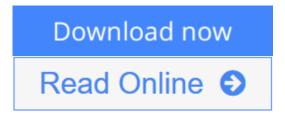


The Searcher: A Novel (Solomon Creed)

By Simon Toyne



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The author of the acclaimed Sanctus trilogy conjures an eerie epic of good and evil, retribution and redemption—the first novel in the mesmerizing Solomon Creed series in which a man with no memory of his past must save a lost soul in a small Arizona town.

On a hilltop in the town of Redemption, Arizona, the townspeople gather at an old cemetery for the first time in decades to bury a local man. The somber occasion is suddenly disrupted by a thunderous explosion in the distant desert. A plane has crashed, and it's pouring a pillar of black smoke into the air.

As Sheriff Garth Morgan speeds toward the crash, he nearly hits a tall, pale man running down the road, with no shoes on his feet and no memory of who he is or how he got there. The only clues to his identity are a label in his handmade suit jacket and a book that's been inscribed to him: both giving the name Solomon Creed. When Morgan tells Solomon that he is in Redemption, Arizona, Solomon begins to believe he's here for a reason—to save a man he has never met . . . the man who was buried that morning.

Miles away, three men scan the skies for an overdue plane carrying an important package. Spotting a black cloud in the distance, they suspect something has gone badly wrong, and that the man who has sent them will demand a heavy price if the package has been lost.

To uncover the secret of his identity, Solomon Creed must uncover Redemption's secrets too and learn the truth behind the death of the man he is there to save. But there are those who will do anything to stop him, men prepared to call on the darkest forces to prevent Solomon from seeing the light.





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The Searcher: A Novel (Solomon Creed) By Simon Toyne Bibliography

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Editorial Review

Review

"Top-shelf writers aren't made--they're born, and you can tell in two pages when you've found one. Simon Toyne has got the gift, and THE SEARCHER proves it-his imagery, his language, and the cool mystery surrounding Solomon Creed and where he's going. I think you'll love this one." (Greg Iles, author of *Natchez Burning* and *The Bone Tree*)

"Not a dull page to be found anywhere. A thriller gem. Simon Toyne is a first class talent, speeding in the fast lane to the top of the genre." (Steve Berry)

"In Simon Toyne's "The Searcher," Toyne begins a new series with a page-turning thriller... Thriller fans should enjoy this vibrant and exciting story." (The Missourian)

"Toyne has turned out a subtle yet compelling religion-flavored thriller that engenders a "one more page, one more chapter" urgency, much like his previous trilogy." (Library Journal (starred review))

"A combination of Lee Child-the Jack Reacher books-and Stephen King! How likely does that sound? But in fact the comparisons are apt... Vividly evoked action and electrically alive emotion. And a satisfying climax after breathstopping suspense. Look, just get started on this series. You'll be glad you did." (Sullivan County Democrat)

"Compelling, vivid and profound, I loved it. It stays with you long after you've finished the final page." (Peter James)

"Intrigue, mystery, atmosphere . . . it will draw you in and hold you there. Solomon Creed is a thriller with smarts and class." (Scott Mariani)

"Who is Solomon Creed? He's the hero of a fabulous new series of thrillers. Simple as that." (Mark Billingham)

"When you read Sanctus, you'll see just how frightening, ruthless and relentlessly entertaining an order of monks can be. Haunting in the best way." (Brad Meltzer)

"[Sanctus] might turn out to be the next great cliffhanger conspiracy thriller." (Fort Worth Star-Telegram)

"Hard to think of it as a debut, better to think of it as the beginning of a massive new adventure, and a solong to Dan Brown. . . ." (Daily Mirror (UK) on Sanctus)

"If you like your secrets deeply hidden and your action breakneck, then Toyne's sophomore thriller is just the ticket. . . . As in his debut, Toyne delivers a gripping, intricate story of religious and political intrigue that?s sweeping yet somehow intimate and very personal. Wow." (*Booklist* (starred review) on *The Key*)

"Toyne cranks up the drama with the second entry in a conspiracy thriller series. . . . Well-written, fast-paced and delivered with an admirable economy of words, this book offers an edge-of-the-seat story filled with action and adventure." (*Kirkus Reviews* on *The Key*)

"Toyne's descriptive skill makes for a story that is cinematically vivid. . . . The relentless pace makes the action addicting." (*Publishers Weekly* on *The Tower*)

"The Tower is the best of the three novels, no mean feat considering that the first two, Sanctus and The Key, were also exciting and thoughtful. . . . Do not fail to read this unique and extraordinarily inventive novel." (Examiner.com on *The Tower*)

"Fascinating, brilliantly conceived and executed, and filled with the kind of profound symbolism and thematic gravitas that separate Toyne's work from others of the genre. . . . Will keep you involved from beginning to end. . . . A fine piece of literature." (Examiner.com)

"How do you create suspense?... That's the defining strategy of THE SEARCHER, as Simon Toyne holds information tantalizingly out of reach over the course of his wild, mysterious novel... I read it in a two-day fever." (New York Times Book Review)

"Both marvelous and unsettling, full of myth and grounded in the real world, a bloody noir and a contemporary western, a mystery and a thriller... Solomon Creed is entirely original, even as he reminds you of everyone from Lee Child's Jack Reacher [to] Dan Brown's Robert Langdon." (Bookreporter.com)

"One of the best and most original thrillers of the year... A nail-biting, relentlessly suspenseful effort that grabs us on page one and never lets go... "The Searcher" lives up every bit to its terrific premise, a tale as wondrously conceived as it is brilliantly realized." (Providence Journal)

From the Back Cover

Top-shelf writers aren't made—they're born, and you can tell in two pages when you've found one. Simon Toyne has got the gift." GREG ILES

HOW DO YOU SAVE A MAN WHO'S ALREADY DEAD . . . ?

In Redemption, Arizona, people gather to bury a man who died in a tragic accident, but the occasion is disrupted by a thunderous plane crash.

Sheriff Garth Morgan speeds toward the accident, nearly hitting a man running down the road with no shoes and no memory. The only clue to his identity is his name: Solomon Creed. Solomon knows only that he's here to save a man he has never met . . . a man who was buried that very morning.

Miles away, three men scan the skies for a plane carrying an important package. They suspect something is wrong, and that the man who has sent them will demand a heavy price if the package has been lost.

To uncover his real identity, Solomon must expose the truth behind the death of the man he is there to save. But there are men who are prepared to call on the darkest forces to prevent Solomon from succeeding.

About the Author

Simon Toyne is the bestselling author of the Sanctus trilogy: *Sanctus*, *The Key*, and *The Tower*. A writer, director, and producer in British television for twenty years, he worked on several award-winning shows, one of which won a BAFTA. His books have been translated into twenty-seven languages and published in more than fifty countries. He lives with his wife and family in England and the south of France, where he is at work on his second Solomon Creed novel.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Jeremy Brown:

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Paul Herbert:

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