



Tiger by the Tail

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NEW YORK TIMES BEST SELLING MILITARY ADVENTURE SERIES. A new addition to the Kildar military adventure series by John Ringo and Ryan Sear. Sequel to *Ghost*, *Kildar*, *Choosers of the Slain*, *Unto the Breach*, and *A Deeper Blue*.

After saving America from Middle Eastern terrorists, even Mike Harmon and the Keldara could use a vacation. Of course, the Kildar's idea of a vacation includes taking down pirates in the Singapore Straits. But when he finds computer chips designed to run nuclear reactors in the pirate booty, Harmon has a new mission thrust upon him—discover how bottom feeding thieves got their hands on top-secret technology.

The chips are headed for newly democratic Myanmar, a country vital to American interests in the region. Now Harmon finds himself in a desperate race to learn who stole the chips and why. From glittering Hong Kong to the slums of Thailand to the swamps of Myanmar, Harmon and his Keldara team follow a trail of death and deceit across the glittering underbelly of Southeast Asia.

And as the path winds through dark jungle and slave labor camps to the heart of newborn democracy, Harmon must devise a way to prevent the nasty overthrow of a nation's capital by totalitarian tyrants. But if there's one thing Mike and the Keldara specialize in, it's doing what it takes to give freedom a chance.

Tiger by the Tail Details

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From Reader Review Tiger by the Tail for online ebook

Stephanie says

I did enjoy this book, but could definitely tell J. Ringo had only a small part in the writing. It was as if Ringo had done the outline, started writing the book, then handed it over for Ryan Sear's to finish it. The book was missing the human element. There was none of the personal interactions, no character depth, nothing at all along those lines. So while I can not complain about the level of the writing, if the next book in this series is as lackluster, then I am through with it.

Dan says

7/5/17 3rd reread.

Anthony Sawyers says

Another good one

Another good one from Ringo. This series always leaves me hanging and wanting more.

This one takes place in Asia.

David Beck says

Mike and the Keldara are in southeast Asia kicking pirate ass and stumble on a cache of nuclear reactor control boards. They are then off on a mad dash through Hong Kong and Myanmar dealing with rogue Chinese generals and a military coup.

E Black says

This was a poor book for fans of this series, a number of reasons: Kildar, the main protagonist behaves in a manner, inexplicably at odds with previous books, the main quest object - is a bunch of computer chips that can turn an ordinary nuclear reactor into a breeder reactor - this is just not possible - it is like a car computer chip that turns a Toyota into a Ferrari - unbelievable. There are a number of cardboard characters and other bits of poorer writing than normal for Ringo.

It may be that Ringo had Sear write most of the book, but did Sear read and take onboard the previous books in the series?

Note: I normally really like books by this author and have read and enjoyed over 90% of what he has written.

Justin says

After five years, John Ringo finally comes out with the next installment of his Paladin of the Shadows series. Only this time, the setting is not in Europe and Ringo is not the only author. Not sure why there are multiple authors; perhaps because other writers liked it and want to collaborate. Perhaps the publishers "assigned" writers to him for various reasons.

My biggest question: "Why Asia?" In case the author(s) haven't noticed, blond and red hair, blue eyes, muscular men with American style commando training cannot blend in here. Or maybe, the authors did noticed and ignored it just so they can have different types of missions than infiltration and reconnaissance followed by direct action as they did so well in the previous books. With the exceptions of the first book, the Keldara had home court advantage. In this book, they don't but somehow still prevail because they're insane. I wonder what will happen in book 7? Will they go back to Europe and the Caucasus Mountains? Will they go on another Asian romp? When Ringo wrote the first five books, the POTUS alluded to is Bush (whatever you think of it, he was the right president in favor of proactive counter terrorism.) The current president in book six does not sound like Obama; perhaps in an alternate universe? The man sounds more like a John McCain... or Bush won an unprecedented (and unconstitutional) third term.

Lastly, I hated the character Soon Yi. First, that name sounds more Korean than Chinese. Second, her role sucked. She ended tortured and mutilated by the end by the enemy. Death would have been kinder. I noticed the body count by the good guys was low, possibly too low. Meanwhile, Katya becomes a bit more likeable and way more useful.

Jeff Means says

Sex, war (battles), and of course some really descriptive text almost to the point of having a video screen instead of a bunch of words printed on a page (in my case, text glowing on my Android smartphone.) John Ringo really is a great author who has mastered the art of writing about bloody battles and the tactics involved. I'm not really sure how he can get a difficult scene described so eloquently, yet Mr. Ringo continues to write on and in such a way as to have me feeling as if I am living as one of his characters in this and his other works of art. I can not recommend John Ringo strongly enough, his work is in my mind right up there with modern authors like David Drake, Eric Flint, and while standing on the shoulders of earlier authors such as Isaac Asimov, and such his prose reminds me of Kipling and Shakespeare. So hell yes read this book and any others you can get your hands on by John Ringo, I really doubt that you will find this out any other to be a boring read.

Greg says

Up until now I have been a fan of the "Ghost" series, but this one was a disappointment. Flat characters with no new development, gaping plot holes and even the sex was boring, I think John phoned it in and the new guy did all the writing.

Finnean Projects says

Working on it.

Here's the thing: I made it ten pages in and set it down because the editing is absolutely horrible. Three egregious typos like: "he might be almost be as sneaky as me someday."

It makes me imagine John (I call him John) walking into Baen (previously one of the greatest science fiction enterprises around) and seeing his editor Stephen (let's call him Stephen) and waving him over.

"Stephen, I just got the hardback copy of Tiger by the Tail"

"Yeah? What did you think?"

And John opens his hands like he's going to hug his editor, but as the guy comes close he kicks him in the right knee - which goes backwards - and the dude starts to fall but John (I call him John) grabs him by the throat and screams: "I could eat you alive!" and then lets go and the editor starts to fall, but Ringo uses the drop to come over him and sock him in the back of the head. As the editor crumples fully to the floor, John (Ringo) waves to an intern.

"This man needs medical attention." And then he shouts: "And learn how to spot a f*cking typo!" at the nearly lifeless body on the ground. And then he turns and leaves - calm, cold, John [flipping] Ringo. The creator of the Ghost.

I'll try and keep going, we'll see if Ryan Sear can compare to the Man...

Ed says

I really, really wanted to like this book....however. Not Ringo's best. He has done this with other series - he starts out with a great story, kick-a\$\$ action and then teams up with someone to continue the story. When this happens I end up stopping the series.

Not that the book was bad but it really felt like it did not fit in with the rest of the series. Harmon's character is subtly different in this story. Still pretty damn ruthless but definitely different than the previous installments. A number of other commentators on this site as well as the Baen site have mentioned this.

All in all good but not up to the standard as the others in the series.

Christopher Taylor says

The story was not as well written as its predecessors. A little disappointing, This one seemed rushed.

Kevin Beck says

The Keldara are training in Southeast Asia by kicking pirate butt and discover a plot to smuggle nuclear control devices to Myanmar. As usual the Kildar and Keldara kick bad guy butt.

Ian says

A few spoilers.

Just finished the ARC of this new novel in the "Ghost" series. The usual story, Mike and his Georgian cohorts take out batches of bad guys with a combination of hardcore weaponry and spiritual superiority. Along the way non-stop action with a mix of (the usual) dead bodies, hookers, and money. This time the adventure is in the far east, Honkers, Thailand, Sing, and Myanmar.

A few surprises. This novel has George as president, even though it is set in 2012. Evidently, the pain of a Democrat in the WH is too much? Also, this time Ghost seems to be able to say a few nice things about democracy, in that he praises democratic reforms in Myanmar, and even, so it seemed to me, acknowledged the predilection the military have for the blind following of orders and the supporting of fascist governments.

Overall, did not work as well for me as the previous in the series. Maybe it is the ARC nature of this version, or possibly, the co-authoring, however, it was still the expected adrenalin pumping read.

Jim says

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"[Ringo's SF is] peopled with three-dimensional characters and spiced with personal drama as well as tactical finesse." —*Library Journal*

". . . explosive. . . Fans of strong military SF will appreciate Ringo's lively narrative and flavorful characters." —*Publishers Weekly*

“The interstellar skullduggery is thick, and the final action sequence . . . is practically impossible not to read in one sitting . . . exceedingly impressive . . . executed with skill, verve, and wit.” —*Booklist*

“Ringo provides a textbook example of how a novel in the military SF subgenre *should* be written. . . . Crackerjack storytelling.” —*Starlog*

About the Author

John Ringo began writing for Baen in 2000 with his first release *A Hymn Before Battle*—the first novel in his Posleen Wars—which has become a *New York Times* best-selling series with **over one million copies in print**. The series continued with *Gust Front*, *When the Devil Dances*, *Hell's Faire* and *Eye of the Storm*. In addition, Ringo has penned the Council War series: *There Will be Dragons*, *Emerald Sea*, *Against the Tide*, and *East of the Sun, West of the Moon*. *Adding another dimension to his skills, Ringo created nationally best-selling techno-thriller novels about Mike Harmon* (*Ghost*, *Kildar*, *Choosers of the Slain*, *Unto the Breach*, and *A Deeper Blue*). *His latest techno-thriller, The Last Centurion, was also a national best seller. A more playful twist on the future is found in novels of the Looking-Glass series: Into the Looking Glass, Vorpall Blade, Manxome Foe and Claws That Catch, the last three in collaboration with Travis S. Taylor. His audience was further enhanced with four collaborations with fellow New York Times best-selling author David Weber: March Upcountry, March to the Sea, March to the Stars and We Few. There are an additional five collaborative spinoffs from the Posleen series: The Hero, written with Michael Z. Williamson, Watch on the Rhine, Yellow Eyes and The Tuloriad, all written with Tom Kratman, and the New York Times best seller Cally's War and its sequels Sister Time and Honor of the Clan, both with Julie Cochrane. A veteran of the 82nd Airborne, he brings first-hand knowledge of military operations to his fiction.*

Andreas says

Mike Harmon and his band of Georgian (the country not the state) mountain soldiers are back. This time they are on a training mission in Southeast Asia. One thing leads to another, with the action moving from Indonesia, to Hong Kong, to Phuket and finally to Myanmar.

In this sixth book, Ringo is cooperating with Ryan Sear. While the action is pretty good, compared to the previous books, especially I-IV, it feels a bit color by numbers, a bit like a Bond movie. The sex scenes, while still explicit and edgy, seem more written for shock effect than with reference to actual S&M practices. And apart from one quite brief action scene, there is far too little doubt about the outcome. The Keldara have become supermen, and this is a bit dull.

The perhaps unfortunate thing about a novel with a large chunk set in Hong Kong is that I could pick it apart for accuracy. I understand artistic license and I understand that there will be inaccuracies but in this book it was a bit much. For example a Hong Kong scene is set in Shekou docks, but this is over the border in Mainland China. A simple check on Google Maps would have established that. It detracts from the enjoyment of the novel when the research is so sloppy.

<http://www.books.rosboch.net/?p=1608>
