



Deep Blue

Randy Wayne White

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Doc Ford has long lived a double life. This time, it may finally have caught up to him. The electrifying new thriller from the *New York Times*-bestselling author.

“I’ll make an example of someone close to you.”

On a moonless night on Sanibel Island, Florida, marine biologist Marion “Doc” Ford carefully watches a video of a hooded man executing three hostages. The man is an American working with ISIS, and in the next few days, it’ll be Ford’s job, as part of his shadowy second life, to make sure he never kills anybody else again.

But a lot can go wrong in a few days, and Ford has no way of knowing that not only will the operation prove to be a lot more complicated than he has anticipated, but that he’ll end up bringing those complications back with him to the small community of boaters, guides, lovers, and friends in Dinkin’s Bay, where he’s long made his home.

Someone has taken Ford’s actions very personally, and now no one there is safe – least of all, Ford himself.

“White continues to provide thinking readers with action-packed thrillers that are also thoughtful and informative,” writes Bookreporter.com. “By the end, you won’t be able to read fast enough.”

Better get started now.

From the Hardcover edition.

Deep Blue Details

Date : Published March 15th 2016 by G.P. Putnam's Sons

ISBN :

Author : Randy Wayne White

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Genre : Mystery, Thriller, Fiction, Audiobook

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From Reader Review Deep Blue for online ebook

Joyce says

It's been a while since I've read a Doc Ford novel and this one just made me want to read more! If I could I would have given it a 4.5 star rating. It begins with Doc in Mexico for his secret agency. And continues back at the Marina and the Gulf and Mexico again. There are the usual characters from the Marina, Tomlinson and some very sociopathic bad guys along with a new character I am sure we will meet again. All in all a great read.

Donna says

Doc Ford watches a video of an American born jihadist cutting off the heads of 3 people, or maybe two as he suspects one of the beheadings is a setup. He travels to kill the jihadist and it appears the lady feeding him information is in collaboration with the 3rd guy who wasn't really killed. He spots the two together, turns the tables on them and they fall off a balcony with bad results for the lady. However, the man survives and his billionaire son now reeks havoc on Doc and his friends at Doc's marina home in Florida. The billionaire brings in lots of high technology including drones and a submarine. Doc and his friends match wits to try to outsmart the bad guys.

I've not read the previous 20+ books in this series so I felt pretty lost with most of the characters, including the main one Doc. I was sure Doc was a good guy but not sure if he was a spy, assassin, or exactly what. I start a lot series without reading the first ones and many authors provide enough background for me to feel at ease, but not so in this case. Readers who are familiar with the series should like this one because it's full of action.

Pam says

AUTHOR White, Randy Wayne

TITLE: Deep Blue

DATE READ 02/23/2018

RATING 4/B

GENRE/ PUB DATE/PUBLISHER / # OF Crime Fiction/2016/Putnam/7 CD's

SERIES/STAND-ALONE #23

CHARACTERS Doc Ford/Marine Biologist

TIME/PLACE: 2015/Florida

COMMENTS Doc Ford's 2nd secret profession brings things a little too close to home in Sanibel Island. He is out to make sure an American working with ISIS will no longer be available to associate with ISIS.

Mark says

Another entertaining adventure with Ford, Tomlinson, and the rest of the gang at Dinkins' Bay Marina. During a mission to execute an ISIS executioner, Doc Ford becomes entangled in a web that includes a double agent, an Australian activist turned terrorist, and the Australian's son, a genius billionaire in the tech industry who could've easily fit in as a James Bond villain.

I inadvertently read this one out of order, having read the 24th in the series first. It turns out that it wasn't that vital even though there are story threads that run through the series.

Sue Newhouses says

Best Doc Ford in a while. He is getting his rhythm back.

Joyce says

Another good entry in White's dependable series starring marine biologist/black ops assassin Doc Ford. Setting on Sanibel Island adds interesting marine life and a large cast of familiar, involving, quirky characters. This time we see more of Ford's covert work--and the failed mission brings danger to all his friends on Sanibel. There's marine life as well: half-eaten dolphins are washing up on the beach, and keeping tourists away. The predator turns out to be worse than Ford fears. Urgent pacing, as White "ramps up the tension" and moves the story along at breakneck speed; familiar series characters; lots of adventure in this cinematic plot line and violence, with the requisite plot twists and action; "high-tech, grand scale adventure" that will remind readers of James Bond with villains and toys, but there are also sophisticated weapons and computer hacking; witty, colorful, descriptive style and very engaging writing; gritty tone, but there's humor too, along with danger and suspense. Colorful characters and action make a good series.

Hrn1947 says

Finally a throw back to the old Doc Ford. Best installment in a while. Much more suspense than the last few. Kinda left us hanging at the end, but at least you know there will be another. Not much biologist, but more assassin. Not much marina either. Hope the next one is as good.

Karen says

After White's last disaster with Cuba Straits, and the way his writing has consistently gone downhill, I did not think I would be giving him another chance. I am the sort of person who reads the introductory material as well as other items the author thought it important to include. Sadly, on the page with two quotes at the beginning, we see a quote from Darwin as related by Jim Cutler of Mote Marine Laboratory. Cutler is listed as a Staff Scientist at Mote. Wondering what the heck a scientist might be, I looked at the Mote Lab staff. There is no Cutler on staff. He misspelled the name. It is Culter. So he also messed up on scientist. The man has grown lazy.

I read the book in order to be fair. It was better than Cuba Straits, which I could not force myself to complete. The book has way more tech than usual, much less interplay between the denizens of Dinkin's Bay

and Doc than usual. There is a lot less biology, and zero of his usual environmental comments. There is way too much Tomlinson, a character I do not like. The plot is very convoluted and confusing. Finally, it is ultimately unsatisfying and very brutal. I am not ready to totally give up White's books, but I do not know why I keep trying. I no longer find his characters interesting, likeable, or intriguing in any way.

Kathy says

I think maybe this is the 19th of 20 books in a series...or thereabouts. More to the point, this is my first experience reading about Doc Ford and his fellow boat owners at Dinkins Bay down Florida way. I was greatly entertained by the interactions with Tomlinson, in particular, but also the pace of unusual covert activities mixed with marine biologist persona.

Wildly imaginative powers of technological intelligence are granted to a young entrepreneur intent on forcing the Doc to kill his father for him, coinciding with a failed mission where Doc left a job unfinished. There are sightings of great white sharks (in Florida?!), submarines, advanced drones with unbelievable capabilities, crazy people who seem to gravitate to the area and non-stop Zen quotes from Tomlinson followed up by "How high are you?" from the Doc.

I think I tried one of these books and quickly got it off my kindle - but after reading this book and not being able to put it down I'm on board.

Thanks to Col for reviewing one of these books and bringing author to my attention.

Sherrie says

First part of the book was promising, but it fell into the same patterns as White's most recent books, which is not a compliment or a good thing. This once outstanding series has (spoiler alert!) gone to the dogs...

Ed Mckeon says

When on Sanibel, read Sanibel. This was one of the sillier RW White outings, and they usually are when the hero is in his role as an assassin for the variety of government agencies he's employed by. But entertaining, as always, there are futuristic drones, personal submarines, and drives down Tarpon Bay Road, past Bailey's and that new rum bar across the street (product placement). On Sanibel, it makes sense reading about middle-aged and senior citizens having sexy romps, and murderous adventures. Mostly, however, I've found they sit at the tables at Bailey's, drink the free coffee and talk about how great things are with 45 in office. BTW, I finally discovered Gene's Bookstore on Sanibel. Where have I been? An amazing collection of mysteries from the US and Europe. Looks small on the outside, but is a deep cavern of literature inside.

Vic says

Twenty-six years is a long time to keep a character going. A long time to come up with fresh ideas. A long time for any writer to hold form. Kudos to Randy White for sticking with it. I'm happy to report that the vintage Doc is back along with the Dinkins Bay crowd.

The Doc Ford series started in 1990 with Sanibel Flats and now stands at 23 episodes. The early stories that set up the characters were interesting and fun to read. Doc was a genuinely captivating leading man with a somewhat murky past. Many of the Dinkins Bay Marina characters mentioned in Deep Blue have, over the years, added charm to the series and been featured in earlier stories.

As the series progressed, Randy White's writing style changed and Doc became less personable. His primary sidekick, the brilliant pot smoking zen master former militant activist, Tomlinson, a big part of the success of the early stories, seemed to all but disappear; so did the rest of the supporting cast. Later stories were read in the hope that White would circle back to writing more like he did at the outset: feature Doc, but also continue to include the zany characters that live at Dinkins Bay.

Set in Sanibel Island, home of the marina, and Mexico, Deep Blue brought back not only most of the locals, but also prominently featured Doc's dog, a highly trained Golden Retriever who adopted Doc several books back. White's subject matter is always interesting and educational, and Deep Blue is no exception. Reflecting the changing technology of the twenty-first century, Doc with his old school special ops training and skills is pitted against a young computer genius who is engineering some pretty advanced software and playing with some very expensive cutting edge military toys.

A few new characters, some unexpected twists along with a heavy dose of Tomlinson, and Randy White was once again exciting and fun to read. Not to mention an ending that could, well, be an ending, if you catch my meaning, if you catch my drift.

Ellen says

Deep Blue (Doc Ford, #23) by Randy Wayne White.

Marion "Doc" Ford is a marine biologist working out of Sanibel Island, Florida. That makes up part of Doc's life, the other part is as an OPS assassin with all the training it takes to be efficient at his job.

Three people have been executed ISIS style and it was all caught on tape...and not by accident. Doc has to prevent any other people from this same fate.

This is one entertaining story with so much wrapped up inside of it the excitement kept me focused. I especially enjoyed the deep sea diving experience and the feverish anticipation of what was coming next. Doc's dog, Pete, also had an important role at least in doc's life which was an additional plus for me. Doc Ford is a character I can follow and sunny Florida is a setting I appreciate.

Robyn Harrison says

Fast-paced thriller. It didn't end, it just stopped.

Mary Steiner says

I won this book from Goodreads First Reads. This is the second book I've read by this author. I like the way it flows and look forward to reading all his books.
