



The Enemy

Tom Wood

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The hired killer

Victor, a former assassin-for-hire, has joined forces with a CIA special unit. His first assignment: Three strangers. Three hits. Fast and clean. Victor's a natural for this.

The shadow conspiracy

It should have been simple. But with each hit Victor is plunged deeper into an unimaginable conspiracy where no one, least of all the people he knows, can be trusted.

The triple-cross you won't see coming

With the stakes growing higher by the minute, Victor realizes he's been forced into playing a game he never expected. Because he's the next target. And there's no way out.

The Enemy Details

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Author : Tom Wood

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From Reader Review The Enemy for online ebook

Alex is The Romance Fox says

3,5 stars

We meet up with Victor again in The Enemy, 2nd book in Tom Wood's Victor the Assassin Series!! If you've read the 1st book, The Hunter, <https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/1...> - you will be familiar with this assassin extraordinaire - a man with no past and no real name, a loner whose sole mission is the job of taking out the target.

Well, Victor continues in the same career..well, with a slight difference - he now works for the good guys...or not so good guys...the old US agency....CIA!!!! This guy is something like James Bond/Jason Bourne on steroids!!! Everywhere he goes....mayhem happens!!

Victor's new mission is a non-stop fest of action, tension, killings, violence.....in my country, South Africa, we have a great way to describe what happens in this book..... .

Skop, Skiet en DonDer – literally "kicking, shooting and beating people up".....

Victor's new assignment is fraught with danger and betrayal.....one never knows who is a friend or enemy.

Clever and fast-paced plot and a lot of sub plots too....that take you on a never experienced roller-coaster ride.....that stops at the most spine-chilling climax.

in between travelling all over the globe.....with some great secondary characters and the most likable killer/scoundrel/rogue ever.

So, why only 3,5 stars?? Hell, the so many subplots just made my head spin!! IThis made it a bit hard to keep track of what was going on at times.

Okay, I think I need something to bring me down from this ride!!!!

I'm really happy to have discovered this author and this series.

I can definitely recommend it to anyone who loves a great thriller!!

Amy Lignor says

This is a truly great read featuring an unforgettable character named, Victor; once a hit man for the British, he is now obligated to work for the CIA.

Let's just say that in the good old days, when Victor was loving the fact he was a freelance assassin, he would always be given at least two week's notice to perform his duties. This would give him the time to find

a good location, locate the best weapon to use in order to get the job done right, and research everything there was to know about the city so that he could draw-up an excellent escape route that was absolutely fool-proof.

But now...times have changed. With Victor's new employer, he's looking at a whole new world that basically has him extremely worried considering the fact that the CIA plays by their own rules. For his assignment, Victor is given a list of three targets that are to be killed immediately.

What originally promises to be an 'easy' assignment for Victor, becomes absolute chaos and tosses him into trouble where he literally finds that he cannot trust anyone, especially his new employers. With the CIA comes a time clock, which gives Victor approximately two days to finalize his planning. Having to travel to Romania, Russia and on to Washington, D.C. in order to carry out the assignments, Victor has very little research time and no longer feels like anything is fool-proof. Add to that the fact that he must deal with a little romance that sparks up with an old girlfriend - a woman who has no idea what his job entails and ends up being put in danger - and Victor is definitely running around like an assassin with his head cut off.

Warning: The reader must pay close attention to this one, as Victor is constantly chasing, or being chased, while locating his targets before he becomes a target himself. Benefit: The exact same as the 'warning'. This is a thriller to the 'nth' degree and never once can be called boring. Readers will crave to see this one appear on the big screen.

Wilde Sky says

A ruthless assassin takes on a contract to kill another killer and gets involved into a war between rival arms dealers.

This book had great characters, action scenes and pace. There were a couple of dodgy plot points and the multiple storylines weren't woven together very well, but overall a very ?entertaining read.

If you enjoy the first three Bourne films you'll probably enjoy this book.

?Real rating 4.5

Will says

Even better than his first novel! Tom Wood does a nice job of interweaving a rather complicated plot involving the CIA's plan to use Victor the Assassin as a means of causing a mini-war between international arms dealers. When those plans fall apart, Victor must flee for his life and unravel the mystery of who is using him as part of a larger plan. Highly recommended book from an excellent writer. Real gritty and a bit gory in parts but never feels over the top or contrived. Looking forward to Victor's future adventures!

Barbara Elsborg says

This really shouldn't be a book I'd like. Loads of detail on guns about which I know nothing and really want to know nothing. Lots of violence, nasty people, an anti-hero who is very hard to like and yet I LOVE IT. Victor is perhaps slightly less enigmatic in this second book. He's not amoral, he has limits he won't cross. He does care for people he allows to get just a little closer to him and I suspect many women readers are waiting to see if love can change him. Could he love? Probably not but we can hope. I suppose that not much changes in his life in this story. It's another series of 'adventures' in his job as a killer. Of course things go wrong. That's what makes the story buzz.

I did have a little trouble following some of the double dealing in the arms world. Occasionally, the plot seemed to take second place to an opportunity to show us Victor at his best, ducking and diving and going through such painstaking manoeuvres to ensure he's not being followed and that his weapons are perfect, that he's sure of the scenario. He's pushed harder than he prefers in this second book. And sent in to kill at very short notice is not the way he likes. But that's great for the reader.

The final scene in the book - is just breathtaking. I couldn't stop reading.

If you like fast paced intelligent thrillers, I can strongly recommend this. You don't have to have read the first book before, but I think it helps.

Dave Schultz says

I've enjoyed all of Tom Woods books thus far. I would have liked a little more character development of Victor. Overall a very entertaining read and I would recommend this series but the books can be read on their own.

Vicki says

Very fun easy reading international crime/spy thriller. Reads like a movie, and the plot/dialogue is almost straight out of one. Don't be put off, as still a smart plot and the characters are well developed.

Despite not having read the first one, the book was easy to pick up. As the cover says, it's a cross between Bourne and Jack Bauer. Definitely not a rip-off though. Will certainly be reading the rest in the series.

Book Addict Shaun says

I honestly cannot believe I have waited so long to read this series of books. Concentrating mainly on review books for 3+ years has meant I have amassed quite the TBR pile and quitting blogging has finally allowed me to get around to them.

I absolutely love Victor and this is going to sound crazy but I'm actually envious of his private life and how he can just disappear from existence. Obviously I'm not jealous that he's an assassin and I do like human company from time to time however I very much enjoy my own. He is such an intriguing character and in

this book we start to understand and learn even more about him. A scene towards the end especially involving Victor and a female. What he does completely changed my opinion of him and as with a similar scenario in the first book, made me see the human side of him. Yes he's a cold-blooded killer but do you know what? I absolutely love him as a character. He's endlessly fascinating and in such a saturated genre he stands out.

Once again this is a story with so much packed into it and by the end of it we have again travelled the globe with Victor. Given the sheer depth to the storylines contained within this book I would love to know just how Tom writes these stories. The planning process and the effort that must go into a story so twisty and complicated as the one here is just fascinating and with the amount of books I have read in this genre, Tom's have been some of the best because of how much is packed into them.

Whilst it could be unbelievable that Victor could face so many attacks on his life and come out smelling of roses, it is actually believable because he very nearly loses his life multiple times and sometimes only survives barely. And so actually he doesn't come out smelling of roses but rather sweat, blood and gunpowder. I was mesmerised by this story and couldn't read quick enough to see everything unfold. As with the first book there's so many different people after Victor and he himself is hunting down multiple targets that it could be easy to get lost in the many different strands that we have to follow but the plot never becomes confusing at all and is just one hell of an exciting and addictive read.

I simply cannot wait to continue with this series because Victor is just fantastic. Tom Wood was born to write and is quite simply a master storyteller. People sometimes look at the thriller genre in quite a snobbish way but honestly you'd be hard pressed to find authors writing to this high a standard and Tom makes these books so much more than just another bog standard and forgettable thriller. They are fantastic reads and I can not recommend them enough.

Luca says

Victor is back...

Tom Wood burst onto the scene last year with his debut novel 'The Hunter'. Introducing a new anti-hero in Victor, an assassin for hire, 'The Hunter' was a lesson in action thriller writing. Following such an excellent debut is no easy task.

After the explosive first chapter however, any worries about Wood living up to the high standard he set last year disappear. From the first page, it's clear you're in safe hands. Wood has an innate sense of how to tell an intricate story, with the plot strands weaving together to create an expansive story set in a number of different countries.

Now, for a little confession...I generally dislike books in this genre. But, in the same vein of my enjoying Matt Hilton's series of Joe Hunter books, Tom Wood has created an incredible way of telling this kind of story, which allows a reader to suspend their disbelief throughout. You'll go with Victor on his journey, wherever it takes you, purely due to the fact Wood is a quite mesmerising writer. His prose is sparse yet absorbing, with an excellent knack for description and detail which never intrudes on the story.

More aspects of Victor's personality are revealed in 'The Enemy', his intelligence coming to the fore in this tale. Always one step ahead of his enemy, there's a reason why he's stayed alive for so long. On the surface,

he's an evil man. Killing without emotion or reason. Yet, you can't help but root for him as he becomes the target, which is a real skill with this type of character.

A fast paced, thrill ride of a novel, 'The Enemy' firmly puts Tom Wood at the top echelons of his genre. Great characterisation, complex yet eminently readable, and so suspenseful, it will keep you up all night turning the next page until the end. This was a joy to read, and I can't wait for the next instalment.

Tom Tischler says

This is Tom Wood's second book and it is another first class thriller. This time Victor is blackmailed into becoming a hit man for the CIA and right away he gets all kind of assignments to kill people who are almost impossible to get to. Victor also knows that if he doesn't complete these hit's the next one will be against him. These two books are very good and I myself can't wait for the next one. It's called The Game and will be out in November.

Sean Peters says

A truly mesmerizing . . . a powerful, forward-driving plot and lots of brutality. I loved it, and I know why I consider this author one of my favourites.

To reveal more, particularly details of a hair-raising climax, would be to destroy the reader's enjoyment, but like the rest of this first-class piece of action work, it's ingenious and delivered with all the subtlety of a kick in the teeth.

Victor is just a great leading character, a rogue but a likable rogue and he matches all fiction characters around at the moment.

Tom Wood fills the books with great strong characters, great plot and sub plots, tension, huge shocks, great details, it is like being on a rollercoaster ride, the whole book that is so hard to put down that travels around the globe with details of so many different countries.

I can only say to you, read this book, read ALL his books.

Frances says

5*+ Brilliant! Over the years Victor the assassin has been hired by many groups around the world to take care of those on their hit list. He does this with a great deal of planning and acquiring all the right weapons to do the job with proficiency and expertise. Victor is at the top of his game. However, the CIA has snagged him, and if he wants to remain a free independent they have demanded in no uncertain terms for him to assassinate three major top gun runners. There is plenty of fast action, fast paced, and never a dull moment from the first page to the last. 'The Enemy' is an exceptional spy thriller novel and one of the finest

espionage books out there. Highly recommended!

Merib says

This was the second book in the series about an assassin for hire named Victor, but I didn't read the first one and this book is perfectly enjoyable on its own.

All the pieces are there for a first rate thriller - technology, characters, motivations, settings, trade craft, action, and a strong plot all in place to keep the pages turning. Many thrillers have an over ambitious plot that falls apart due to credibility strains or too many loose ends. This thriller's plot is audacious and twisty enough to keep you interested and guessing but the strands are all precisely woven so that it is credible and without any loose ends.

One really great thing about this book is that the opposition Victor faces is varied, resourceful, and deadly. I really enjoy cat and mouse action sequences where the protagonist is put up against tough odds and a skilled opponent and the protagonist comes out on top not because of luck or capitalizing on his opponent's mistakes - but just simply being that much smarter and resourceful than the other guys. There were several times Victor gets put in a real jam and I would think to myself "oh how is he going to get out of this one" and what follows is truly surprising, but still seemingly authentic.

Great read. Will definately be on the lookout for more books from this author.

Mike (the Paladin) says

This book comes/came very close to getting a 5 star rating. I'll tell you why I dropped a star in a few lines.

So...second book about Victor the Assassin. He's now, but wait if you haven't read the first book that might be a spoiler so, hummmm.....let's see.... He's operating a little differently than he was in the first novel.

Anyway, he's still an interesting character who's written well and draws the reader "right into his story". I suspect that even if you picked this up without ever having read the first book you'd still like it, get involved and want to follow the story. Without giving a spoiler I'd say that I can recommend this and if you like thrillers you'll probably like this.

Now...specifics. The book opens with reference to the first book and we're off to the races. The plot grows naturally from our earlier information even if we do need to "buy into" the world view and our "protagonist's" existence. I was drawn in completely and having liked the first book I found this one just as absorbing.

So, why did i drop a star?

The book is drawn out into several story lines that intertwine. This isn't truly a problem as the intertwining is handled very well.

However...there is a point where the book bogs down just a little. With things happening around the world

and the details being complementary things just slowed way down. It didn't ruin the book. It didn't cause me to lose interest as has happened in some books. BUT it did for a short time screw up the pacing of the entire novel. It didn't last, it didn't really hurt the book. But it was a slightly false note and I finally decided I had to drop the book to 4 (possibly 4.5) stars.

That said (and aside from the fact that I'm always astounded that I like and am interested in a book about an assassin). I can and do recommend this one. Good book, enjoy.

Brenda says

Victor was a freelance assassin, but after a recent injury, he was recruited into the CIA, where his handler would control his 'kills' from now on! His new boss, Proctor, issued his orders (and his payments) over the internet, a secure account where no-one else would be able to infiltrate. Proctor and Victor would never meet, but that's the way it was to be, and the way Victor wanted it to be. His anonymity was his security!

But with the issuing of a hit list of three targets, the confusion and danger becomes a massive international conspiracy, which threatens to go out of control with terrible consequences. With drugs, weapons, and so much more involved, the 'simple assignment' is definitely not that. And when betrayal at the highest level becomes evident, Victor needs to go into hiding...but where can he hide, and who can he trust?

Victor is a likeable assassin (should we like an assassin?), who seems to have a conscience! I very much enjoyed this book, Tom Wood's second thriller, the first being *The Hunter* (which I haven't read).

A definite recommendation from me!
