



The Deceived

Brett Battles

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As a professional "cleaner," Jonathan Quinn disposes of bodies and ties up loose ends. Doesn't get his hands dirty, no wet work. But when he discovers he's been hired to vanish all traces of Steven Markoff, one of his best friends and a former agent with the CIA, his job suddenly hits too close to home. This time, it's personal. Quinn is determined to get justice for Markoff. Plus, now, Markoff's girlfriend Jenny, who had been an assistant to an ambitious Congressman, has also disappeared. Racing from the corridors of power in Washington to the bustling streets of Singapore—along with his eager, smart apprentice,

The Deceived

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Nate, and brilliant, beautiful Orlando, his closest friend who's saved his life more than once—events quickly spiral dangerously out of control. With an addicting momentum and fascinating characters, THE DECEIVED takes us on a thrilling, pulse-pounding journey.

The Deceived Details

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Author : Brett Battles

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From Reader Review The Deceived for online ebook

Jeffrey says

Another super book from Brett Battles in his series about the Cleaner -- Jonathan Quinn, who was introduced in the first volume in this series called The Cleaner. In this novel, Quinn, who cleans up dead bodies and other messes for various intelligence agencies or other parties that can pay his fee, is sent to clean up a shipping container which has a dead body in it. It turns out the dead body is a friend of Quinn, who feels that he should find out what happened to him. When Quinn investigates he finds that Jenny, his friend's girlfriend is missing. Quinn begins to suspect the worst and with the help of his Apprentice Nate and his friend Orlando engages in an investigation to find Jenny before the bad guys can. The action is intense and the novel is hard to put down, and with a title like the Deceived, you have to know when you start that more than one story in the book is false.

A knockout

Read it

Tim says

Mr. Battles has written better. I hope this story proves to be an aberration and not the norm. 4 of 10 stars

John Machata says

Never got off the ground. Characters not quite what I'd hoped. Plot plodded along.

Garry Thompson says

2 Star Rating

It's hard for me to rate an audiobook since I listen to it when I am occupied with other tasks. However, this story was a disappointment. I had listened to book four in the series so I was interested in the characters and actions. If I had first listened to book 2, I wouldn't continue with the series. Now, I may read/listen to book three, but it's not on my short list. The Deceived could have been a better book. It had a good plot and the storyline kept me guessing about the bad guys.

apple says

In book two, Jonathan Quinn is out for personal revenge when his friend is gruesomely murdered. I think the sequel is a bit sluggish and predictable (hel-lo?! the obvious villain!) but still I'd like to give a shoutout to the author for weaponizing durians in an exciting espionage fight scene. Double-oh-seven himself couldn't have come up with that spark of genius.

I really do like Jonathan Quinn series so far but by the end of book two I sort of feel like the story started to saunter towards the dreadful abyss of wtfery. I'm keeping my fingers crossed – please don't bring in ridiculous secret evil organization or have Quinn flying jet pack!

Kathi Defranc says

This story about the 'cleaner', Jonathan Quinn, starts pretty slowly, but there are several neat twists that rock the story as we reach the end. I did enjoy this, got to know the main character and his friends much better, and the wild twists keep you from guessing the evil ones. Definitely going to continue this series, hopefully soon the whole story will be great!

Mike (the Paladin) says

This is the second of this series that I have picked up. The first was (in my opinion of course) a little mediocre but readable. The book had a solid idea and was about a "type" character I hadn't seen before.

Sadly it just never really drew me in.

This one drew me in even less. I had to make myself go back and pick it up when I'd laid it aside. I had the CD audio and started putting it on to listen to when I went to bed just because I "felt" I "needed" to get through it. This of course led to the problem of falling asleep as it wasn't all that interesting (to me) so I'd have to drop back and "re-listen" if I (really) wanted to keep up.

No I don't think I'll try any more of this series. Sorry of it's one you really like, not for me.

Eric_W says

I read and enjoyed the first Quinn novel. Quinn is a cleaner, a person hired to remove bodies and clean up after assorted mishaps. In this 2nd in the series, Quinn has been hired to get rid of a body in a shipping container. He discovers that it's an old friend Steven Markoff, a CIA operative who once saved his life. On the wall of the container, Markoff had scratched a series of numbers and two letters: LP.

As a way of honoring his old friend, Quinn decides to contact Jenny, Markoff's girlfriend, only to discover she has disappeared and is on the run. She is being sought by numerous people who always seem to be just behind Quinn and when he tries to discover the meaning of LP, people shut down and tell him to immediately drop his investigation. The conspiracy grows and they soon find themselves battling numerous foes in Singapore where Markoff's clues have led them.

In the end, Battles has taken his series off in a slightly different direction, a little more like a Tom Cruise movie rather than the cool undercover professional in The Cleaner. It works and is still a very fast and enjoyable spy novel, just a little different than the first book.

Seamus O'Toole says

I love reading, I'll read any old trash novel to pass the time but this has surpassed my expectations of trash.

After the first attempt to get through the endless filler nonsense I demoted the book to the dump pile, a book I'll read whilst on the throne, and now 150 pages in on a second attempt I've thrown this book in the trash.

It became so boring it was beginning to get painful to pick up, in those 150 pages there were 130 that didn't need to be there, this author just drones on and on in what feels like a monotone with no excitement, suspense or emotion, just constant descriptions of where the characters are.

The characters in this book feel like artist's mannequins, they don't come across as living vibrant creatures at all, just cliché after cliché. I'll be avoiding Brett Battle's boring books in the future if the Deceived is supposedly one of his best works.

Mike says

Ho-hum!

Tedious, pedestrian, boring.

Pierre Tassé says

A good book to read. Recommend that you read the first in the series though to get the feel for some of the characters involved. The book was a little different than what I was expecting given the first book. Not saying it was not enjoyable. Looking at my timeline that it took me to read it, 2 days, I must say that it keeps you hopping and the pulse rate going and...well, that is what a book is suppose to do isn't it?

Ron Chicaferro says

The Deceived by Brett Battles is the second book in a series with undercover "cleaner" Jonathan Quinn.

Like the first book, The Cleaner, The Deceived is the story of spies, counterspies and murder. You never quite know who the bad guys are - or the good guys for that matter. But, if you like a James Bond type of adventure novel then this book and the author's first book is something you should read. Personally, I thought the first book, The Cleaner, was much more exciting then The Deceived. Like the first book, The Deceived doesn't offer much for the average reader to identify with - its good guys killing bad guys and vice versa.

Kulpreet Yadav says

This is a cracking thriller. The narrative is riveting. It is the second book in the series and I am already kicking myself for not having read the first.

The twists and turns in the plot are absolutely spellbinding. And the character of Jonathan Quinn is compelling – unique and intriguing. He works freelance and his job description is that of a ‘cleaner’. Someone who cleans up the mess left behind by the criminals at the crime scene. Mostly dead bodies. Can it get more intriguing than this?

The story starts with Quinn getting a job – to dispose off a body. But this time it is not just any body. The dead is his best friend Steven Markoff. Quinn cremates his friend but realises that the people who have killed him are now after his girlfriend. She is the assistant in the office of Guerrero, a congressman with his eyes on the white house. To find out who killed his best friend and keep Jenny safe turns out a hell of an adventure for Quinn and his apprentice, Nate. On his side is also Orlando, a woman from Vietnam who is as smart as him, and, during the course of chase, someone Quinn falls in love with.

I have taken away one star, though, for too much detailing that the author has used in the second half of the book. To my mind the technical details and description should reduce towards the end. That said, this is a very well written book. I would rate Brett at par with Lee Child and David Baldacci.

Mark says

As is mentioned in quite few reviews this second installment of the Jonathan Quinn books is not as good as the first and opener of the series. So I will graciously admit to the majority that they are right for a change.

The whole crew are back again Quinn, Nate and Orlando. This time the story is personal [How I dislike that moniker ever since the Craig years in 007 land, I am expecting his sister in the next one] and a in a clean up job Quinn comes across the corpse of a man who saved his behind in Finland and ever since the crossed paths and could be considered a friend. Anyhow when Quinn tries to find out what has happened with the girlfriend Jennifer he runs in a goon-squad that since to bent to kill Quinn.

The final chapter is in Asia and even then there is a wee surprise in the story which is done very well.

Well written some nice action and great descriptions of the local surroundings. And Quinns adventures are actually decently written. They do make you want to keep reading.

A nice series about the darker underbelly of the spy world.

Mark says

The characters in this book are flat and predictable. The women are badly drawn two-dimensional caricatures who depend on the uber-macho male protagonist for everything (with the exception of the one strong female character). The protagonist is blind to the actions of those around him when it's convenient to the plot. When the plot twists happen, things flip flop so unrealistically it's laughable.
