad guys are trying to kill her. Kera and her friends, who also are quite interesting, are in for the ride of their lives that will twist your nerve endings and becomes more suspenseful until the last hundred pages which is an extremely wild ride. On top of everything this is quite an engrossing thriller that will have you muttering “oh, no” as you are reading as fast as you can to get to the next page. Don’t start this book late at night as it will cost you sleep sleep as you will not want to put it down. I am already looking forward to the next book in this series.

Disclosure of Material Connection: I received this book free from Partners In Crime. I was not required to write a positive review. The opinions I have expressed are my own. I am disclosing this in accordance with the Federal Trade Commission’s 16 CFR, Part 255: “Guides Concerning the Use of Endorsements and Testimonials in Advertising.”

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### **David Morrill says**

Fast paced, thriller, filled with great action and twists, need to find more books by Ryan Quinn

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### **Penny P Hammack says**

Convolutd plot that sometimes seems implausible. If all the spy thriller and conspiracy novels are true then

the world is really on the brink of destruction. This one has a few twists that are unexpected and there really are some good guys. The most amazing thing about the book is that there is absolutely no padding - no minute descriptions of clothing, venues, sex scenes or any of the other things that some authors use to increase the number of words in a novel. It's refreshing.

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### **Gary says**

This is a fine cyber-terror thriller. We start out with a few seemingly unrelated deaths. The people who died are insignificant (what can you expect only a few pages into a story), but they are the catalyst that cascades a trail of dominoes that traverse through the remainder of the book. The plot is intense through most of the book which you want in a thriller, and mostly believable (which you want in any genre), with one exception.

Near the end of the book, in order to culminate the plot, a certain set of actions need to transpire. Two key opposing pawns (Russian and American) need to meet. Not only do they need to meet, but with all security measures removed (both physical and cyber). The author tried to set up a scenario to allow this occurrence, but it was too much of a stretch to be believable. With the rest of the book so tight, it was a little disappointing to have this one critical plot element collapse. Because this is a critical piece of plot it requires the cost of one rating star. However, the rest of the book was so well written, it maintained the remainder of the story at a four star level of writing.

A complimentary advance copy of this book was provided by the publisher for the purpose of review at Netgalley.com .

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### **Alaina Maxam says**

THIS WAS A VERY INTERESTING BOOK. A LOT OF THE SITUATIONS IN THIS BOOK YOU CAN ACTUALLY SEE HAPPENING. THIS WAS A VERY WELL WRITTEN NOVEL

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### **Jennifer says**

This was a very good novel, from the moment I started reading the book I was captivated and anxious to see where the author would take us. I could not put this book down and it really is a great book that is available on Kindle Unlimited . So you should go check it out... I am not able to read the way I want with my current schedule which is why it took so long for me to finish this book but it is not from lack of quality that is for sure. Fantastic read that is worth checking out.

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### **Conor says**

An enjoyable techno-thriller.

The disaster that was Spectre, the latest Bond film, made it seem that spy thrillers set in the information age are inherently absurd. I was constantly aware of how Bond would never get away with his antics with the

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existence of modern surveillance. This thought was disappointing, but I had resigned myself to the idea that from now on all decent spy movies and novels would be set in the erstwhile Cold War era. Quinn's second novel in his spy thriller series, however, has given me hope. It doesn't just tolerate modern surveillance capabilities as part of the narrative; rather it embraces them as central to the plot.

As our protagonist goes from 'rogue-spy-within-the-system' to full-out 'spy-on-the-run', the characters and agencies deal with the friction emerging technologies cause on the institutions they are disrupting. The fictional examples seem far too real: This book comes out three years after Snowden's leaks, and only a month after the FBI's court case to break into a private iPhone. The 'internet of things' has opened up a new world of technology vulnerabilities: for starters, WIRED reporters recently hacked into a Jeep remotely and crashed it. These are the technology themes that the novel embraces and employs as part of the narrative.

I was also pleased to find the background theme of American and Chinese businesses competing for influence in Africa, as well as Chinese-American relations. It has been well-established in the last few years that hackers from China regularly steal trade secrets from Western businesses and this theme was touched upon in the novel.

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### **kim pierson says**

#### **Excellent**

Suspensful. Did not trust anyone until the end. Hope there is a sequel. Read the book in three days. Recommend.

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### **Kelley says**

Novel received courtesy of Goodreads.com First Reads Giveaway

I liked the premise of the story crafted by Ryan Quinn in "The Good Traitor". A news outlet is invented that scans the internet for stories that are related and put them together so that people get the "whole" story. The problem with that is that governments don't necessarily want all news disseminated to the people. Kera Mersal is on the run after leaking sensitive information to the public. When the U.S. Ambassador to China is killed in a suspicious plane crash, Kera begins to look for links. She tries to figure out the connection between this news organization, the plane crash and the Chinese. I enjoyed the story but probably would have enjoyed it more if I cared more about the characters. Since I haven't read any of Quinn's other books, I may have missed that connection. I also had trouble following all of the acronyms used in the book. Since a couple of them were also from previous books, I'll assume that I would have better understood had I read the books in order.

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