

The background features a complex network of white nodes and lines, resembling a constellation or a data network. The nodes are of varying sizes and are connected by thin white lines. The overall color scheme is a gradient from dark purple at the top to a bright pink at the bottom. The text is centered and white.

The Rescue

Written by Steven Konkoly

Published by sanmarco-sf

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The Rescue

By Steven Konkoly

The Rescuers

Former CIA operative turned mercenary for hire Ryan Decker's specialty is rescuing kidnap victims. Hired by an influential US senator to liberate his daughter from a human-trafficking ring, Decker never anticipated sabotage or that the assault could go so disastrously wrong. The hostage is dead. His team is wiped out, and so are their families, including Decker's own wife and son—eliminated one by one by the Russian mafia. And he's survived to take the fall.

The Rescuers Down Under

When he's inexplicably freed soon into a ten-year sentence in federal prison, Decker suspects another setup. And private investigator Harlow Mackenzie knows he's right. She has evidence that a power greater than the Russian mob was behind the raid that ruined Decker's life.

The Rescuers Villain

The next move in a nationwide cat-and-mouse game of high-level sedition is up to them. Fueled by revenge and an obsession to clear his name, Decker has only one mission: to destroy a growing conspiracy before it's too late.

The hero, (Decker) is as much a pursued and not remindful of Mitch Rapp as some claim. Always being the victim does not make for an interesting, exciting story. 3 of 10 stars

The Rescue List

Exciting Hostage Rescue Gone Wrong Finds High Placed People At Fault

I thoroughly enjoyed this first in a series by author Steven Konkoly! I used to read his books several years ago, before his apoplectic period, and this story brings me right back into the fold! Ryan Decker is an honest, work for the right reason ex-CIA Operator, when trying to save a senator's daughter his whole team is killed! Decker is blamed for this and is put in jail, with a stern outlook due to the Senator's belief that

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During a quick turn of events, someone gets Decker released from prison, many attempts are taken on his life immediately, and the mission to finally find out What happened at that blast years ago begins!!

An awesome read for those who enjoy political conspiracies, betrayals by 'friends', and finally some comeuppance for those who Really deserve it. ...more

This is the first book by Steven Konkoly that I have read. It is formulaic. You have a hero and conspiracy that involves several groups. David vs Goliath. Good vs Evil. Who will win? You know who will win in the end. It is just a matter of how we get there. The story is not very realistic but it is entertaining. It would make a good made for TV movie. Think the A-Team.

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Ryan Decker is a former CIA operative turned mercenary. He is the head of World Rescue Group whose specialty is rescuing kidnapped victims. He and his team have been hired by a US senator to rescue her daughter from a human-trafficking ring. The Russians of course. The story opens with Decker and his team about to rescue Meghan Steele and the other victims when things go horribly wrong. The hostages are killed, Decker's team is wiped out, the families of World Rescue Group; including Decker's wife and son; are killed.

Fast forward. Decker is now in prison. He is the scapegoat serving a ten year sentence in a federal prison. He believes he is about to testify but instead he finds himself mysteriously released from prison. There have been several failed attempts to kill him in prison and he believes since "they" couldn't get to

The Rescue

him behind prison walls this is another setup. He is right. Sort of. There is an attempt to kill him but it isn't the Russians. He is saved with the help of Harlow Mackenzie who heads up her own group that rescue women kidnapped for the sex trade. Harlow and her team are something else. They can outwit and make fools of everyone. The FBI, mercenaries, and anyone else who tries to stop them.

It took some time to get into this story. At first it was just too much. Too unbelievable. I am glad I stayed with it. It was an entertaining story. Just don't take it seriously. Sometimes it is just nice to read a story where good triumphs evil.

Thanks to Thomas & Mercer and Goodreads for this Giveaway book. ...more

The Rescuers Cast

The Rescue was an awesome read.

The Rescue has been getting a ton of early praise. Unfortunately, I won't be joining that party train, so feel free to boo me if you must.

This book and I were simply a bad match. All the things I love in a book just aren't here.

The biggest problem for me revolves around the absence of character development. For me to invest in a story, I have to care about, or at least get to know, the characters. That doesn't happen. Instead, we have a ton of narrating characters, some who matter a lot more than others. The Rescue has been getting a ton of early praise. Unfortunately, I won't be joining that party train, so feel free to boo me if you must.

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The entire book is plot-driven, relying on a lot of action, all the time. And this brings me back to the lack of character development. I didn't feel any balance between the characters as people and the constant action propelling things forward.

And, finally, the action was over-the-top superhero kind of stuff.

This book is being compared to Lee Child's Jack Reacher Series. It is absolutely not comparable. Jack Reacher's character is, from the start, complex and well developed. Readers fell in love with Jack Reacher first, and the plots second. Those books have balance. This one does not. The Rescue relies on action only, which is fine if that's your thing. It's just not mine. ...more

The Rescue

The Rescuers Characters

This was a fast-paced story with plenty of action and emotion. I enjoy Jack Reacher movies, so I attempted to read a Lee Child- Jack Reacher book once. I put it down within the first chapter or so because it was laced with so much profanity. This was a good, Reacher-style story, and although it was not profanity-free, it was very sparse. I appreciated the fact that the author felt he could write this type of story without feeling compelled to fill it with profanity and sex. It was very well done. This was a fast-paced story with plenty of action and emotion. I enjoy Jack Reacher movies, so I attempted to read a Lee Child- Jack Reacher book once. I put it down within the first chapter or so because it was laced with so much profanity. This was a good, Reacher-style story, and although it was not profanity-free, it was very sparse. I appreciated the fact that the author felt he could write this type of story without feeling compelled to fill it with profanity and sex. It was very well done, not perfect, but a very good story. I look forward to reading the next in the series. ...more

Charles van Buren

TOP 1000 REVIEWER

5.0 out of 5 stars

A suspense filled rollercoaster of a book

March 3, 2019

Format: Kindle Edition Verified Purchase

Reviewer Sam Vines, writing an Amazon review, has pointed out something which I had vaguely noticed but to which I hadn't given much thought:

"The Rescue is the only First Read option out of six this month that is not either an introspective emotional journey of trauma and drama or the saga of an underdog's empowerment (henceforth 'œangst-based drivel' o Charles van Buren

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"The Rescue is the only First Read option out of six this month that is not either an introspective emotional journey of trauma and drama or the saga of an underdog's empowerment (henceforth 'œangst-based drivel' or ABD). For that, it earns 5-stars from me, plus it's a decent story. Many months, First Read doesn't even offer one non-ABD option."

He hit that nail squarely on the head. It has been about a year since I have read a Kindle First book. I do not read romance (OK, A.E.W. Mason and similar authors can be considered romance); self help except a very occasional book by a reliable, biblically based writer; teen or any other kind of angst, books about or by people who don't believe in biology, saccharin sweet mush or Mr. Vime's aptly labeled ABD.

The Rescue is none of those things. It may not be great literature but it is a heck of a thriller crime novel filled with unexpected twists and turns. It features bad guys who are really bad. Most readers won't waste time or sympathy worrying about their deserved fates. The good guys and gals are bright, competent, tough and suitably heroic. There is a satisfying ending which leaves room for a sequel. For me, there were small questions and details which could have used a little more explanation, but just a very few. Grab this rollercoaster and hang on for the ride. ...more

The Rescue Mission

Another fantastic book by Steven Konkoly! What I like about all of Konkoly's series is they are all distinctly unique and original. This book centers around the fallout of a rescue operation. That fallout includes Bratva, FBI, a politically motivated paramilitary organization, a private investigation firm, and an elite rescue team. If that's not enough for you throw in some political conspiracies and coverups, plenty of hair-raising gun fights, and plot twists making you say "Woah! What's going on?" until you turn a few more pages and it all ties together.

I highly recommend all of Konkoly's series and The Rescue is no different. So if you're new it's a great way to jump into a new series and if you're already a fan you'll love this one! ...more

Not the best I've read

The characters were never "fleshed out" and the plot was confusing. A couple of dialogue mistakes were encountered and the book did not flow. The main character was a mystery and the book never covered his personal history. An author like Grisham would be a good model for this author.

The Rescue Nicholas Sparks

Finally, it's not dystopian!

I like Konkoly's writing - there are always guns, violence, former military/agency types, and hard characters who don't stop. I was delighted to see this new hero, Ryan Decker, and the possible path it reveals. Head of the World Rescue Group, just as his team is about to launch a rescue things go to help in a hurry. Two years later and it turns out he went to prison, surviving eight attempts in his life, having his wife and son murdered and seeing all his colleagues a Finally, it's not dystopian!

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Suddenly, unexpectedly, he is out of prison and back on the streets, narrowly surviving another attempt on his life, thanks to a woman who he had rescued from traffickers ten years prior. She and others rescued have formed a force in LA to take care of those ensnared. She has the makings of a very smart, badass partner/love interest in future books.

Reading through.later after layer of organizations, Decker takes down the white collar criminals who've managed to corrupt a senator and betray another. There are clearly more stories for Konkoly to tell about Decker and company.

I'm very much looking forward to them. Oh, as for four stars instead of five, two things - a hanging thread about the villain , and the character isn't dramatically different from Konkoly's previous heroes. If I hadn't read his other work, i'd have given it five! ...more

My goal this year is to read each month's Amazon First Read selection the month I select it. The Rescue was my selection for March 2019.

If you like fast pace action and witty dialogue, The Rescue is great read. My only complaint is that the action sometimes seem a little over the top. Thriller is not my go-to genre but I do like to vary my reading when I feel I've been reading from the same genre repeatedly and need a different pacing.

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Those who love a fast story with lots of movement (gun fights, explosions, more guns and more explosives, car chases, rescue operations, alphabet organizations, etc) will really enjoy this book. On the whole, it was a good read. ...more

The Rescues Hold On

Great pacing and emotion

I liked the story quite a bit. My favorite part was the ending. The moment of relief and release for Decker was a great way to finish the story. Overall, there's a ton of stuff to like. However, I do wish we would have seen a little more chemistry with Harlow.

I have read a number of books by Konkoly and always enjoyed each one. This book begins a new series and I'm looking forward to reading each future one as well. Good plot, great character development and fast action make a great read!