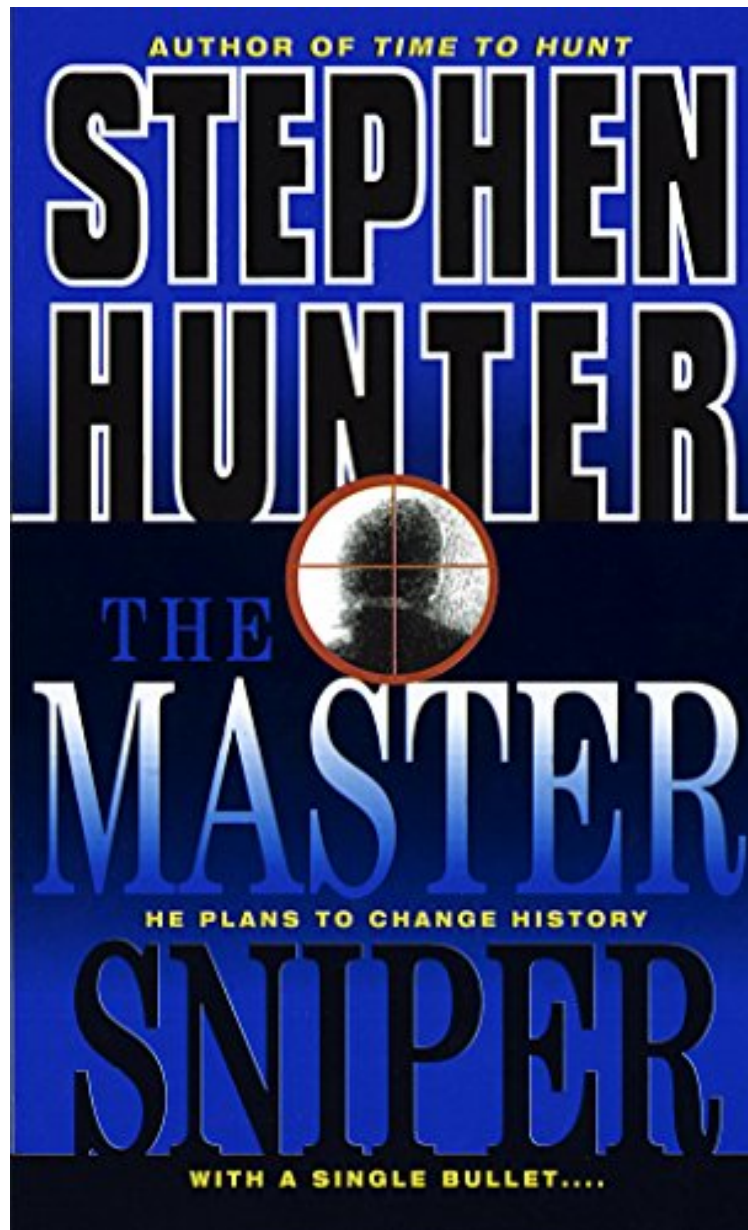


(Read now) The Master Sniper

The Master Sniper

Von Stephen Hunter

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Von Stephen Hunter : The Master Sniper before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Master Sniper:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. The Best

of the pre-Swagger Novels by Hunter Von Alex Stephen Hunter made a giant leap forward when he introduced Bob Lee Swagger in Point of Impact. His characters became more human, deeper, conflicted, and interesting. His plots became more complex and his ability to lay them out in an understandable way improved. Stephen Hunter became, far and away, the best thriller writer out there. Stephen Hunter wrote The Master Sniper before he wrote Point of Impact and I read it after I read all of his books involving the Swaggers. Having read the reviews, my expectations were lower. Perhaps because of that, I was pleasantly surprised. It was a good story and you can see Hunter's writing developing into what came out later. The protagonist is a bit dry and dull, perhaps intentionally so, similar to Bud Lewt in Dirty White Boys (Wow, what a great book that is!). If you are a Stephen Hunter fan already, read it and enjoy it, just don't expect the same level as his subsequent books. If you are new to Stephen Hunter, start with Point of Impact and follow the books in order they were published and then go back to the Master Sniper.

4 von 4 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Good but not his best: Start with Point of Impact Von Ein Kunde Summer in the Mississippi delta: hot as an engine block, the kind of weather made for paperbacks by the pool. In that vein I have just completed, damply, the grand tour through Stephen Hunter's lexicon of gun-and-testosterone novels built around the cult of the lone rifleman and the wild killers from the hills and the dutiful men who oppose them. I liked them all, more or less: the Point of Impact/Dirty White Boys/Black Light trilogy; the now-dated cold-war era countdown to Armageddon "The Day Before Midnight"; and even the weak sister (now there's a Bob Lee Swagger phrase if I've heard one) of the bunch, "The Master Sniper." Hunter has the mind and the method of the sniper down cold; the author bio mentions Hunter's time in Vietnam, so maybe he is really in the know. In these technical aspects he is unmatched, and his prose is smooth and elegant. He can describe a shooting like no other author I've ever read. The problem with "Master Sniper" is that I just couldn't care enough about the story to justify the effort in getting through the book. Don't read on if you are intent on reading the book yourself. A legendary SS sniper is loosed by Himmler himself to hunt down and kill a prominent Zionist's son in his Swiss refuge. For a killer who has mowed down two or three hundred Russians in a day's work, this presents no insurmountable moral obstacle, for like all of Hunter's villains and some of his heroes, the sniper kills dispassionately, except for the endorphin storm the act of killing releases in the killer. The hitch is that our sniper can't be sure which of the twenty-odd kids holed up in the Swiss Alpine convent is the right one. No matter; with his cumbersome but deadly infrared night scope he'll take them all out in pitch darkness. The development of this early infrared sight is a major plot thread, and is some of the most interesting reading of the book. No kid, no inheritance, no fortune to be channelled to postwar Zionist causes. Even better, Himmler figures he'll appropriate the money for the SS and use it to help ex-SS men escape the Allies' Nuremberg noose: ODESSA gets a pay raise. A potentially interesting hook, but it falls flat here in Hunter's telling. His adversary is a downtrodden American OSS firearms expert, with a shot-up leg and a romance gone bad. I found it very hard to like or admire this Leets, alternating between lovesick puppy and man of steely resolve; and I failed to see how shooting the kid would really stop the Zionists' progress. Maybe my brain has been cooked in my skull by the glare and heat at poolside, but I never quite figured why the kid had to die so that the SS could get his inheritance. And I never grew fond enough of Leets to really care if he succeeded in stopping our Nazi. I found myself rooting for the sniper much of the time since he is the book's most exciting actor. In summary, the book is filled with tight, tactile, multisensory prose but the storyline itself just didn't reel me in like those of Hunter's other works. If you start with "The Master Sniper", give Hunter another chance before you write him off your summer reading list. Better to start with "Point of Impact" and tag along with Bob Lee Swagger for a while. Lotsa shooting without all the angst.

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Peripheral necessities of war identify a fanatic mission Von Ein Kunde Hunter has set up an interesting novel here. There is so much that is implied and not explained. Anthony and Leets representing S.O.E. and O.S.S. do what Intelligence agents do, they analyze information, trying to glean something vital from the mass. They find something unusual and must convince, not only each other, but someone with the power to do something about it. The book shows how both the U.S. and U.K., while allied, still had their own interests. The aloof Brit with the stiff upper lip is revealed. Leets, not a Yale or Harvard man, must deal with his own position in OSS as well as being an American dominated by his British counterpart. The kid (his name escapes me) the golden boy, sitting out the war but glorying in what it can get him. Oh yeah, and the NAZI. Repp as the SS soldier. Not warrior, but Soldier. A good portrayal of what the SS and Nazi politicians were. Shmuel was as tragic as the camps themselves. The fact that a final act of contempt being the murder of twenty four children should give the reader some insight as to just what the Nazis were all about. Money just like what they were after in this novel has been sitting in Swiss banks for nearly sixty years, benefitting who knows. Lastly, I liked how the last days of the war were dealt with, the attacking Americans, the retreating Wermacht, the last ditch stands and brutality of the SS. Like the book itself, the war slammed to a halt.

Kurzbeschreibung It is the spring of 1945, and the Nazis are eliminating all the witnesses to their horrible crimes, including Jews and foreigners remaining in the prison camps. Kommandant Repp, who is known as a master sniper, decides to hone his sniping abilities by taking a little target practice at the remaining laborers in his own prison

camp. But one man escapes and becomes the key to solving the mystery of the cold, calculating Kommandant Repp and his plans for ending the war. Repp was the master sniper whose deadly talent had come to the notice of British Intelligence as the linchpin of a desperate Nazi plot to reverse the fortunes of the Third Reich at the eleventh hour. But what was the nature of the weapon that Repp was to aim--and who was to be his last target? Allied Intelligence officers Leets, from the U.S., and Outhwaite from England are dispatched to identify and abort his lethal mission. And when they finally learn the truth, the Second World War's deadliest race against time is on....

From Publishers Weekly: In the spring of 1945, Lieutenant-Colonel Repp, the titular sharpshooter of this compelling thriller, has been charged by his Nazi superiors in the collapsing Third Reich to commit a particularly despicable assassination. Aided by the deadly creativity of German military engineering, Repp, a cold-blooded killer, hones his skills on hapless death camp inmates before embarking on his mission, which will imprint the dark ideals of Nazism on the postwar world. It falls to Jim Leets, an American small-arms intelligence agent, to unravel the mystery of Repp's new weaponry and sinister assignment. With his fully realized characters, from the depressed but determined sleuth Leets to the ruthlessly dutiful Repp, Hunter (Black Light) has crafted an engrossing and vividly written tale that touches on the nascent Zionist movement and Allied indifference to the Holocaust on its intriguing path to a tense and satisfying climax. Copyright 1996 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Pressestimmen: "Hunter is a deft craftsman with a sure sense of pace and scene. He also knows about irony and sprinkles just a bit over every corpse."--The Washington Post "Mesmerizing suspense..."--Kirkus