



## Operation Barracuda

*David Michaels (House Author) , Raymond Benson (Writing As) , Tom Clancy (Series Creator)*

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As part of a top-secret initiative called Third Echelon, National Security Agency special operative Sam Fisher has been given license to spy, steal, destroy, and assassinate to protect America. And he does...

## Operation Barracuda Details

Date : Published March 11th 2009 by Berkley (first published November 1st 2005)

ISBN :

Author : David Michaels (House Author) , Raymond Benson (Writing As) , Tom Clancy (Series Creator)

Format : Kindle Edition 342 pages

Genre : Fiction, Thriller, Spy Thriller, Espionage

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## From Reader Review Operation Barracuda for online ebook

### Brian Nwokedi says

[SPOILER ALERT]

Like most book series the sequel always has a difficult time living up to the first book. Tom Clancy's Operation Barracuda is no different.

With the deaths of both Carly St.John and Katia Loenster I was almost certain that Clancy would have no problem ending the series with the death of Sam Fisher, in an attempt to keep the overall story "believable."

And when you factor in the betrayal by Mason Hendricks and the clandestine placement of the nuclear warhead in international waters just outside Los Angeles, Clancy all but paves the road for a victory by the villains.

So when Sam Fisher is finally captured and placed in the cell with the the assassin Yvan Putnik, I was pretty certain that the Shop, General Tun and villains/terrorists were going to win this one, thus ending Splinter Cell and the NSA surveillance program.

What I hadn't counted on is the resistance of the Jon Ming led Lucky Dragon Triads and of course the "super-human" resilience of Mr. Sam Fisher. In the end, Fisher lives to see another day, the Shop is crushed, Mason Hendricks gets his just desserts, and General Tun's plan is thwarted.

And for me therein lies my problem with Clancy's book. The fact that Fisher is able to still prevent the terror plot against the US and still make it out alive at the same time makes it tough for a realist like myself to swallow.

I know that critics of my position will say that Fisher's ability to "always win" is what the series is ultimately about, but for me it's just difficult to accept that no matter what happens, Fisher will always survive and win.

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### C.T. Phipps says

Splinter Cell: Barracuda is the sequel to the Splinter Cell novel by Raymond Benson. Both are, more or less, prequels to the original game but serve as independent adventures in their own right. For those unfamiliar with Splinter Cell, it is the adventures of Sam Fisher, secret agent operating for Third Echelon (a classified division of the NSA).

In the previous novel, Sam successfully decimated the arms dealing terrorist organization known as the Shop but he did not destroy it. This novel, they make a return with vengeance on their mind. Having made an alliance with a renegade Chinese general, they hope to sell him the necessary nuclear arms and guidance systems in order to attack Taiwan.

Meanwhile, Sam is starting up a relationship with his Krav Maga instructor Katia, despite the potential danger to both their lives. A mole has infiltrated Third Echelon and compromised not only Sam's identity but numerous other important operations. It's a race against the clock to prevent Taiwan from being invaded and the US coast potentially getting nuked.

This is an okay follow-up to the original novel, resolving many of the original story's lingering plotthreads

but it's not something I'm exactly overwhelmed by either. There's no real dramatic anchor the way the first book had Sarah's kidnapping. It doesn't help the Shop repeatedly shows itself to be foolish by attempting to directly challenge a branch of the US government. Likewise, General Tsun never receives any characterization other than he wants to conquer Taiwan no matter how many people has to kill in order to do it.

Sam Fishers' relationship with Katia could have been better developed and possibly become a major part of the character's arc in the books. Instead, the relationship blows through the various stages of romance before coming to a swift climax which I think was used for cheap dramatic effect. The character of Katia is used more as a prop than an actual character and I think the book suffers as a result.

Oddly, my favorite character in this book is one of the lesser villains in Mike Chang. Mike is a Triad infiltrator of Third Echelon who wants to make a fortune selling information from the NSA to terrorist organizations. Unfortunately, he's so confident of his backers he never stops to think that he's nothing more than a loose end they'll need to clean up. It results in him making some truly stupid decisions which is a wonder to behold. By the end, I think he's one of the more despicable but entertaining villains I've read in a while.

The book isn't entirely without humor and I found a lot of fun to be had in hilarious moments like Sam getting captured by his targets wife, thinking he's just a burglar only for Sam to try to convince her he's a private detective and unwittingly set off a domestic disturbance incident which gets his surveillance target killed. It's comedy of errors moments like that which make this better than a generic run of the mill techno-thriller.

In conclusion, this was an entertaining novel but not as good as the previous edition. It's a fairly paint-by-the-numbers work and one I think is okay but not especially noteworthy. It's most enjoyable for seeing the Shop finally get what was coming to them but even that's not a massive selling point. Raymond Benson could have done better (and has in other books).

7/10

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### **Duncan Arrojo says**

Definitely better than the videogame.

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### **Quentin Wallace says**

I am really enjoying the Splinter Cell series. I have played some of the games, but the books are really enjoyment unto themselves and you wouldn't have to be familiar with the games to enjoy the novels.

This was a pretty straightforward, secret agent vs. terrorists story, with a few twists thrown in. I did find the whole "doomed romance" subplot to be cliché and overdone, and I think the story would have been much better leaving that part out.

Overall a good action/adventure read and I'll be moving onto the next volume.

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## Cade says

Who will win? Leader of the most dangerous black market dealings in and out of Russia, Andrei Zdrok? Leader of the Chinese mob named the Lucky Dragons, Lan Tun. Or America's most skilled and unknown spy, Sam Fisher? In this extension to the first book in the series "Splinter Cell" is "Splinter Cell: Operation Barracuda." As in every Splinter Cell adaptation, whether it be a game or novel, there is always a pleasurable amount of action. One of the bigger moments isn't when Sam is trying to escape from the base created by Cyprus without being shot or blown up. There have are a couple of accounts of surprise in the novel. When Sam suddenly has a loud static being blown into his ear piece makes the reader themselves reassess what has happened to them. But outside of the action there are some beautiful places described to the reader through imagery. The most descriptive one being when Sam reaches Hong Kong and looks at the city for information. This book is mainly for readers who like action and are fans of the Splinter Cell series as a whole, but is still a good read overall.

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## Mr. Gottshalk says

There's something about this Splinter Cell series that has me hooked. They are readable, at around 350 pages, and not cluttered with a lot of garbage. Action galore. In this one, Sam Fisher narrates from a 1st person point of view, interspersed with the sub-plots in alternating chapters which are quickly wound together. I guess this is why we read: to imagine if there really are people out there working to preserve and protect. Hope there are more to follow from my favorite pseudonym David Michaels!

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## 08andreb says

Sam Fisher, one of the most dangerous men in the United States may have just met his match. Now time is running out and he must find out who has stolen top secret U.S. weapons and what he plans on using them for. All this and more is in David Michael's exciting novel Tom Clancy's Splinter Cell: Operation Barracuda.

The main character of this book is Sam Fisher. He is a U.S. spy living in Maryland. Fisher is in his late 40s but in very good shape. He lives alone and has no living family except his daughter who is in her early 20s. This book takes place sometime in the near future mostly in the U.S. and Asia. Tension between China and Taiwan are at an all time high and Chinese general Tun has threatened to invade Taiwan. If anyone interferes he will use his secret weapon on a major U.S. city.

This is the second book in the Splinter Cell series. The story is about a conspiracy of Chinese soldiers to invade Taiwan and because of a secret weapon they have, no one will interfere with their plan. Now Sam Fisher must find and disable this weapon before it's too late. But where did they get the weapon? Who is the mole in the U.S. government? Sam only has days to find out.

This is one of the best books I have ever read. I would recommend this book to any fan of a good spy book. It's basically an American version of James Bond. I loved this book. This book is better than the first and definitely worth reading. I give it five out of five stars.

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### **Jhon(Original) says**

This book was ok compared to the first novel, which was much more action packed. We continue with members of The Shop, an international arms dealing ring which played a big role in the first book for they eliminated many splinter cells. In Operation Barracuda, we find that there is a traitor in the government which explains the leaks. This traitor is involved with The Shop and a chinese General named Lan Tun, whose plan is to invade Taiwan. They plan to use a nuclear bomb to create a tsunami off the coast of california, unless United States abandons Taiwan when China invades it. Operative Sam Fisher foils the plot and they are all killed. I felt like this book ended somewhat abruptly and no real substance. The plot was simple and lacked explanation for certain things.

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### **Abram says**

A really good first person spy novel by David michaels. The sequels are written by another authore and those did not live up to this. A very good novel for a fun week

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### **Aaron Sweet says**

This book is of a splinter cell named Sam Fisher who works for the Third Echelon which is a top secret government agency only known to the highest people in the government of agencies like the CIA and FBI. This book tells of a story about an evil syndicate that sells deadly arms across the world and a General with a vengeance against a certain country.

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