



The Diaries

Chuck Driskell

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He thought it was a routine surveillance job.

They thought he was an ordinary citizen.

Neither could have been more wrong.

Propelled by the discovery of a set of mind-bending diaries penned by Adolf Hitler's unwilling lover, a deadly pursuit ensues across Europe. Chased is Gage Hartline, a former special operations soldier. Stalking him are the French mob, a rogue DGSE agent, and his former employer, the United States Army. But when the one he loves is ripped from him, Gage turns the tables and becomes the hunter.

The first book in the Gage Hartline series, The Diaries is a modern example of the classic European espionage thriller.

The Diaries Details

Date : Published November 18th 2013 by Autobahn Books (first published February 24th 2012)

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Author : Chuck Driskell

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Genre : Thriller, Mystery, Historical, Historical Fiction

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From Reader Review The Diaries for online ebook

Wendy says

Riveting story.

Gage is a good man who was caught up in something that went bad. I couldn't put this book down until I finished it. I'm looking forward to reading more about his travels.

Mike de Bellefeuille says

Great Read

So riveting I read the whole book in one evening without putting it down except to hit the head. Awesome

Bodo Pfündl says

Chuck Driskell delivers a great, very suspenseful read with "The Diaries"!

I really liked the complex main character, who is a very troubled, yet good-hearted guy, one really can identify with.

But the other characters are also very interesting. Some are lovable, others are just depicable.

The tension builds slowly but constantly and there is no room for boredom during the whole read.

Highly recommendet for everyone who enjoys spy-thrillers!

I will start the next one right away!

Lorin Cary says

The subtitle (...Espionage thriller) says it all. but this is less espionage per se than thriller. and event that with a nice twist. Gage is a retired special forces soldier doing odd jobs to make a living. On one he discovers a cache of diaries, which he realizes were written by a maid of Hitler's---a woman who has hidden her Jewish origins. Gage's new girlfriend hooks him up with a cousin who is a rare book dealer, and that's where things go horribly wrong. The dealer is in debt to the French mob and thugs come to collect. It gets complicated and Gage and Monica flee. Gage is suspected of several murders and must use all his ingenuity, and overcome guilt about innocents killed in an operation in Crete. He ultimately pursues French thugs and mobsters who have wronged him and in the end uses the diaries to ensure that the elderly daughter of the Jewish diarist is cared for properly. It's a good read, but if you're squeamish you won't like some parts. The writing is strong, the characters nicely built, and the pacing swift.

Skydanzer says**A thriller with an all captivating adrenaline rush!**

This author has got it! Able to capture my attention while wrapping my mind around the story within the first three pages, I could not put my kindle down until completion. I hated to see this story end. Now I will anxiously await to see where Gage Hartline is off to next. While being a brilliant, trained "tough as nails" Green Beret who has given his all to earn the respect of his peers it was nice to see that he was also a soldier with heart.

If you are expecting a spoiler it is not going to happen! Buy this novel NOW!!!! You won't regret your purchase and like me you will also become a faithful fan!

Shirley says

Excellent book! Loved the twists and turns. This should be a good Thriller set and can't wait to read the next book

Bill Barnes says**Kept me up.**

Great book. I do take exception to the fact that I got nothing done today, well yesterday now since it is 0130hrs and I have to be in Guadalajara early later in the morning. It is Chuck Driscoll's fault. I can not believe this is your first book. Thanks from another Vet.

Kathie says

The diaries seemed to take a back seat to Gage Hartline's wild ride through Germany and France and still I liked the read because Gage is a good guy. A little more grisly/killing detail than I needed, and Monika--what was she thinking??!!! She came off a little ditsy. I stayed interested in how Gage planned to extricate himself from the French mob and liked the characters who showed up to help and support him. Having not served in the military, but understanding there are plenty of clandestine and black ops secret missions, found some of this to be unrealistic. And then I always remind myself: It's fiction! It's a novel. Except for the orphanage gift, a satisfying way to wrap up the diaries and end the story.

Linda says**Excellent**

Would recommend to anyone who likes a hero with feelings, tough as nails but with a heart but not mushy

Alan Marston says

Now there is a name to conjure with – Gage Nils Hartline. Doesn't really trip off the tongue, but as he is generally referred to as simply “Gage”, it isn't too bad. Obviously not his real name, as a former soldier he is trying to escape his past. He takes on well-paid roles, but in one of these he discovers a hidden compartment in which he finds a series of diaries written by a young girl in the mid to late 1930's. The contents of these diaries would be explosive to say the least, and they attract the attention of people who will stop at nothing to try to obtain them. This despite Gage's attempts to keep the diaries a secret until more can be found out about them, but his girlfriend's brother, who is a book dealer in debt, and to whom they turn for help, allows information about them to become known by the criminals to whom he owes money. From that point control of the situation spirals downwards rapidly.

The information contained in the diaries is fascinating, and, if true, would have had tremendous consequences, but Gage manages in the end to come up with a very satisfying, and to my mind, appropriate way of dealing with them to the benefit of a number of people without revealing any of the secrets contained therein.

That only happens after a serious amount of toing and froing across Europe, quite an amount of violence, and a great deal of subterfuge.

I very much enjoyed this book, despite the idea of discovered diaries having become rather more commonplace in novels over the past few years. This one has sufficient difference in it to make me recommend it quite highly, and to look forward to the next novel in the series, by an author of whom I had not previously heard.

RockeyReed says

Great read and well written

The Diaries will take you on an exciting trip though Germany and France as Gage Hartline fights many enemies. The biggest fight comes from within from an event that was out of his control. Using brains and when necessary brawn he is able to accomplish his mission. The book keeps you moving and thinking from the start to the end. I am ready for the next edition and many more. A good man doing hard things to right wrongs, Gage has a lot to fix to make this world right.

Ed Fritz says

An Emotional Experience

This book is very well written and keeps you in suspense on almost every page. It is a real page Turner with a variety of emotions. The end in particular is a real tear jerker. I look forward to more books by Mr Driskell.

Richard says

What a fantastic surprise this book was. I am thoroughly impressed with this debut novel from Driskell. A page turner from start to finish, the only problem with the book was.... I didn't think of it first! Well written, well researched, strong characters, great back plot, etc. etc. if your a fan of the spy/CIA/spec ops genre, then give this author a bit of time and read this novel. I am sure that you will soon become a fan.. A solid five stars, I hope he makes this a series, great job Chuck!

Vikas Datta says

Quite interesting but a little too long..

Jessica says

Good read, but the ending lacked excitement.

First let me state I think every author deserves credit for their efforts and being that I've never written a book nor had anything I've ever written published I feel a bit like a cynic for writing a review. I did enjoy this book until I got to the end; where the revenge chapters start. At that point it seemed like the author ran out of ideas and just finished the book as fast as he could with no excitement or suspense. Wham, bam, thanks for reading... I'll check out the next book in this series as I did like the main character and hopefully the ending doesn't fall flat.
