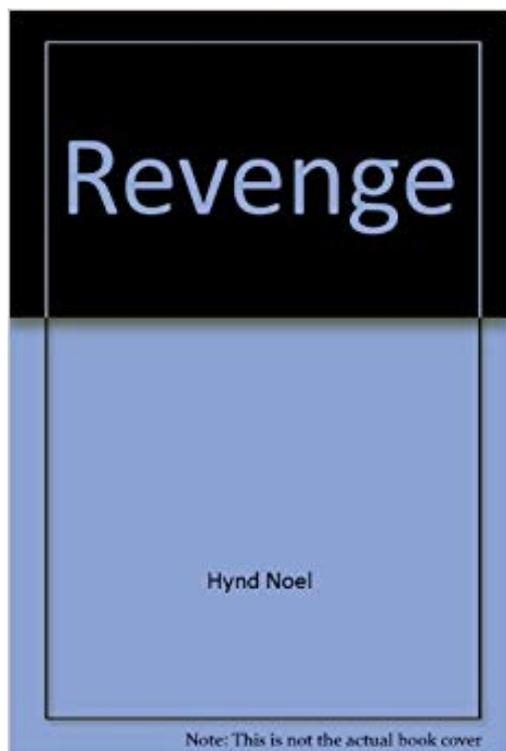


Revenge by Noel Hynd



ISBN: 0803773846

ISBN13: 978-0803773844

Author: Noel Hynd

Book title: Revenge

Pages: 274

Publisher: Dial Press; First Edition edition (1976)

Language: English

Category: Genre Fiction

Size PDF version: 1129 kb

Size ePUB version: 1198 kb

Size FB2 version: 1932 kb

Other formats: mobi docx lit lrf

0803773846



Reviews of the *Revenge* by Noel Hynd

Cozius

REVENGE, Manhunt in Paris, a mystery thriller e-book by Noel Hynd. The author's note to this 2014 revision of this, his first published novel written in 1973-4 provides an interesting and amusing introduction.

Basically, the story is of an American flyer shot down, severely injured but still viciously and repeatedly tortured as a Viet Nam prisoner of war and his decision at war's end to find and kill his tormentor. The plot is far more complicated, however, with American and French politicians, local as well as international police, national security forces and individuals on the diplomatic level all having their own procedures and goals that individually or collectively could affect matters on a national /international and perhaps world-wide diplomatic level. The tale is replete with hidden agendas, deceit, betrayal, duplicity, and suspense that progresses at an accelerated level to a somewhat unanticipated but quite satisfying climax. A number of 'practical' questions arise, but can be ignored

in favor of an entertaining read.

Xcorn

"Revenge! Manhunt in Paris!" (why the unnecessary social media type exclamation marks I have no idea) by Noel Hynd is an excellent story. I've also read one of his other books, "Flowers from Berlin," set just before WWII. "Revenge!" was his very first book.

Except for Hynd's penchant for happy endings, this story had almost everything you want in a thriller: quick, back-and-forth action among the leading characters; a complicated and understandable, but not unwieldy, plot; interesting, well-defined players; and plenty of hard-to-solve mysterious elements. I did not figure out who the true bad guy really was until the author revealed it to readers near the end.

There is a gut-wrenching aspect to the story that involves two young American girls, living with their diplomat parents in Paris. There is a plenitude of people who meet their demise violently. The story's beginning in a POW camp in Viet Nam is gruesome but necessary for plot development. The main American character seems to vacillate between going over the psychological edge and forthrightly maintaining his sanity-smarts. The description of the French police and intelligence services is well-done. The story moves rapidly and logically.

Overdone are the episodes involving the 2 girls, the American's too-numerous escapes, and his apparent freedom of movement without being nabbed or killed. His near-misses are sheer Hollywood, and one must suspend disbelief several times. The "black side" of the international intelligence services and the underlying corrupt politics come as no surprise. The gun battle in the upper reaches of the Notre Dame Cathedral towers was totally ridiculous.

All-in-all, it's a very good story (even if you, like me, have a knee-jerk dislike for everything and anything associated with the shameful Viet Nam War era), well developed and well-told. The story will live on as a clear "period piece".

Few of the characters are truly likeable, but they needn't be. They do need to be believable though, and the author generally succeeds at that task. Thankfully, the sex scenes are virtually non-existent (unlike the uncomfortable ones in "Flowers From Berlin"), and the author sticks to the main story in a consistent way without much political or sexual embellishment.

I'll be happy to read another of his books soon. This one's a 4.2, rounded down to a 4.0. I liked it.

OTANO

This was an excellent book for the author's first book. Richard Silva was haunted by his time at the Hanoi Hilton as a POW and wanted to track down his European interrogator. Many good characters and the story especially picked up in Paris. Fourth espionage book I have read by this author and all have been excellent.

anneli

A page turner which is well worth the read. A victim of torture in Viet Nam, an American flyer, seeks revenge on his European torturer who intentionally killed other US flyers in an attempt to "break" our hero. After the war, he starts his quest and two countries, several police forces, and an ultra right wing American political group are out to stop him, all for different reasons. It all culminates in Paris as our hero finally confronts his man at the same moment the people who are out to stop him converge on the scene. I would have given it five stars but for an "afterthought" ending that is highly improbable given the complexity of the circumstance of the final confrontation. Good fun, and the novel moves right along at a rapid pace on all fronts, all of which are ring true except for what I am complaining about here.

Darksinger

Just got done with this book and will be hunting for the next Hynd novel to read. This was, in part, a very sad story because I do remember very well the horror of the Vietnam War. My ex-husband was during that time stationed in Germany and the push to enlist for the Vietnam 'conflict' was great. The terror that some of these guys felt was constant for a long time. The machinations of two governments and their various agencies was very well described in this book and one could laugh, if it was not so true and sad. A very good read. The only thing I did not quite like was the ending; it seemed a bit rushed and flat. But you can't please everybody!

Clandratha

Hynd is a low-profile writer of compelling fiction. Almost everything of his is available on Kindle.

This is a post Vietnam novel about an ex-POW seeking retribution who becomes embroiled with a mysterious group of Americans who use him for their own purposes. He becomes a man hunted by multiple factions. There is a big police procedural component, and it is excellent.

Revenge is Tom Clancy-esque, but much more concise and propelled. The structure would lend itself to movie treatment without modification.

I look forward to reading every book he has written.

Anarasida

This is Noel Hynd first book and it is really good. Mystery-thriller type of story that keeps your interest till the end. I do recommend this book and I am sure that after reading it you'll become a Noel Hynd fan too !

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