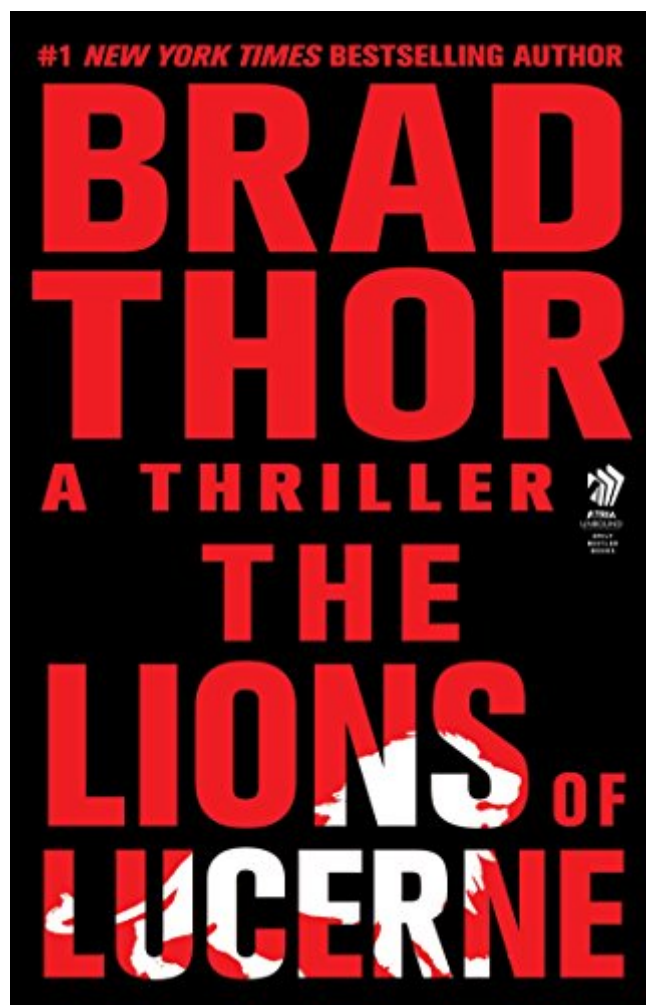


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The Lions Of Lucerne (Scot Harvath Book 1)



Synopsis

In a daring and chilling debut, Brad Thor draws us into a sinister labyrinth of political intrigue and international terrorism, serving up an explosive cocktail of unrelenting action -- and a shattering climax -- as one man is pushed to the edge. On the snow-covered slopes of Utah, the unthinkable has just become a nightmarish reality: thirty Secret Service agents have been viciously executed and the vacationing president of the United States is kidnapped by one of the most lethal terrorist organizations in the Middle East -- the dreaded Fatah. But one man, surviving agent and ex-Navy SEAL Scot Harvath, doesn't believe the Fatah is responsible for the attack. Driven by his professional code of duty and honor -- and a solemn vow to avenge his fallen comrades -- Scot creates his own rules to get some answers. But his search for the truth raises the blood pressure of his superiors...and casts his own life in mortal jeopardy. The deadly machinations have been set in motion by a shadowy coalition, comprising some of the highest-ranking officials in government and business -- men who operate above the law, men who realize the threat Scot poses to their hidden agenda...men who will do anything to stop him. Now framed for murder and on the run, Scot goes for broke and takes his own brand of justice to the unlikeliest place of all -- the towering mountains of Switzerland. It is there that he finds an improbable ally in the beautiful Claudia Mueller of the Swiss Federal Attorney's Office. Together they must brave the subzero temperatures and sheer heights of treacherous Mount Pilatus -- and enter the den of the most notorious team of professional killers the world has ever known.

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Customer Reviews

This was one heck of a good read. It had all of the ingredients that people like Ludlum, Clancy, Flynn and Cussler like to mix into their stories. There is a dastardly villain - a brave and handsome hero - an interesting cast of characters, some villains, some brave men and women - a love interest - intrigue - adventure - action and a turning and twisting plot that will keep you interested to the end. Scott Harvath, a Secret Service Agent is part of the detail that is protecting the President and his daughter while on a skiing vacation in Utah. A conspiracy at the highest levels of government causes the skiing party to be ambushed and only Harvath, the President and his daughter survive the assault. However, the President has been kidnapped and the remainder of the book deals with Harvath's crusade to avenge his fallen comrades and recover the President alive. How he goes about that makes for interesting and page turning reading. This book is the first in a series of at least two as there is a sequel which has been released and which I will be reviewing shortly. It's good to have another top flight action writer on the scene.

Well, let me start off by telling you why this book received 4 stars from me instead of five. It was predictable, and the hero was almost too good to be true. Now....that said, I really did enjoy this book. I love thrillers (like Ludlum and Forsyth) and this book fits the bill. It was fast paced, very well written, I could see the action and feel some of the emotions. I think it is a great beginning for this author, and I look forward to his next book, and look forward to seeing this character again. So don't let the four stars stop you from reading it, just go into it with the knowledge that you will probably know where the author is going, but you will have fun if you go along for the ride.

Scott Harvath is a member of the secret service's advance team protecting the US President and his daughter on a ski vacation. However, this vacation goes horribly wrong when a group of men ambush the President's protective detail, kidnap the President, and leave hardly any clues behind. Scott, however, with extensive SEAL training, begins to follow the few strands of evidence that are left behind. But when the power players start to plant evidence that points in Scott's direction he

realizes that he must act quickly and stay at least two steps ahead of those that are trying to frame him if he wants to clear his name, find the President, but most importantly - stay alive! The Lions of Lucerne is the debut novel for Brad Thor. It is well written for the most part and fairly fast-paced. Like many thriller novels there are portions that require you to check reality at the door, but that is part of what makes this genre fun. It is not the best in the business, and could be considered a watered down version of a Vince Flynn novel, but is enjoyable nonetheless. It is relatively predictable and the heroes escape a ridiculous amount of well aimed bullets, but you will enjoy it for its mostly page turning fun.

I have been a Robert Ludlum (Jason Bourne Series), Tom Clancy, Stephen Coonts and Dan Brown fan for years. I place Brad Thor on an equal to these authors. He has created the character of Scott Harvath that compares to Jason Bourne, and Mr. Clark. I found the book to be well written, and fast-paced, the type of book I didn't want to put down for a minute.

This is the first Thor book I've read. And, I doubt I will read any more. A hero with zero flaws? It makes Horvath a totally one-dimensional, pretty-boy lunkhead. Jack Reacher has depth and intelligence and flaws. Harry Bosch, ditto. This character was exhausting to read because he always had a foolproof plan..like what Secret Service agent doesn't keep \$20,000 and a fake passport in their safe deposit box? And, he gets smashed in an avalanche, shot, stabbed, yada, yada. It, honestly, bored me to tears. I struggled through almost the entire book and it's cheesy, pedestrian dialog until about 20 pages from the end. He finally finds the president, and because it's dark and he can't see, the Pres asks "who's there?" Realistically, he'd say something like "It's me Scott, sir" or "Scott Horvath." No...in keeping with the high school writing project dialogue, he says "Secret Service Agent, Scott Horvath, Mr. President." Bad guys are all over the place and it's the chaotic ending where it seems to me a real SEAL (in his case former SEAL) would be heroic and say as few words as possible. It was just so incredibly awful that I promptly closed the book and threw it in the recycle bin in the airport. I didn't want to subject anyone else to this cheesy mess. I couldn't get the theme song from Indiana Jones out of my head--no offense to the first Indiana Jones. Long and short of it, I didn't care if Scott, the President, and the beautiful helper chick got shot, stabbed and thrown off the freezing mountaintop!! I just wanted the suffering (mine, not the characters') to end. If you're looking for quality writing, stick with Lee Child, Brian Haag, and Michael Connelly. This guy needs to go back to Freshman Comp 101 not hungover from the frat party the night before!

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