



Nine Lives

Tom Barber

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It's New Year's Eve. A major terrorist cell is planning a series of attacks across London over the next forty-eight hours. The government has surveillance on the group, a man undercover, and prepare to move in, to take out the terrorists before they can strike. But they lose contact with their inside man. And the cell vanishes into thin air, dispersing into the streets, armed and intent on completing their assault on London. The best Counter-Terrorist teams in the country are told to take them down before it's too late.

Nine terrorists.

Nine lives.

The Armed Response Unit is one of these teams. Efficient and ruthless, the task force is ordered to locate the leader of the cell. As they hunt him down, they begin to realise that this is far bigger than any of them could ever have imagined. Bombings, rocket attacks, betrayal and a series of unexpected and shocking twists leave the ARU fighting to stay alive.

There's Archer, the youngest member of the team, keen to prove himself and justify his spot on the task force. His best friend, Chalky, who is forced to fight both the terrorists and his own demons. Porter, Deakins and Fox, tough and experienced men who've never dealt with anything of this magnitude. And Mac, their sergeant, who must make the quickest of decisions and lead his men against the invisible enemy.

As events unfold, other people are drawn into the danger. The Prime Minister, desperately trying to find a solution and protect the capital. A mysterious female Mossad agent, who appears out of nowhere and joins the fight against the cell. Two Special Agents from the DEA, one of whom was a member of the SEAL team that stormed Osama Bin Laden's compound and who for some reason is struggling with the memory. And the vicious, powerful leader of a Middle Eastern drug cartel, who operates in the shadows and is somehow connected to the terrorists.

With crowds all over London celebrating the New Year, and with nine terrorists somewhere amongst them, the Armed Response Unit is faced with the most dangerous night of their lives. As the savage, shocking plans of the enemy are fully revealed, the ARU officers are faced with the ultimate question. How many times can a man cheat Death before Death evens the score?

Nine Lives Details

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From Reader Review Nine Lives for online ebook

Phil Patterson says

The Armed Response Unit has to find 9 terrorists in London over 48 hours over New Years Eve and New Years Day and prevent terrorist attacks in some highly populated areas within the city. The ARU have to achieve the impossible.

I really enjoyed the plot in the book and the twists and turns. It's a very good read.

Kathi Defranc says

Meeting Sam Archer and the Team

The first story about operator Sam Archer is a suspenseful fast-paced thriller that keeps you turning pages as the scenes fill your sight. A task force set in England teams with American officers hunting a cartel who has set loose a ten person team to cause hurt and mayhem on New Year's night.

A very exciting story with great characters and amazing action. Definitely a top thriller and I am planning to read all the rest in this series!

Kelly says

I rate within genre and this book had plenty of the testosterone-laden action I love in a thriller. A solid 4 star read! Definitely going to read his next book.

David Dalton says

I have had this book on my Kindle for 2 years now. I wish I had read it back in 2012. That way I might be caught up with all the books in this series. This book features policemen from the Armed Response Unit (ARU), the British equivalent of our SWAT teams. This is the 1st book in the Sam Archer series. I am a little confused on this point, as Sam Archer is just another character in this story. Just one of several policemen on this particular ARU team. He is involved in some of the action, but not all, not even half. You could have called this a "Chalky" book (Sam's buddy on the ARU team), or Cobb (his boss) or whatever.

I guess Sam Archer is featured more in the follow-on books. I have the 2nd book in this series in my Kindle and I will read it within the next month or so. I was hoping this book would be similar in nature to the last two Simon Kernick thrillers I have read recently, and it was.

Overall a very good job. Yes there were some editorial type mistakes. Mostly awkward wording like when a word is spelled correctly but used out of place (very). At times I had to stop and re-read a sentence or two. Not many times, but at least 3 to 4.

We don't really get to know the characters, with Nine Lives the story focuses on the ARU team as a whole and how they respond to the crisis at hand. But I was very hooked on this story and looked forward to

reading it every day. As I mentioned I will read the 2nd "Sam Archer" book soon.

Nancy says

Finally finished it. Passable plot, which is why I kept reading. A good twist with one character, and another twist I had figured out with a second character. I don't really know why the book's title features Sam Archer; he didn't play any more significant role than a couple of other characters. Many flaws in the execution of the plot, including the second last target being open on a Sunday. The writing is amateurish, with way too many gerunds hanging around. After reading the author's background, he doesn't have experience with police procedure or SWAT type teams. He doesn't seem to have served in the military. The ARU spent an awful lot of time standing around, waiting for a lead when time was of the essence. If not for a nosy little old lady, an alert hotel concierge, a couple of on-the-ball subway cops, and Nikki in intelligence, they wouldn't have had the opportunity to save the day. Will not be reading more in the series.

Andrew says

Loved this book, read it not expecting a lot (it was a free download a long time ago) and just loved the whole premise. The tension was kept up through the whole book and there was even a big twist I didn't see at the end of the book. Also loved the very ending of the book! It was all based around a terrorist cell in London and a race against time on New Year's Eve to stop a number of atrocities. I think this is one of the most tension filled books I have read as it kept this up throughout the whole book. I will certainly be continuing the series and recommend him to others, I think it will be of particular interest to people who enjoy Daniel Silva, Vince Flynn, Brad Thor, Alex Lukeman, Lee Child, Matt Hilton...to name a few.

Joan says

If you want escapist, action-packed thrillers with decent characters, and some pretty gratuitous violence then this does exactly that. Enjoyable writing style. Strong three stars.

Simon Jenner says

As London crowds celebrate the New Year, nine terrorists are somewhere amongst them. Archer, the youngest member of the Armed Response Unit, faces the most dangerous night of his life as he tries to prove himself and justify his spot on the team. Nine Lives does not let up from start to finish. But its fast pace does not detract from the depth of the story or the build up of tension. The terrorists are easy to hate and you are with the task force every step of the way, rooting for them to find the next bad guy before it's too late. There are a few key twists that I did not see coming so I highly recommend this book if you are looking for an entertaining thriller.

For some snippets of previously unknown trivia about the author and the book, please check out:
<http://simonjenner.com/nine-lives/>.

Erth says

Firstly, this book seemed to go on and on forever but went without a dull moment. It kept me on my toes and was definitely not a sleeper. Secondly, the author deserves a standing ovation for his research alone. This book was so close to the cuff we could have easily been reading about his own life experience!!! Thirdly, the character development was extremely detailed and the depth of knowledge about the key players just pulled me deeper and deeper into their roles and guessing what they would do next and keeping my fingers crossed that they wouldn't be harmed in doing it, obviously the plot development was only one of a genius in this genre. Lastly, I hate to admit it, but felt Henry's demise and form of death could not have been more befitting; as he never got the option to sit in prison and rot as we would have expected from these particular law enforcement officials, but met with an eye for an eye!!! I literally winced when and how he killed the agent, but it makes me feel better knowing he met with the same fate, no wincing necessary!

Dan Barbier says

New young writer. Should we be surprised that the author is that good at such a young age ? I'll let Sam Archer answer. "If I'm good enough, I'm old enough" a 24 like story. Action-packed, adrenaline-fueled. It's a fun thrill ride you don't want to end. I'm glad I discovered Tom Barber.

Matthew Andrus says

Wow,

Really great British thriller, loved the way the action just fizzled from page to page.

Well written and fantastically absorbing as you really submerge yourself in the story.

It's fair to say a now a Tom Barber fan

I wasn't sure what to expect with this book having read the reviews I thought what the hell I will give this ago, my word how glad am, think I have found genre of crime books in the Sam Archer series.

Nine lives is the story of a British government agency specialising in foiling potential terror cell's after 9/11. Sam Archer is the youngest man on the division made up of the elite of London's police offers including his best friend Chalky who together form the cog's of this highly organised division under the keen guidance of "Mac".

The government receives information that a terror cell plans on striking the capital on the busiest night of the year New Years Eve, to make matters worse the government learn that it's not just one target they have to find the cell is 9 separate suspects targeting 9 separate locations. They team up with the DEA who have vital information that the cells ringleader who is planning on meeting up with his uncle Henry a man who is wanted by the DEA on suspicion of being the ringleader in a worldwide drugs cartel.

Can the two agencies join together and prevent a major tragedy from happening on British soil, time is ticking.

Nine lives will leave you totally drained afterwards, but i assure you it will leave you wanting more in the Sam Archer series.

Tom Barber has written a really absorbing crime book that lets you totally engage with the protagonist's in it.

Tom's second book in the series "The Getaway" available from amazon now.
www.amazon.com/The-Getaway-ebook/dp/B...

Jim says

An impressive thriller by author Tom Barber, "Nine Lives" is non stop high velocity action. This book is pure high voltage from the very first page all the way through to it's conclusion. Set in London, an elite group of police are assembled for special or extraordinary of crimes. The "Armed Response Unit" or ARU as it is known and is lead by led by Director Tim Cobb. In the United States we would call it a SWAT Team. Just in time for New Year's a two bit criminal named Dominick Farha has put together a team of misfit criminals with a bold plan to terrorize London. The ARU quickly gets onto case. The youngest agent at 26 is Sam Archer who is best friends with colleague Danny "Chalky" White. Archer and "Chalky" bravely go over and above the call of duty in pursuit of the bad guys. The team also gets some assistance from the DEA and a "Mossad" agent Shapira. The story line rolls unstoppable through this book. It was just impossible to put down. Plenty of action, emotions, and some terror throughout. The characters are very well defined. Complete with some good depth, even most of the bad guys. This book travels from Riyadh, Paris, and into London. I've already started reading the second in the series, and have downloaded the third onto my Kindle. Without a doubt 5 stars out of 5 . This is a book not to be missed by those who like action thrillers. I think entire series will deliver like a freight train at top speed. Author Tom Barber has a winner on his hands with Sam Archer. Check it out, you'll love it !

Yvonne says

Terrific action and really good plot twist at the end that I didn't see coming.

Unfortunately, the character development was poor. The only things I learned about Sam is that he's young and his dad is/was a Detective with NYPD. I really hope these characters get fleshed out a lot more in future books.

On to #2.

Eadie says

Great Debut Novel

This book was non-stop action. It was an easy read and a real unputdownable page-turner. The characters were well-drawn and the plot was excellent. I cant wait to delve into the next book and I highly recommend The Sam Archer series to those who love action-packed thrillers!

Lynn Hallbrooks says

After reading Tom Barber's Blackout... #3 in the Sam Archer series, I discovered that I had book #1 in my collection and wanted to see how Sam Archer got started. I was not disappointed.

This book is a Mystery/Thriller with Terrorism/Counter-terrorism and International Intrigue.

As the last day of the year unfolds, so does a terrorist plot. The Prime Minister calls in a recently formed, hand-picked unit, the ARU, The ARU alongside the DEA track down the nine members of the terrorist group. Will they be in time to stop them or will destruction and mayhem abound? You'll have to read to the end to find out.

I enjoyed rooting for the ARU as they were trying to track down the terrorists. I could see this being a made for TV movie. There were also some twists and turns that weren't apparent until the final reveal.

After reading No Easy Day... by Mark Owen, I understood what Mr. Barber was saying in certain sections of the book which applied to the DEA agent helping the ARU. You have to read the whole story to get it though.

Warning: This book is for Mature Audiences due to Drugs, Violence, and Adult Language.
