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Executive Orders (Tom Clancy)



Synopsis

5 CDs / 6 hours
Read by Edward Herrmann
Also available on cassette
"I don't know what to do. Where's the manual, the training course, for the job? Whom do I ask? Where do I go?"
Debt of Honor ended with Tom Clancy's most shocking conclusion ever: a joint session of Congress destroyed, the President dead, most of the Cabinet and the Congress dead, the Supreme Court, the Joint Chiefs. Dazed and confused, the man who only minutes before had been confirmed as the new Vice-President of the United States is told that he is now President. President John Patrick Ryan
And that is where Executive Orders begins. Ryan had agreed to accept the vice-presidency only as a caretaker for a year, and now suddenly an incalculable weight has fallen on his shoulders. With stunning force, his responsibilities crush in upon him. He must calm an anxious and grieving nation, allay the skepticism of the world's leaders, conduct a swift investigation of the tragedy, and arrange a massive state funeral - all while attempting to reconstitute a Cabinet and Congress with the greatest possible speed. But that is not all. Many eyes are upon now, and many of them are unfriendly. In Beijing, Tehran, and other world capitals, including Washington, D.C., there are those eager to take advantage where they may, some of whom, from Ryan's past, harbor intense animosity toward the new President himself. Soon they will begin to move on their opportunities; soon they will present Jack Ryan with a crisis so great even he could not imagine it.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Tom Clancy goes to the White House in this thriller of political terror and global disaster. The American political situation takes a disturbing turn as the President, Congress, and Supreme Court are obliterated when a Japanese terrorist lands a 747 on the Capitol. Meanwhile the Iranians are unleashing an Ebola virus threat on the country. Jack Ryan, CIA agent, is cast in the middle of this maelstrom. Because of a recent sex scandal, Ryan was appointed vice president, a slot he doesn't hold for long when he lands in the Chief Executive's chair. He goes after the Iranians and then tries to piece together the country and his life the only way he knows how--with a fury that we've grown accustomed to in Clancy's intricate, detailed, and accurate stories of warfare and intrigue. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Jack Ryan, Clancy's amazing upwardly mobile series hero, must put together a government from the wreckage left at the end of *Debt of Honor* (Putnam, 1994). While Jack, who assumed the U.S. presidency after the shocking deaths of the president and many congresspeople, attends to affairs of state, selecting a new Cabinet and arranging for special Congressional elections, enemies far and near continue to create nefarious plots against the United States. Political enemies prove themselves equally relentless, attacking the very legitimacy of Ryan's presidential role. While Clancy is, as always, chillingly up-to-date, he telegraphs too many plotlines here. Worse, Ryan has become something of a whiner, complaining at length about the miseries of living a political life. At almost 900 pages, the book includes too much minutiae and dwells overlong on Ryan's earlier adventures. However, with a two-million-copy first printing, Ryan's presence--at least for now--is assured in most public libraries. Elsa Pendleton, Boeing Information Services, Inc., Ridgecrest, Cal. Copyright 1996 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

This book has a lot of interesting discussion of what it takes to make our country work and, in particular, what our President has to deal with. The setup for addressing those questions is Jack Ryan suddenly becoming President after the capitol - and most of our national elected leaders - are killed. To find out how that happened, read the preceding book in the series, *Debt of Honor*. In fact, I have greatly enjoyed reading the series, of which this book is the ninth, from the beginning, *Without Remorse*. Although I do recommend reading the series in sequence, this book can easily stand alone on its own merits, as allusions to earlier events add color, but remembering them is not necessary for enjoyment of this one. I'm really looking forward to reading the rest of the books in Tom Clancy's "Jack Ryan universe". I might mention along those lines that not all of the books in the

"universe" star Jack Ryan. Several star John Clark, who is more of an intelligence operator (sometimes a spy, sometimes a paramilitary, sometimes a Presidential bodyguard), while Jack Ryan is more of an intelligence analyst. Jack does get into a lot of action, though, so don't be misled. Some of the later books in the series, say from seventeen on, were even written by other authors. I haven't read them yet, so I can't comment on their quality.

OK, the plot is outrageously unrealistic. But like a good movie, if you can suspend disbelief, and let yourself go into the Ryanverse, this book is well written and gripping. One of Tom Clancy's great talents was to weave interesting observations about human motivation into his writing, and this book has lots of those insights.

The world like you would want it to be, where the common little guy gets to do huge things, where good work pays off, where bad guys get punished, all told with a relentless pace, a plot that thickens very smoothly, and of course the right men in the right place at the right time. Most Clancy's books (written alone) are very entertaining, starting with Jack Ryan managing to pull off difficult little jobs in the first ones (Red October, Cardinal of the Kremlin), then larger, until Executive Orders and The Bear and the Dragon. EO is one of his best and awesome (the best being Red Storm Rising in my opinion, although JR's not the hero there). Had to buy them in digital edition because the paperbacks were destroyed by the 20th time I read them (a little autobrainwashing is always fine once in a while). If you are in to this kind of novels (spy-wargames), no doubt you'll become a fan.

I love the plotlines and suspense and action, but the pages and pages of internal monologue were painful. Even flipping through the pages to skip those sections on my Kindle was tiring. This book could lose 100+ pages and nothing of significance would be missed. As others have noted, the Kindle version of this book is loaded with scanning errors. Obvious OCR typos and non-words fill the book. You are constantly having to stop to try and figure out if you are reading some new word you've never seen before, or if it's a typo. And there is a ton of missing punctuation. Many sentences are long and complex, and they may zero sense when dashes and other punctuation marks are missing. It makes the Kindle version very, very tedious to read.

Another good story by Tom Clancy. However, the KINDLE edition has MANY typos, especially toward the end of the book. It seems the scanned copy for the kindle edition was not proofread. There are many 1's for l's, letter c for letter e, spacing errors. I love my KINDLE, but this version was

the worst of any book I've read. I'm buying hard copies of the Tom Clancy stories from now on.

This book, like all of Clancy's novels, is well-written, with an interesting plot, and good character development. I was initially really enthralled by the plot, but as I continued to read toward the end, I found reading increasingly challenging due to the plethora of (to me) unintelligible and arcane military and government acronyms, and the fact that it was becoming more and more focused on the minutia of the war aspects of terrorism. Someone who has more of an interest in the military aspects of the "war on terror" would no doubt really enjoy the book, but I found it a distraction from the main premise of the story. I was disappointed that the focus of the story seemed to change - almost as though a different author had assumed the writing.

An excellent tale of governmental decapitation and recovery that used passenger aircraft as weapons of mass destruction well in advance of 9-11. The novel incorporates a bio attack on the U.S. featuring ebola and also makes it clear that bad things happen on the international stage when a nation appears weak or unable to respond to aggression. President Jack Ryan's response to the engineered ebola epidemic presents interesting practical and constitutional issues and is an excellent illustration of how an epidemic would spread and the medical, social and political fight against it. I have read all of Clancy's Jack Ryan series and I believe this is one of the best for addressing important issues and meshing multiple plots twists. Clancy at his peak.

This was another fantastic Tom Clancy novel. I have read a lot of his novels and this one made me want to read more of them

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