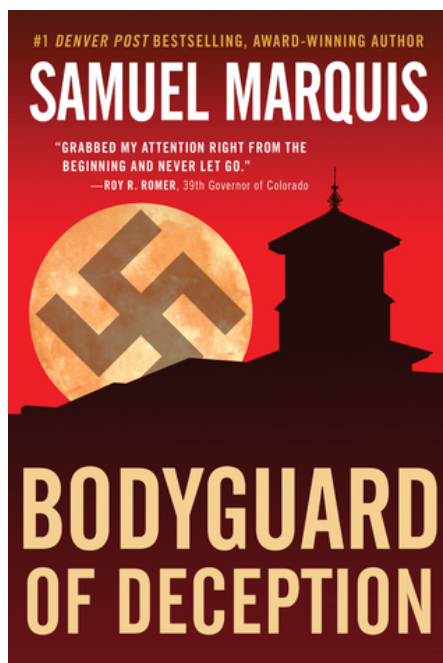




Bodyguard of Deception

Samuel Marquis

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Bodyguard of Deception Samuel Marquis

SAMUEL MARQUIS - BESTSELLING, AWARD-WINNING AUTHOR

Praise for Bodyguard of Deception

"Bodyguard of Deception grabbed my attention right from the beginning and never let go. The character development is excellent. Samuel Marquis has a knack for using historic details and events to create captivating and fun to read tales."

—Roy R. Romer, 39th Governor of Colorado

"Readers looking for an unapologetic historical action book should tear through this volume."—Kirkus Reviews

"The world hangs in a delicate balance in the heart-pounding World War Two Trilogy opener, Bodyguard of Deception by Samuel Marquis. Put together with an intricate plot to follow and a commitment to realistic detail, there's a lot going for the read...a wonderfully nail-biting experience with good characters and solid intrigue."

— SP Review – Four-Star Review

"A fast-paced, riveting WWII espionage thriller. Bodyguard of Deception is as good as the best of Daniel Silva, Ken Follett, Alan Furst, and David Baldacci and brings back fond memories of the classic movie The Great Escape and Silva's finest novel, The Unlikely Spy."

— Fred Taylor, President/Co-Founder Northstar Investment Advisors and Espionage Novel Aficionado

"As usual, Marquis's descriptions are vivid, believable, and true to the time period...Bodyguard of Deception is an intriguing launch to his new trilogy."

—Dr. Wesley Britton, Bookpleasures.com (Crime & Mystery)

"Old-time spy buffs will appreciate the tradecraft and attention to detail, while adventure enthusiasts will enjoy the unique perspective and setting for a WWII story. As Marquis throws in everything but the kitchen sink, he turns this well-told, if byzantine adventure novel into a combination of The Great Escape, Public Enemies, a genuine old-time Western, and a John Le Carré novel."

—Blueink Review

"Bodyguard of Deception is a unique and ambitious spy thriller complete with historical figures, exciting action, and a dastardly villain. Fans of prison-break plots will enjoy this story of a loyal German struggling to save his homeland."

—Foreword Reviews

Can the American and British Allies stop a vaunted German spymaster and his U-boat- commander brother from warning Hitler's High Command about the Allies' greatest military secret? It is a secret that could win the war for Germany—or, at the very least, delay the outcome for years with an inestimable cost in bloodshed, physical destruction, and suffering. And it is a secret that the two contentious brothers must grapple with within their own Wehrmacht ranks, as they bring U.S. and British intelligence to their knees on America's doorstep with the clock to D-Day ticking down. From a U-boat on the frigid North Sea to a brutal British interrogation center in heart of London to a remote German-POW camp and the world-famous Broadmoor Hotel overlooking the high plains and snow-dusted mountain peaks of Colorado, Bodyguard of Deception will keep you guessing until the final chapter. The first book of #1 Denver Post bestselling,

award-winning suspense author Samuel Marquis's World War II Trilogy.

Bodyguard of Deception Details

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Author : Samuel Marquis

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From Reader Review Bodyguard of Deception for online ebook

Dave says

This review and more available at Book of Bogan

Disclaimer: I received a copy of this book from NetGalley in return for an honest review.

I've read some pretty awful books in my time, many of them in the military/thriller genre, but this unadulterated piece of dogshit promoting itself as fiction really is the sweaty lice-infested camel's armpit of them all.

Where do I begin? The title seems like a good place.

Bodyguard of Deception, hmm, what could that mean. You will soon realise that it means PRECISELY NOTHING! It is the blended version of two military operations in the second world war - Operation Bodyguard and Operation Deception - which were designed to fool the Germans into thinking the allies were invading in Calais instead of Normandy.

The novel opens in an interesting fashion, to be sure, a German spy has stolen a boat so he can rendezvous with a German u-boat. He is carrying important secrets which he must take back to the OKW to save ze war for ze vaterland! But achtung! Ze u-boat capitan has other ideas. Nein! Instead of quietly making his escape, zey must blow up some destroyers! Haha! Zey will never know what hit them! O scheisse, they found us.

I cannot express how deeply aggravating this kind of crap gets after a while. The author switches between bad german and english seemingly at his convenience, and it starts to sound like a really bad movie made in the 1950s.

On top of this, every character in this book is a cliched stereotype. And the author takes great delight in bringing all of the big players through like it's some sort of ticker tape parade. Is there any real need to have Hitler and J Edgar Hoover and a whole bunch of other luminaries involved in a relatively simple, unrealistic, spy novel?

Supposedly this is the start of a series of books, but - and without spoiling things - it ends at a point which doesn't seem to leave much room for further stories. Something for which I'm probably grateful .

This book is the nutribullet of the second world war. Throw in all of the ideas, every possible operation, every cliché, every episode of Hogans Heroes, and all of the swastikas you can find, press the plunger, and in less than a minute you're left with this green goopy mess where nothing is recognisable in its original form, and some over-dressed telemarketer is there grinning like you just won the bloody lottery. (Kale Hitler?)

This is an extremely painful book to read, and you will only hate yourself if you do. Everyone who reads this book will be dumber for having done so. I award you 0 stars, and may Gott in Himmell have mercy on your souls.

Unfortunately Goodreads won't let me actively give this book 0 stars, so I guess I'm stuck with 1.

Ronovan Hester says

Bodyguard of Deception is a suspenseful historical thriller by Samuel Marquis, author of two #1 selling books: The Slush Pile Brigade, which any author should read, and Blind Thrust, both of which I may just be buying shortly, when I have the cash, in order to see how to do it the right way. In Bodyguard of Deception we have the closing months of WWII in Europe and two brothers who are fighting for the same goal, but in different ways. German spy Erik von Walburg has a mission given by 'The Desert Fox' himself Erwin Rommel. If successful, the war will end in a way unexpected but beneficial to those involved. Erik ends up with allies in his assignment. One is his brother, U-boat Captain Wolfgang von Walburn, the prototypical Nazi ideal, the "scourge of the North Seas" and the other ally, a woman thousands of miles away without knowledge of any of the goings on of the two at odds brothers.

Samuel Marquis' historical thriller, Bodyguard of Deception, the fourth thriller from the #1 Bestselling author, is a well-researched, intricately plotted tale of suspense, intrigue and surprises you never see coming, all beginning in May of 1944, days before D-Day. Reading about the German spy Erik von Walburg I could not help but hope for his success. With each chapter the characters become more complex with events making their former routine lives anything but ordinary, and their decisions less reflex than before. Ideals and mantras no longer rule the day. As a former history teacher and now historian/author, I was thrilled at the nods to historical figures throughout the novel. Fans of master spy teller of tales, John le Carré, and John Gardner's Herbie Krueger series and the Secret Generations series will enjoy this first episode in what is touted as book one in a WWII Trilogy, with the next installment with a release date of January 2017.

I don't take much time off from my own writing of novels these days, but this was well worth it. I'd do it again in a heartbeat.

Frank Pularcheck says

Samuel Marquis spins a WWII tale that takes readers from the English Channel to Fort Carson, CO, to The Eagle's Nest as a young spymaster steals the secret to the Normandy invasion. I enjoyed this well-researched story almost as much as my favorite Marquis thriller, The Coalition. Hats off to Marquis and his growing body of work.

Anne says

The first book in Samuel Marquis' WWII Trilogy, Bodyguard of Deception is a great espionage thriller. The pacing is fast throughout and the action is both plausible and wildly exciting. The characters are well-drawn figures with plenty of conflict to deal with, both internally and externally. I especially liked the heroine Katherine Templeton, owner of a cattle ranch and the world-famous Broadmoor Hotel, the flawed German spy-antihero Erik Von Walburg, and Colonel Morrison, who would be rather fighting on the front lines but has been banished to a backwater POW camp in Colorado. WWII buffs will want to check out the extensive reference list in the back on the Double Cross spy system, German POW camps in the U.S. during the war, and U-boats. All in all, Marquis has packed in a ton of historical information and numerous real-world characters to make every scene realistic but also a lot of fun. What makes the book totally unique is it takes a look at the war here in America and it has a uniquely Colorado flavor. A great read for fans of WWII spy genre books by Ken Follett, Ben McIntyre, Jack Higgins, and Alan Furst, yet with a wild Western and slightly campy feel, like a Tarantino film.

Mal Warwick says

In a foreword, Samuel Marquis opens his historical novel *Bodyguard of Deception* with the assertion that the book “is the story of Operation Cheyenne precisely as it happened during the Second World War and has been concealed for the past seventy years by the U.S. and British governments.” This operation, which according to the author unfolded between May 24 and June 6, 1944, involved the theft by German spies of the Allies’ most closely guarded wartime secrets. (As anyone with a modicum of historical knowledge will know, those were the days leading up to the fateful Normandy landings that set the Allies on the road to the annihilation of Nazi Germany.) Marquis even cites specific recently declassified documents with lengthy filenames that have the ring of authenticity. Yet the events as he describes them in the novel stretch credulity to the breaking point: the coincidences are jaw-dropping. And they never happened. Google Operation Cheyenne. You won’t find anything.

When I finished reading the book, those seemingly impossible coincidences forced me to rush to the author’s note at the end. There, Marquis writes that “more than fifty historical figures populate the pages of *Bodyguard of Deception*.” He then precedes to list them individually. Some of those listed do not appear as characters in the book. (They’re simply mentioned in passing.) But the main characters whose interrelationships give rise to the coincidences that bothered me are not included in that list. In other words, the story as Marquis tells it simply didn’t happen. He even admits in the end that “the novel is ultimately a work of the imagination and entertainment and should be read as nothing more.” In other words, this is not historical fiction.

Oh, more thing: this tale of World War II espionage rests on the successful infiltration of a German spy in England in 1944, where he is shown to have stolen the Allied plans for the invasion of Normandy—among other closely guarded secrets. To the best of my knowledge, that never happened. Accumulated evidence over the years, as memoirs have been written and historical documents declassified, indicates that the British captured and turned every single German spy sent to the United Kingdom. And the FBI captured every German spy operating within the United States during the war.

In other words, I feel cheated. I could have done without that bogus foreword—or those exceedingly unlikely coincidences that any self-respecting novelist should be ashamed to concoct.

Furthermore, the book is not well written. The narrative is awkward at times, and the dialogue forced. There is a scene toward the end of the book in which Adolf Hitler is portrayed in a way that history doesn’t support. Literature, this isn’t.

So, why didn’t I give up in disgust somewhere in the middle of the book as those improbable coincidences began to appear? I was sorely tempted, again and again, but I soldiered on in the belief that Marquis was describing actual events. And, the book’s abundant flaws aside, the action is propulsive. Marquis tells a suspenseful story. If that’s enough to induce you to read the book, have at it. But don’t expect to learn anything about the history of World War II espionage.

Jenna Smith says

I loved this book! Another excellent novel from Sam Marquis full of thrilling twists and turns. I am eagerly awaiting the next book in the trilogy!!

Sandy Schwartz says

I really enjoyed the book especially the historical connections with Colorado. I am not generally a war story reader but I found it captivating reading.

Angelle Barbazon says

Samuel Marquis has crafted a riveting military thriller that kept me on the edge of my seat page after page. Can't wait to read more from him!

Peter Frautschi says

Another really good book! I honestly had to get to the end to read the post script to make sure it was all fiction. It really seemed like a plausible nonfiction footnote in the annals of WW11. But alas, it is just Marquis' storytelling magic at work again, weaving actual historical figures and physical locations together in realistic but fictional plots. This would make a great film!

Chelsea says

I was intrigued by the synopsis for Bodyguard of Deception; when it comes to historical fiction, I'm never sure what to expect. And I've gotta say, WOW--this novel blew all my expectations out of the water. I LOVED this book; it sucked me in from page one and didn't let go. I've read and enjoyed Sam Marquis' thrillers in the past, but Bodyguard is a cut above the rest, and that's really saying something. Without giving anything away, if you love gripping suspense, complex character dynamics, and plot twists that will keep you guessing, all set against the backdrop of one of the most fascinating (and frightening) wars of all time, this book is for you!

Carey Romer says

Another page turner by Samuel Marquis! This story inspired me to learn more about what was happening in the US during WW 2. Especially in the west! The story is action packed and includes detailed settings. The characters are interesting and complex, and reflect how complicated and difficult it was to survive the war and stay true to one's values and beliefs. One of the themes that stayed with me well after I finished reading the book was the conflict so many Germans must have faced about being loyal to their country, but not to Hitler and the Nazis. I enjoyed this book very much.

Marissa DeCuir says

Samuel Marquis is a Grade A suspense writer who really throws you into the story, giving such a great sense of place and character development. And like any suspense fan enjoys - he keeps you guessing! Can't wait for the second installment!

Fred Taylor says

Right up there with any pager turner espionage thriller written by the best of them. Marquis does a masterful jog of hooking you in from the first page and never lets you put the book down. The characters are terrific! Can't wait to read the next one in this series.

Caroline says

I really, really enjoyed this latest thrilled from Samuel Marquis!! I do love any books set in the WWII era but this one is at the top of my list. I was intrigued throughout the novel and only read it in a matter of days...one of those I couldn't put down:) A GREAT read for a day on the beach or if you're looking for a thrilling storyline to dive into before bed (but be prepared to not sleep!). I'm excited to see what Samuel Marquis comes out with next...I'll be on the list to read it.

JR Welch says

Great research, compelling characters, and taut narrative combine in this terrific book. I became enmeshed, in what seemed like real-time, in events that changed WWII and human destiny. I picked up BODYGUARD OF DECEPTION because I loved The Slush Pile Brigade and Blind Thrust. I could not put it down because of the incredible story and rich realism. Samuel Marquis is versatile, brilliant, genre-crashing.
