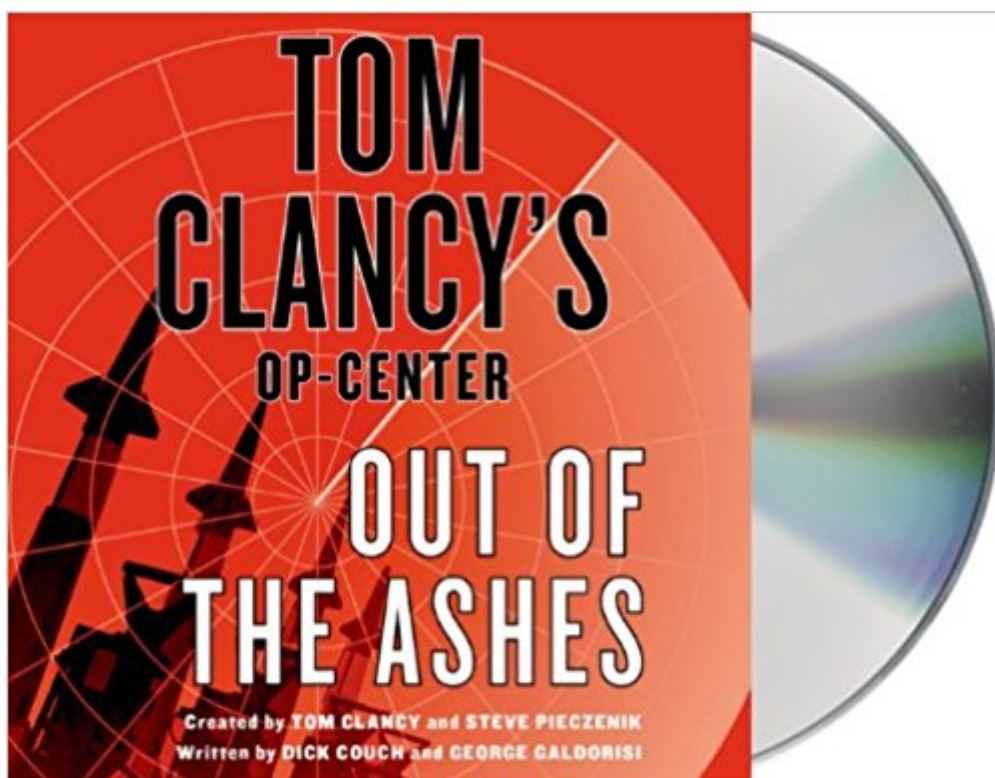


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# Tom Clancy's Op-Center: Out Of The Ashes



## Synopsis

Tom Clancy's Op-Center is back with this new thriller written by the New York Times bestselling authors of Tom Clancy's ACT OF VALOR and featuring a chilling, ripped-from-the-headlines scenario. Before 9/11 America was protected by a covert force known as the National Crisis Management Center. Commonly known as Op-Center, this silent, secret mantel guarded the American people and protected the country from enemies. The charter was top secret and Director Paul Hood reported directly to the president. Op-Center used undercover operatives with SWAT capabilities to diffuse crises around the world, and they were tops in their field. But after the World Trade Center disaster, in the interest of streamlining, OP-Center was disbandedâ leaving the country in terrible danger. But when terrorists detonate bombs in sports stadiums around the country leaving men, women and children dead or mutilated, the President executes an emergency order to bring back Op-Centerâ an Op-Center capable of dealing with the high tech crises of the 21st Century, and there is a lethal one brewing in the Middle East. A renegade Saudi Prince with ambitions of controlling the world's oil supply has an ingenious plot to manipulate America into attacking Syria and launching a war against Iran. Next, they would ignite a sleeper cell to attack the America homeland, resulting in a bloodbath unlike any other. Only the men and women of Op-Center, using sophisticated technology, realize what is about to be unleashed. Only they have the courage to issue a warning no one wants to hear. But will anyone believe them?

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Tom Clancy's Op-Center books (12 in all) were popular, but the series ended after the last one was published in 2005. Now, almost 10 years later, St. Martin's has resurrected Op-Center with this offering from coauthors Couch and Galdorisi. A series of terrorist attacks at NFL stadiums during games causes havoc, and the president's response does little to restore confidence. He realizes the time has come to reestablish the Op-Center, a group known for its unmatched SWAT, computer, and infiltration skills. The recruitment process takes up the beginning third of the novel and proves surprisingly compelling. Once the team is up and running, the operation to strike back at the terrorists begins. Couch and Galdorisi are veteran military-thriller authors, and they show their talents here. Op-Center fans will be pleased to have the series back and will look forward to more installments in the future. --Jeff Ayers --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

• The U.S intelligence agencies have spent billions since 9/11 learning how to 'connect the dots.' But what if there are only one or two dots? Out of the ashes is a smoothly written story by two authors who understand the inner workings of U.S. intelligence, government, and the military, and tell a frightening and exciting tale about a very new, but also a very old threat. • Larry Bond, New York Times bestselling author of Dangerous Grounds • Thriller addicts like me devoured every Tom Clancy's Op-Center tale. Now they are back, intricately plotted, with wonderfully evil villains and enough realistic military action and suspense to ruin a couple of night's sleep. Highly recommended. • Stephen Coonts, New York Times bestselling author of Pirate Alley • Fans of the original Op-Center series created by Tom Clancy and Steve Pieczenik will welcome this solid continuation from Couch (SEAL Team One) and Galdorisi (Coronado Conspiracy). . . . This thriller procedural packs plenty of pulse-raising action. The open ending promises more to come. • Publishers Weekly • Op-Center is back with a vengeance! OUT OF THE ASHES isn't just a reboot of the Op-Center series; it's one of the best techno-thrillers to hit the shelves in a long time. Dick Couch and George Galdorisi have just raised the bar for military adventure fiction. Suit up, strap in, and hang on, because you're in for one hell of a ride. • Jeff Edwards, bestselling author of The Seventh Angel and Sword of Shiva

OUT OF THE ASHES is part of the Op-Center series written by Dick Coach and George Galdorisi. The Muslim East and Christian West have been at war for well over a thousand years. The world Trade Center hits were just another incident in that war. As a result of being caught off guard, drastic fixes to our intelligence community were made following 9-11. Then when a series of terrorist

attacks inflicted death and destruction on our Sunday NFL people-packed stadiums, President Wyatt Midkiff decided he'd had enough. It was time to reconstitute the defunct National Crisis Management Center's Op-Center for short but with new life, and reporting directly to the president. He picked a retired admiral, Chase Williams, to organize the unit and to head it up. One thing the new Center had that the old one did not was a geek tank, a computer intelligence organ with a collation architecture that could filter raw intelligence data and alert the right people of a potential problem way before it became critical or dangerous. The Center also had at its fingertips a quick-reaction military force including land, sea and air assets that could be put into action anywhere in the world within hours. The heartbeat of the operation was the geek section that could penetrate any computer or electronic apparatus anywhere in the world. Out of the Ashes is a fictional story not too far outside the realm of truth. The first half of the narrative is mostly spent on organizational matters dealing with the regeneration of the op-center. It is sluggish and boring. The second half lights up the story and keeps the reader turning pages. Coach and Galdorisi, with their extensive military backgrounds, have crafted a military thriller but it lacks the spontaneity of previous op-center stories. For this reason and the dull first half I can give Out of the Ashes no higher than a 3-star rating.

Love the OP Center series. Clancy and his co-writers know how to weave a complex tale incorporating the latest technology into their plots. Great characters and realistic situations with plenty of contemporary historical references to add a touch of authenticity to each plot line. I just wish I would take a page from WEB Griffin's playbook and number the OP Center series (and all Clancy-branded series) chronologically so buyers can read each book in order

Out of the Ashes starts out decently. You know, engaging, entertaining, but nothing to go out and recommend. Things really get going in the latter half, and by that time it's impossible to put down. Couch did a great job crafting this fiction. It was a little jerky at times, and I wish the first and second story lines were more interconnected. I have a few questions I wish he answered, but right now, the morning after, I'm really wishing I could download a sequel.

Give this one a miss. It's just not worth the money. Seems pretty clear to me that the authors divvied up the chapters as the repetition for the first half of the book is rank amateur and insulting to the reader. Where were the editors? The glancing nod that this was ever about Tom Clancy's Op Center is found in about three pages right before the end of the book. Even then there is no breadth

or depth to the attack sequence, or the IT side of Op Center, or the boots on the ground sequences, or the plot. It's ponderous and meandering trying to find itself while skimming the surface of any given aspect of what made these books good reads. I want the authors and publishers to donate the proceeds of the book I purchased to a charity that Clancy would support.

I liked the the Clancy style used in the book. The detail and story line are all classic Clancy. If you like Clancy's books, you will like this. I miss Jack Ryan's character, but time moves on. I think Clancy might have provided a more complete ending to this book. Leaves more to the imagination than most Clancy stories.

Overall enjoyed the reading. The standing up of the Op-Center and the agreements between the President and Op-Center "Boss" present an interesting situation which could have lessons for our real world responses to terrorism. Felt the ending was not fully developed and was left hanging with the act of terrorism on US soil which took so many lives...there was no conclusion to that event. Continued Op-Center writings will continue, I hope, the lives of Sandee and Lorie.

Not worthy of the Tom Clancy name, the best I can do is give it a second chance to read the 2nd one or given up the new Op Center Series. I am a big fan of Tom Clancy, read all of his books, all the Op Centers, Power Plays, Net Forces, Splinter Cells. This one is really disappointing. Barrage of tomahawks? Would somebody remind the authors collateral damage? Or they just don't care anymore. The plots are okay, details are missing, but for a Op Center short novel, understandable and acceptable. Other than completing your collection, not a good read at all.

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