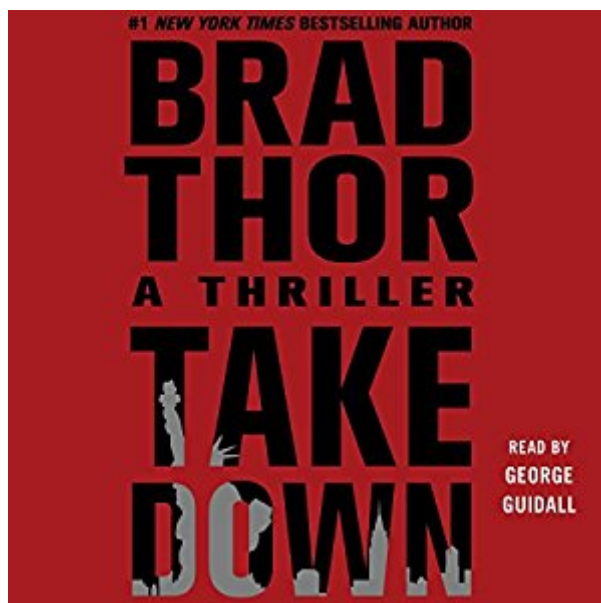


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Takedown: Scot Harvath, Book 5



Synopsis

July 4th weekend, New York City: As thousands of holiday travelers make their way out of Manhattan, a flawlessly executed terrorist attack plunges the city into a maelstrom of panic and death. Amid the chaos, an elite team of foreign operatives is systematically searching for one of their own, a man so powerful that the US government refuses to admit he even exists and will do anything to keep him hidden. Now, with the world's deadliest enemy upon America's doorstep, counterterrorism operative Scot Harvath must fight his way through the burning city streets to take down an invisible terrorist mastermind with the means to unleash hell on a global scale.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I just started reading Brad Thor about 2 months ago. I have to say this has been my favorite so far. The last one had so many twists and turns it took me a while to finish. I think it could have and should have ended well before it finally did. I was afraid that would set a precedent for future books, and was nervous about this one. My fears were put to rest as this book was phenomenal. If you enjoy the Scot Harvath series I am sure you will love this one. To top it all off the ending had me blown away and wanting more. Way to go, Brad Thor!

TAKEDOWN by Brad Thor is 5th in the Scot Harvath series. Harvath is a covert counter terrorism operative assigned to an international investigative unit of the Department of Homeland Security. As part of a two-prong operation, Harvath abducts an Algerian bomb maker from across the Canadian

border while another team snatches the most sophisticated maker of mass destruction weapons in the terrorist world, Mohammed bin Mohammed (A.K.A. M&M) from Somalia. These bad dudes are covertly hidden in New York City. Led by an Islamic assault rescue team, the terrorists hit New York City with a vengeance and inflict far more destruction upon it than it suffered during 9/11. President Rutledge's teenage daughter is among the seriously injured while many thousands are killed. The city's infrastructure, their bridges and tunnels are seriously damaged, first providers are drastically hampered in their rescue efforts, and communication resources are rendered almost unusable. President Rutledge speaks to the nation following the tragedy. He tells the country that, "We will no longer hide behind political correctness labels and we will defeat the scourge of radical Islamic fanaticism wherever it exists." Too bad our leadership can't take the same tact. If it's one-after-another explosions, killings, fires and chase scenes you want, Thor has provided for you in spades. I am a big Brad Thor fan, but I felt the destruction narrative was a bit over-the-top and unrealistic. The plot was misdirected and confusing as a result. This is my ninth Brad Thor read and although I am not that high on Takedown, I believe now that the great Vince Flynn is gone, Thor and Baldacci occupy top billing when it comes to well-researched terrorist narrations. They do their homework and write their thrillers in such a way that the reader cannot lay them aside. I give Takedown a rating of 4-stars.

What happens in the Scot Harvath novels could be taken from today's headlines. These fast-paced, even frightening novels transport us into the world of counter-terrorism. The terrorists are horrifying, but the bureaucratic restraints put on those tasked with fighting them are even more horrifying, because they shackle our ability to defend ourselves from the terrorists. The terrorists do not play by the rules, but somehow our people must. The author laid out the plot from the point of view of both Scot Harvath, those around him, the terrorists, the President and those around him. We are brought into closer focus with the Troll, and realize that even seemingly (and actually) bad guys can be of tremendous use. The final plot twist was surprising, because evidence as to who was behind the string of events was laid as bread crumbs pointing to someone else entirely. Overall, a thoroughly engaging book that made me eager to (and did) buy the next book in the series. It also made me more and more convinced that our politicians are leading us down a path they either know not will lead or are sympathetic toward our eventual destruction.

I am hooked on Thor! The very first Brad Thor Book I read was, "The Blacklist". Since reading that

book I have started read all of his books. While I have enjoyed many of these books this one was the first I read that I would compare to, "The Blacklist". There are multiple characters with multiple plots to follow throughout the book. Just when you think you can't keep up with all the multiple events Mr. Thor starts to pull them all together to give a great finally at the end of the book. I can't wait to read the next book!

I love Brad Thor's work for a quick read. I have the whole collection of the Scott Harvath Universe. Very entertaining and adventurous. The spy-thriller is one of my favorite genres in literature. I'm also a huge Clancy fan and while the genres are similar the writing styles are different. Clancy goes into great detail on almost everything while Thor skips over a lot of the nuts and bolts. Which isn't necessarily a bad thing, it just depends on reader preference. If you're into a quick read and want to be highly entertained Brad Thor is for you.

I have read most of Brad Thor's books, and while I have enjoyed every one of them, some are better than others. Some I rate as very good, others as great. This is one of the great ones that introduces several new characters and story lines that will continue through many of the future books, and wraps up other characters and story lines. One warning, after reading or listening to this, you will want to continue with "The First Commandment", and "The Last Patriot" as all three books are basically parts 1, 2, and 3 of a continuing storyline. The good news is that all three fall into the great category.

This book is heavy duty action. You get to the point where you cannot put the book down. I have favorite characters in other series books, but Scot Harvath is now number one. I am ready for Book #6 and a housekeeper, the dust is getting deep. I highly recommend this book.

I lived in New York City for four years. If I were a terrorist I'd attack the city this same way. I hope terrorists don't read your books, Brad. Now that I've retread my fifth book I'm amazed none have yet been made into movies. This one would be a real action thriller.

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