



Wild Justice

Wilbur Smith

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The hijacking of a jumbo jet off the Seychelles galvanises anti-terrorist chief Peter Stride into the action for which he has spent a lifetime training. But even in the hail of bullets which follows, he knows this is the beginning of a nightmare.

Wild Justice Details

Date : Published July 25th 1980 by Pan Books (first published May 31st 1960)

ISBN : 9780330261043

Author : Wilbur Smith

Format : Mass Market Paperback 416 pages

Genre : Fiction, Adventure, Thriller, Mystery, Action

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From Reader Review Wild Justice for online ebook

Christian says

Major General Peter Stride is the head of THOR a anti terror unit composed of British and American Soldiers, which is supposed to act against "militants" (they are never called terrorists) all over the world. His second in command is a American Colonel. (If i ever wondered were Tom Clancy got his plot for Rainbow 6 now i knowRainbow Six)

Peter Stride must be also the must gullible man in the world over the run of the book he is consistently chasing a different track to uncover the identity of terrorist Mastermind CALIPH. As soon as he is convinced he has the right track he is charging straight for the target. And there are a lot of theses charges over the course of the story.

This doesn't really spoil the story, but becomes somewhat repetitive. I think i should count myself lucky that I guessed the identity of CALIPH rather early, so I could bask in self doubts whenever a new option was revealed. But honestly I think the whole plot was rather obvious.

The one thing I found most annoying was the complete lack of structure for the book, there are no chapters, and the story just goes on and on.

Thom Swennes says

Wild Justice isn't what one would expect from a Wilbur Smith book. His vast knowledge of the African Continent wasn't tested as he moved his story over the whole world. My impression after the first hundred pages was it would be another Tom Clancy (Rainbow Six) international anti-terrorist squad tale. As the story progresses, so did the winding road it followed. The route had so many turns, I found myself suspecting everyone of being Caliph. As only a great writer can, in the end everything is clearly explained leaving me with the feeling I should have been able to guess from the beginning. I have always hated double or hyphenated names and this time it was no different. If I have a criticism it would be with Peter Stride's daughter, Mellissa-Jane.....exactly for this reason.

Sam says

This is a fast-paced and exciting story based around the hijacking of a plane and the subsequent fight to save the hostages and capture the bad guys. But for me it wasn't quite as good as some of Smith's other books (I still can't get Elephant Song out of my head, I really loved that one) and as this was written quite a few decades ago the female characters are subject to some interesting and not particularly balanced descriptions, which I did find a little off-putting at times (especially when applied to characters in their early teens). This aside, the characters were typically good or bad as you would expect, although there was a lot of backstory which I ended up getting a little lost in so could've done with a little less. On the whole though, this was a good gripping read that keeps you guessing throughout, I just know Smith has done better.

Alex says

Seeing as this is the first I've read by Smith I was intrigued, knowing he writes series.

It was well written, in that it was slower than your usual contemporary spy novel, but at the same time it was a really quick read. The plot twists were pretty insane. I enjoyed every minute of it. Even though the character of Magda got on my nerves so many times. Particularly at the end...

Saying that, I'm pretty sure I'll be reading more of Wilbur Smith in the future.

Harv Griffin says

When I first read HUNGRY AS THE SEA by Wilbur Smith I loved it so much I went down to my local used bookstore and bought everything they had by Wilbur Smith, a stack of 7 or 9 books, as I remember. This one, THE DELTA DECISION, was the only one that really worked for me as entertainment. It is better known on GoodReads as WILD JUSTICE, the title in the UK, and the story was made into a Roy Scheider movie.

Smith writes a lot of period piece novels, none of which I was able to "get into." His novel GOLD MINE, I sort of searched for years ago in bookstores, ordered once, but it never arrived: it was made into my favorite Roger Moore movie: GOLD. Reminds me to get on Amazon and search for it!

THE DELTA DECISION is a good action read, in the Alistair Maclean style of tough guy action novels, but I like the way Smith puts words together better; for me, Smith is very easy to read. There is also a bit of fun romance in the midst of fighting terror and hunting a super bad guy.

@hg47

Bev Taylor says

peter stride works for thor communications. a force backed by america and britain but not thoroughly endorsed. they r an anti-terrorist squad for which he has trained long and hard

they r called out to johannesburg where a b.a. jet has been hijacked and the terrorists have made their demands. peter disregards his superior's orders and saves the situation but loses his job

he is not at a loose end as he is much in demand and soon starts working for magda who's husband was abducted and brutally tortured before a 25 million ransom was paid

but all is not as it seems and the name caliph appears, starting with south africa

who or what r they? they appear to be trying to obtain absolute power in a world that they see is wrong and will do anything to achieve. so will peter to try and stop them but this also puts those he loves into danger

a fast moving book with great characterisation. h/e there were a lot of holes -

the mercedes would have been bulletproofed and peter knew all the time he was the target; why was no mention made of possible bugging tracking; in israel the doors of his rented limo would have been locked; no follow up to insider info on thor; when re-engaged by thor at no time did he communicate with his boss as to progress

also full of grammatical and punctuation errors which surprised and shocked me

bev

Kevin Goodrich says

Great high tension in spite of tons of exposition moving the book rather than action.

Ron says

This is a fast paced, tension building plot about a commando leader of the elite Atlas Command desire for revenge against a ruthless puppet master terrorist. Of course, he falls in love with the beautiful & wealthy widow along the way.

Greg says

Reading a lot of the older Wilbur Smith novels. This is not one of his best. Plodding and repetitive.

Erica Mukherjee says

Though not as burning as the chicken and the egg question, "What came first, Rainbow Six or Wild Justice?" Regardless, the concept could be carbon copied from one book to the other. Albeit, Wild Justice would be the smudged and harder to read copy. Escalating terrorist attacks lead an trans-Atlantic team of highly trained intelligence and army men to be ready at a moment's notice to fight against the rising tide of evil. This is a plot line designed to thrill, and in both cases the authors, Tom Clancy and Wilbur Smith respectively, string their readers along a knife's edge of suspense. However, Smith falls into a trap of predictability that, while making the ride no less enjoyable, presents the reader with a bit of an anti-climatic lurch after he realizes he had guessed it all along.

Other complaints with Wild Justice are an unnecessarily long and graphic sex scene and Smith's proclivity to describe his strong female characters as leopardesses; after the fourth or fifth occurrence one no longer has to wonder what images arouse Mr. Smith.

However, for a thriller, Wild Justice is a very good read. There is some technical and geopolitical detail about counter terrorism in the 1970's. The hero is of the unflagging and never disappointing hero type. The action rockets along, especially the opening hostage scene, almost a novel unto itself. Overall, Wild Justice

supports its genre and makes for a good read.

Graham says

Not a bad read per se, but not up to the same immersive standard as the majority of Smith's output. WILD JUSTICE is fast-paced with some absolutely stunning action sequences in it, but there are too many flaws to make it a truly crackling thriller.

It kicks off on a real high, with the hijacking of a plane and the subsequent rescue mission described in sweaty detail. After this mini set-piece, though, the story seems to lose something. Smith wrong-foots you from the outset with the identity of his shady villain 'Caliph' and keeps twisting you back and forth throughout the story, keeping you guessing at all times. Rather than adding to the mystery, I found it all slightly annoying.

The ending of the book gets bogged down with endless complex exposition - there are pages and pages of characters going into their back stories when we really should be building the suspense for the climax. As for the eventual reveal of the Caliph's identity - yes, I guessed it beforehand, and no, it doesn't make an ounce of sense. I just don't buy it at all. It's too obvious, too unbelievable. It would have been better to have had him a previously unIntroduced character, I think.

My other annoyance was Smith's treatment of women in this story. He seems obsessed with the phrase "round buttocks", which is repeated constantly and even the hero's 13-year-old daughter doesn't escape. Women seem to be described via their sexuality alone and EVERY time the love interest appears Wilbur describes her breasts in loving detail. It quickly becomes tiresome and, dare I say it, slightly sleazy.

These detractions are a real shame, because the handful of violent set-pieces that occur are truly stunning, outclassing the modern-day likes of Andy McNab and Chris Ryan in their realism and page-turning intensity. A little more focus and this would have been up there with the author's best.

Graeme Stuart Waymark says

I found intriguing certain philosophies, political analysis and forecasts of democracy under threat, all made in 1980 that are now of concern to all, of us living in democratic states today. I did think that some of those thoughts by the author were rather prescient.

Frik Prinsloo says

Wow, A great book by the master. The plot was neatly set and executed. It kept me guessing close to the end. I will recommend this book anytime. The characters came to life in this action packed book.

AGilden says

3.5 stars. It has really good bits, like the highjacking at the beginning and the saving of his daughter. But it also has long, boring bits.

Fredrick Danysh says

An aircraft is highjacked on its way to South America. Only one man can save everyone from the terrorists. Another modern terrorist novel about an over worked theme.
