



I Am Pilgrim: A Thriller

By Terry Hayes

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“I Am Pilgrim is simply one of the best suspense novels I’ve read in a long time.” —David Baldacci, #1 New York Times bestselling author

“A big, breathless tale of nonstop suspense.” —Janet Maslin, *The New York Times*

“The pages fly by ferociously fast. Simply unputdownable.” —*Booklist*

A breakneck race against time...and an implacable enemy.

An anonymous young woman murdered in a run-down hotel, all identifying characteristics dissolved by acid.

A father publicly beheaded in the blistering heat of a Saudi Arabian public square.

A notorious Syrian biotech expert found eyeless in a Damascus junkyard.

Smoldering human remains on a remote mountainside in Afghanistan.

A flawless plot to commit an appalling crime against humanity.

One path links them all, and only one man can make the journey.

Pilgrim.

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I Am Pilgrim: A Thriller By Terry Hayes Bibliography

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- Binding: Paperback
- 624 pages

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

An Amazon Best Book of the Month, June 2014: Two men, both attempting to remain invisible to the world around them, are unknowingly at odds. "Pilgrim" is an American intelligence operative who, despite wanting to retire to a "normal" life, stumbles upon the biggest case of his career. His story starts with an unrelated murder in a seedy New York hotel room and quickly escalates to a matter of national security. The events unfold in slow motion, and we see the past and present from both Pilgrim's perspective and that of his unknown adversary, a man of single-minded devotion and incredible danger. In his debut novel, Hollywood screenwriter and producer Terry Hayes has concocted a riveting 600-page read that is part police procedural, part international spy thriller, and all ready for adaptation. --*Robin A. Rothman*

From [Booklist](#)

Starred Review It looks like the perfect murder: an unidentifiable victim—a young woman found in a low-rent Manhattan hotel, face down in a bathtub of acid, teeth removed, fingerprints and face gone, and a murder scene devoid of fingerprints, DNA, or any other identifiers. The homicide detective in charge, Ben Bradley, is a long time friend of Pilgrim, a retired CIA operative who has penned a textbook on criminal investigations that the murderer has apparently read. Pilgrim, retired and reclusive, is drawn into the case by Bradley and is quickly in the middle of an international manhunt moving through the United Kingdom, France, Saudi Arabia, and Afghanistan. This is more than just a murder mystery; there is also a biological threat against the U.S., which ties into the murder. The characters are skillfully brought to life in this action-packed worldwide adventure, and Pilgrim is a quick-witted and thoroughly fascinating protagonist. Growing up as the adopted son in a very wealthy family, he is a brilliant loner recruited by the Division, a top-secret black ops group that is eventually disbanded. His adversary here, another loner, nicknamed Saracen, grew up in Saudi Arabia, where his father was beheaded for criticizing the king; international politics makes for fascinating backstory. The novel is gruesome at times, but none of the violence is gratuitous, and unfortunately, it all feels quite real and believable. Don't be put off by the length of this book. The story is tightly plotted, and the pages fly by ferociously fast. Simply unputdownable. --*Stacy Alesi*

Review

"Hayes delivers muscular prose, sniper-round accurate dialogue and enough superb and original plotting to fill three volumes. He balances it all with the dexterity of the accomplished storyteller that he so obviously is. I Am Pilgrim is simply one of the best suspense novels I've read in a long time."
(David Baldacci #1 *New York Times* bestselling author)

"Mr. Hayes's globe-trotting book has more kicks, twists and winks than anything of its dusty genre has provided in a long time. You will be happily surprised to find a new thriller franchise with brains to match its brawn." (Janet Maslin *The New York Times*)

"THRILLER OF THE WEEK. Delivers thrills and spills...A full tilt mix of *Homeland*, *The Wire* and *The Bourne Ultimatum*." (*Mail on Sunday*)

"*I Am Pilgrim* is a 21st century thriller: a high concept plot, but with finely drawn protagonists. The plot twists and turns like a python in a sack. The style is visceral, gritty and cinematic...A satisfying and ambitious book, written with skill and verve." (Adam LeBor *The Times*, UK)

"I AM PILGRIM Is the Best Book of 2014" (*The Huffington Post*)

"The most exciting desert island read of the season...a big, breathless tale of nonstop suspense." (Janet Maslin *New York Times*)

"The pages fly by ferociously fast. Simply unputdownable." (Booklist)

"Massive in many senses, but none more so than its ability to exert a vice-like grip on the reader....Destined to be spy thriller of the year." (*Irish Independent*)

"Once you start this taut and muscular thriller, you won't be able to put it down." (*Library Journal, starred review*)

"[A] powerful and formidably researched globe-spanning thriller." (*Publisher's Weekly*)

"*I Am Pilgrim* is a twelve-course meal of a thriller.... A breathtaking accomplishment of a debut." (Gregg Hurwitz, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Tell No Lies*)

"The best book of 2014." (*Suspense Magazine*)

"Debut novelist Hayes brings well-refined storytelling chops to...[good] entertainment for readers with a penchant for mayhem, piles of bodies and a lethal biochemical agent or two." (*Kirkus Reviews*)

"The strongest [thriller] in years . . . a taut, global trek . . . a long and perfect pilgrimage. (Grade: A)" (*Cleveland Plain Dealer*)

"I am Pilgrim is a great, gripping thrill ride of a novel (that still feels grounded in reality). If you're looking for an action thriller/spy story for the beach, Pilgrim is a winner." (*The Hollywood Reporter*)

"Rendition yourself into a pulsating thriller that never lets up as it carries the hero and the reader on an ever more desperate race between time and an all too plausible disaster for the world we live in. Great nail-biting stuff!" (Robert Goddard)

"[I Am Pilgrim] is like a Jack Higgins novel by way of John Le Carré with more than a dash of Charles Dickens." (*BOLO Books*)

"Gripping from the get-go. . . A thriller of a spy novel." (*The Washington Missourian*)

"Exhilarating...Hayes masterfully guides readers through an incredibly elaborate, drum-tight plot." (*Newsday*)

"A debut thriller reminiscent of John le Carre." (*Wichita Eagle*)

"*I Am Pilgrim* is an all too realistic tale of the dangers the next generation of terrorists catastrophically impose. The well-developed characters and the non-stop action combine to produce a page-turning unpredictable plot." (*BlackFive.net*)

"The storytelling and a truly intriguing protagonist make "I Am Pilgrim" a contender for best-of-the-year lists." (*Associated Press*)

"I AM PILGRIM is greater than the hype. It's the kind of book that rocked me to my core and left me breathless. It took me over a month to finally come up with a review but even after a month's thought, nothing I say will be good enough. This book is that good...I'm counting on it becoming a huge hit this summer." (*The Pretty Good Gatsby*)

"I AM PILGRIM has all the elements of a blockbuster thriller." (*Denver Post*)

"Whatever you're doing right now, stand up and turn around. Take a good look at the edge of your seat. That's where you'll be clinging when you read I Am Pilgrim." (*Naples Daily News*)

"I Am Pilgrim features great character development and an expansive, ambitious storyline as it sets the standard for the post-9/11 spy thriller." (*S. Krishna Books*)

"Simply amazing...I Am Pilgrim is a fantastic read and needs to be on everyone's summer must-read list." (*That's What She Read*)

"[Terry Hayes is a] masterful novelist wizard." (*bibliophilesreverie.com*)

"High-octane." (*Parade*)

"Tom Clancy meets Robin Cook in a thriller that should find a place in many beach bags this summer." (*Kirkus*)

"Hayes is a master storyteller, and I Am Pilgrim is an amazing accomplishment...the perfect summer read...it's actually greater than the hype...can't recommend it any more highly." (*Bookalicious Mama*)

"Pilgrim turns out to be the most fascinating thriller hero I've encountered since Trevanian's legendary Nicolai Hel... Bracing, blisteringly original, and hopefully not the last time we see both Hayes and Pilgrim." (*Providence Journal*)

"This is one of those whirlwind reads that is a sheer joy to dive into." (*Weekly Gravy*)

"The narrative is thrilling: the tension tightens with action...It's a murder mystery, an illuminating account of contemporary international politics and a study of an unusual man.....An excellent thriller which as a first novel is really remarkable." (*Literary Review, UK*)

"The next 'Girl with the Dragon Tattoo'." (*The New York Post*)

"This murder mystery/spy thriller grabs you from the first sentence and won't let you out of its grip. A brilliant American secret agent and forensics expert is in a race against the clock to stop a terrorist with a plan to destroy the United States. Please fasten your seat belt." (Kate White, New York Times bestselling author of EYES ON YOU)

"I Am Pilgrim' is [a] gripping debut novel, which pits a brilliant intelligence operative against an equally brilliant terrorist. Weighing in at over 600 pages, you get your money's worth and more with this thriller." (Brad Thor, New York Times bestselling author of ACT OF WAR)

"I Am Pilgrim might have you tempted to draw comparisons to other aces of the thrill, but those comparisons will miss the mark for this thoroughly original read that ranks among my favorites of the year thus far." (*My*

Big Honkin' Blog)

“An intriguing, multi-perspective thriller... the story made me almost miss my subway stop.” (*People Magazine*)

"Dude, freak out. That's my new *Gone Girl*. *Gone Girl* was the last book that I couldn't put down. Seriously, email me when you read it. You'll be five chapters in, and you'll look up and be like, 'Dude!'" (*Jimmy Fallon Entertainment Weekly*)

“If, like me, it's been a while since you read a truly compelling thriller, this is the book for you...absolutely compelling reading.” (*BrothersJudd.com*)

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Melanie Tuck:

Do you have something that you prefer such as book? The guide lovers usually prefer to decide on book like comic, brief story and the biggest an example may be novel. Now, why not attempting I Am Pilgrim: A Thriller that give your enjoyment preference will be satisfied by simply reading this book. Reading routine all over the world can be said as the opportunity for people to know world better then how they react toward the world. It can't be mentioned constantly that reading practice only for the geeky individual but for all of you who wants to possibly be success person. So , for every you who want to start reading through as your good habit, you are able to pick I Am Pilgrim: A Thriller become your personal starter.

Ruby Chartrand:

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Na Urquhart:

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