



Blood Money: A Lucky Dey Thriller

Doug Richardson

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The disillusioned Marine's plan seems simple enough: steal a refrigerated tractor trailer loaded with frozen blood product; drive the pirated cargo from Reno, Nevada to the Port of Long Beach; collect a million dollars. Yet even the most deliberate plans can go sideways. On his campaign south, the Marine's "inner idiot" takes charge, leaving a smattering of dead bodies in his wake.

In the dark before dawn, a telephone rings. Kern County Sheriff's detective Lucas "Lucky" Dey, no stranger to being awakened with bad news, answers the call. But this time, the voice on the phone tells Lucky that his ill-fated younger brother has been gunned down on a blackened desolate highway.

As Lucky chases the former Marine and his black semi-rig into the bowels of Los Angeles, he's thrust into a landscape of competing agendas. Conrad Ellis, the multi-millionaire entertainment mogul, demands justice for the murder of his starlet daughter. Ambitious federal attorney Lilly Zoller is determined to turn any opportunity into her personal spotlight. Rey Palomino, the morally challenged contractor, colludes with the former Marine hoping to crawl out from under a crushing debt. LAPD detective and dedicated single mom Lydia "Gonzo" Gonzales, reluctantly accepts her assignment to "babysit" the unrestrained Kern County detective hell-bent on avenging his brother's death at any cost.

A knee-breaking private detective, some unwitting feds, and a coterie of gang-busting L.A. Sheriff's deputies further complicate the scenario and round out the cast of characters in this explosive and unpredictable thrill ride.

Blood Money: A Lucky Dey Thriller Details

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From Reader Review Blood Money: A Lucky Dey Thriller for online ebook

Michael says

No one was very lucky.

I was able to sympathize with Lucky Dey. But the level of blood, guts, and gore was far beyond necessary, not to mention unlikely coincidences. Did the villain die? I wasn't sure at the end. He floated away...

Will I purchase the next one? I will see how my my stomach reacts to having read more vulgar language in fewer pages than I can ever remember reading before.

Gregory Lamb says

Aptly titled, "Blood Money" is an action packed plot driven thriller that is believable and well written. It takes the reader no more than the first page to become hooked since Richardson crafts an opening passage that is ripe with drama and dilemma.

The characters are well developed but there isn't a likable one in the bunch, save for LAPD Officer Lydia Gonzalez. The dark cast of players include the antagonist, Greg Beam who is the veteran guaranteed to make you hate him, along with the would be protagonist, a bigoted Kern County Sheriff's Deputy named Lucky Dey. The others, from Deputy U.S. Attorney General Lilly Zoller to the pool guy, Rey Palomino, they are all shady and self serving.

Greg Beam AKA "Beemer" is an Iraq war veteran with bigger problems then the PTSD that he returned home with. He's also greedy, looking for the fast buck. When he steals a warehouse full of blood plasma to transport via eighteen wheeler to Long Beach where Rey Baby set up a black market ship and sell deal, Beemer's perfect plan is set in motion. Only Beemer was short on having an effective list of Plan Bs to fall back on and tends toward cold blooded summary executions to remove obstacles from his path.

I sped through this fast paced cop thriller hoping to discover at least one redeeming character, but there were none. In my recollection, this is the first novel I've read where I couldn't stand the characters. I was so buried in the action of the story that I didn't realize until deep into it just how much I didn't like any of them.

Rita says

I really enjoyed this book. I loved the main characters and how their relationship changed throughout the book. It was full of excitement and killing. The killer was unique and surely keeps your attention with surprises. I was entertained and was glad to have read this book. I am going to start following this author too.

Sandie says

Greg Beem has a foolproof plan to strike it rich. He has stolen a tractor-trailer load worth of frozen blood supplies, which he can sell overseas for a cool million. All he has to do is get from the robbery site to the Los Angeles port where he can offload. It seems like an easy gig, but Murphy's Law reigns supreme.

In the desert, Beem comes on a deputy investigating an accident. Not wanting witnesses, he kills both the deputy and the accident victims. Little does he know the trouble he has just unleashed. Now forces are trained on him and there are suddenly lots of people who want to stop him before he can make delivery.

Lucky Dey is the Kern County deputy whose brother Beem has just killed. He tracks him to LA, determined to get justice. Lydia Gonzalez is a six-foot LAPD officer, a single mom assigned to babysit Dey. Rey Palamino is the contact in LA who is supposed to arrange the shipment overseas, but decides instead to turn in Beem to the FBI when things get hairy. There is Lilly Zoller, a federal prosecutor who sees a chance at making a name for herself. There is Conrad Ellis, the father of the accident victim, who turns out is famous herself, and famous for being Conrad's daughter, as he is a billionaire in the film industry.

Everyone converges in Los Angeles in a climax of stunning violence and terror. Some are lucky, some are not. Who wins and who loses is a matter of who wants it most and who has planned the best.

Doug Richardson has written a compelling, gritty novel that grabs the reader by the throat and doesn't let go until the heart stopping end. Richardson is known as a screenplay writer on films such as Money Train and Die Hard 2, Die Harder. Readers who were fascinated by the action in these films will also love Blood Money and its fast-paced action. This book is recommended for readers in the thriller/suspense genre.

Bob Milne says

Doug Richardson was introduced to me as not just an author, but a well-known screenwriter. With film credits that include Die Hard 2: Die Harder, Bad Boys, and Hostage, I was definitely curious to give his latest novel a read.

Blood Money is a book that starts out with a bang. Greg Beem gets flagged down by a nervous cop at the scene of an early morning accident - one that, it turns out, the cop himself caused. The problem is, Beemer is driving a stolen truck, and really can't afford to be conscripted into a rescue operation. So, he nonchalantly shoots the cop dead, stares into the eyes of the woman trapped in the wreckage, and then tosses a flare into the pool of gasoline. Problem solved, witnesses eliminated . . . except, that dead cop's brother is the kind of cop who isn't about to sit around while others track down leads, and the young woman's father is a man with both the money and the power to enact his revenge.

Yeah, it's gonna be that kind of ride.

The story races along at a great pace, driven by intersecting plot lines that keep ratcheting up the white-knuckle tension. The dialogue is crisp and efficient, entirely suitable to a genre that's more about action than words. When characters speak, you really get inside their heads, where they jostle you this way and that, trying to wrest control of your loyalties. There are some great one-liners, but this isn't a cheesy read, full of throw-away lines - when the dialogue is memorable, it's because it sets the scene and captures the characters.

As for the characters, none of them are particularly likeable, but you can understand their motivations, and even sympathize with their primal (albeit selfish) needs. Richardson develops them just enough to flesh them

out, to establish them as individuals, and not just as players filling a role. I kept waiting for that inevitable maudlin moment, the one that excuses all the violence and shifts the blame to something in the past, but the story never falls into that trap. Richardson remains true to his characters, just as he remains committed to the story he began to tell in the first explosive chapter.

Not exactly a feel-good, heroic read, but one that's fun, compelling, and entirely readable. Definitely worth checking out.

Originally reviewed at Beauty in Ruins

Kary says

So much destruction and killing wondered when it would end and who would survive. Would read next installment in Cote cry answers

Michael Van says

Recommended read!

Thoroughly enjoyed reading this no- nonsense book. Left with the feeling that the two main characters can definitely be developed further for more great reading.

David Huelsmann says

Lots of action. Kind of unrealistic. Seems like more people killed than in Iraq happen in this book. Most characters are not someone you could love though. Stay away from the LA freeways (which has always been my motto!).

Georgiann Hennelly says

This is the first book i have read by this author. Blood Money is a real thrill ride... The plan was simple steal a refrigerated semi truck fill it with frozen blood products than transfer them to a shipping yard and ship them to an over seas buyer for a lot of money. Than start a new life. Unfortunately for Beemer things don't go as he had planned. And he embarks on a crazy ride leaving murder and mayhem in his wake. When he kills a cop who happens to be Sheriff Det Lucky Deys little brother. Things go from bad to worse. A cross country chase begins. The FBI gets involved seems everyone is after Beemer. Only question is who will get him first? A very intense action packed thriller. I love books like this If you enjoy books with plenty of murder and some gore then i highly recommend you should read this book .I look forward to reading Doug Richardsons other books.

Shalini Ayre says

Steal some blood plasma from Reno, drive to LA, get it shipped overseas, collect a million dollars and then head off to Ireland for a friends wedding. A simple enough plan for ex-marine Greg Beemer - or so he thinks.

Lucky Dey, Kern County detective gets a phone call waking him from a migraine filled sleep with news that his younger, not so lucky, brother has died. The only clue that they can go on is a black on black refrigerator trailer.

Conrad Ellis, a multi-millionaire entertainment tycoon, mourns the sudden loss of his daughter Pepper Ellis, an up and coming teenage starlet, but wants justice. In fact he demands it. Will the ambitious federal attorney Lilly Zoller be the one to help him?

Rey Palamino, pool guy, is doing a favor because the ex-marine asking knew his sorely missed dead son Danny.

LAPD Detective Lydia Gonzales aka Gonzo, is told to babysit the Kern detective. She's disgruntled not only because she's missing out on flying lessons but she quickly realizes that the short haired, tough cop is 'hell bent' on revenge.

Six people lives become entangled in an escapade of guns, bombs and miss-information. In his quest to deliver the goods, the ex-marine leaves behind a trail of destruction. Will the various government departments apprehend the elusive Beemer? Or will Lucky live up to his name, catch the felon and finally lay his brother to rest?

A story of 'best laid plans', Richardson's novel is a roller-coaster of thrills as each decision made from the different parties effects the outcome. The story is dramatic from the very beginning and keeps you on the edge throughout the entire venture. Each of Beemer's actions and reactions are gutsy yet methodical and almost well thought out. With Rey's sudden jolt of conscious turning the whole journey upside down - can Beemer reach his destination with his precious cargo in tact?

A brilliant, bold adventure is had on the hot streets of LA. With ironic morality, the plot weaves a complex picture of these people's nuances, battles and inner demons (to a lesser extent). Even though there is no real hero, I found myself rooting for Beemer to make it. And along with no hero, the characters met are not particularly likable but have been written with great depth and vibrancy. The style of writing is conversational, easy and with an edge. The author has created an enthralling and unpredictable story that kept me captivated to the very end. A highly recommended read.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Doug Richardson is the author of three previous novels including True Believers and Dark Horse. He is a well known and respected screenwriter and credits include Die Hard 2 : Die Harder and Money Train. He writes a popular weekly blog and lives in Southern California with his wife, two children and four mutts. [Learn more about Doug](#)

I received a complimentary copy of this book to review. The opinions expressed are my own and I am not required to give a positive critique.

Marina says

Review originally posted here: <http://chicklibrarycat.blogspot.com/2....>

Beemer had a simple plan: steal a truck with frozen blood products, then drive it all over to long beach and collect the money for it. But, it doesn't always turn out like you've planned. Stopped by a local police officer, Beemer starts shooting. Teenage music star with her boyfriend is on the wrong place in the wrong time. Three people got killed.

Lucky Dey works as a police detective in Kern. He receives the worst phone call of his life, finding out that his younger brother got killed. The only clue that he has is a big black refrigerator trailer. He has to find his brother's murderer.

Lydia Gonzales, also called "Gonzo" is LAPD detective. She has to babysit Lucky Dey. What she does is joining him in order to catch the bad guy.

Conrad Ellis is a millionaire whose daughter just got famous. He made her a teenage music star. He paid for her album. Pepper Ellis has just became a teenage starlet. And she was killed, together with her boyfriend. And her father wants justice. He wants revenge. And he is willing to pay a lot of money for that.

Four lives, four stories, one chase.

If you are in for full speed adrenaline stories, than this is a story for you. It's a real page-turner. One moment you are in Gonzo's home with her son, next you are in a law office, next you are chasing a truck on the highway. I really liked that the story has been told from different perspectives. From one side there is Beemer, who wants the money for the truck and nothing stops him to get them and hasn't even realized what he has done. On the other side there is a cop who has just lost his brother, a father who has just lost his daughter, and a cop who has to do her job. There aren't just four characters, there are many more. I really liked Gonzo as a character. Not just because that she was a woman. I liked her character, her straight to be the only woman among cops in her department, to be a single mum. I could see the most of her private life, not just her at work. Also, the chasing on the road is very vividly described. I could imagine myself right there on the passenger seat.

Overall, it's a story full of adrenaline, turbulences, heating points. Definitely worth for recommendation.

Blair H. Prigg says

Disappointed

I almost stopped reading this book. It was not my kind of book. There was too much foul language. The ending was also to abrupt.

J.T. says

Another awesome ride from Richardson.

Sheri says

Blood Money (Doug Richardson)

A former Marine's steals a tractor trailer loaded with frozen blood. His agenda is to drive to Reno, Nevada and collect a million dollars. Kern County Sheriff's detective Lucas "Lucky" Dey, takes a call telling Lucky that his younger brother has been gunned down. And Lucky wants to find his brothers killer at any cost.

Lucky chases the former Marine to Los Angeles. Meanwhile Conrad Ellis, a millionaire entertainment mogul, demands justice for the murder of his daughter. Enter Lilly Zoller she is determined jump on this case. LAPD detective Lydia "Gonzo" Gonzales, reluctantly accepts her assignment to "babysit" Lucky, and she is soon finds out she is in for the ride of her life.

Action packed fast paced thriller which kept me up late into the night. Action/Thriller/Suspense lovers will enjoy Blood Money. I look forward to more work from Doug Richardson.

Dan says

All he wanted to do was steal a refrigerator trailer with frozen blood, deliver it and come out a million dollars richer. But instead, Beemer is nervous and kills three people at an accident scene and ends up being chased by the bother of one of his victims.

This novel starts out running and the thrills do not stop. Richardson has written a faced-paced thriller filled with colorful characters that have no redeeming qualities. It was a fun read and keep me engaged, but didn't leave a lasting impression.
