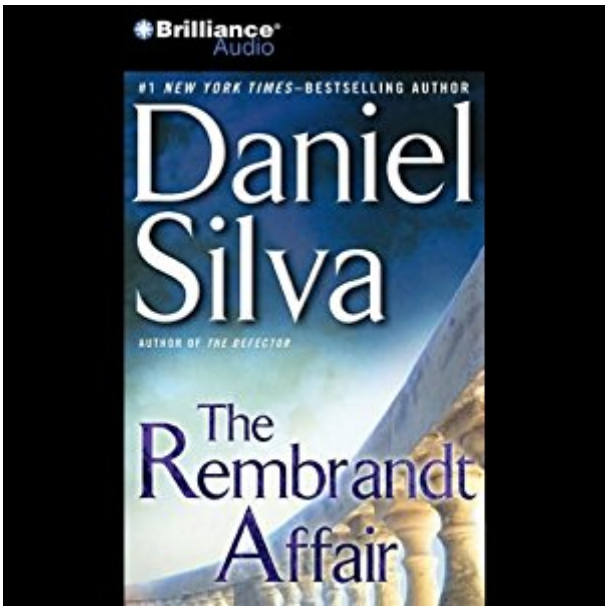
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The Rembrandt Affair



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Synopsis

Determined to sever his ties with the Office, Gabriel Allon has retreated to the windswept cliffs of Cornwall with his beautiful Venetian-born wife, Chiara. But once again his seclusion is interrupted by a visitor from his tangled past: the endearingly eccentric London art dealer Julian Isherwood. As usual, Isherwood has a problem. And it is one only Gabriel can solve. In the ancient English city of Glastonbury, an art restorer has been brutally murdered and a long-lost portrait by Rembrandt mysteriously stolen. Despite his reluctance, Gabriel is persuaded to use his unique skills to search for the painting and those responsible for the crime. But as he painstakingly follows a trail of clues leading from Amsterdam to Buenos Aires and, finally, to a villa on the graceful shores of Lake Geneva, Gabriel discovers there are deadly secrets connected to the painting. And evil men behind them. Before he is done, Gabriel will once again be drawn into a world he thought he had left behind forever, and will come face-to-face with a remarkable cast of characters: a glamorous London journalist who is determined to undo the worst mistake of her career, an elusive master art thief who is burdened by a conscience, and a powerful Swiss billionaire who is known for his good deeds but may just be behind one of the greatest threats facing the world. Filled with remarkable twists and turns of plot, and told with seductive prose, The Rembrandt Affair is more than just summer entertainment of the highest order. It is a timely reminder that there are men in the world who will do anything for money.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I just can’t leave Silva’s alone. I get so involved in the action, the dedicated characters and how current the story is to today’s events. The terrorist, the rotten billionaire, the highly trained and dedicated webmasters...wonderfully exciting reading. I’m tickled ’s recommended this series to me. I’m off to number 11.

All of Silva’s Allon books have been great reading...you know the basic components of the stories - that Allon will be pulled back into the secret service - but you don’t know how the stories will evolve and that’s always well conceived and presented in an intriguing fashion...plus the author always gives enough background info’ so you’re reminded of the characters’ history and who the players are and their interrelationships...

This book was my first Daniel Silva book. I loved it so much that I bought several copies to give to my friends and family. My brother-in-law took it on a cruise of the Rhine river in Germ. any and said he was sad to see it end. As a result, I have now read virtually EVERY Gabriel Allon book by Daniel Silva.So, yes, I loved this book - and I consider myself to be extremely well-versed in the "spy stuff"

While at the beginning I was not sure if I had already read this book as the themes were very similar to other books. But the development of plot and the twists were much more complex. Unfortunately, character development was less as only a couple new characters were initiated.

The Rembrandt Affair is an intricate and cleverly plotted story that touches the heart and tickles the senses. The history of the painting makes the story very real, and the characters, despite being all-stars in their chosen fields, are completely believable. As usual with Daniel SIlva, I am torn between racing through the book so I can see Gabriel Allon emerge battered but once again safely home, and reading it as slowly as possible so it will last and last. Daniel SIlva is one of a few - a very few - authors whose books I will reread during the wait for the next one. I loved his first three novels, which were not Gabriel Allon stories, and I have become totally addicted to this series. May it go on and on.

All the Gabriel Allon series books by Daniel Silva have very good plots, very likeable characters and have a genuine look at current events. At the end of each book there is a disclaimer that lists what events are true and which were fiction. It is fun to see how characters that appear in one book are revisited in later books.

Art restorer and retired Mossad agent Gabriel Allon and his agent second wife Chiara retreat to Glastonbury, England for some R&R and a return to normalcy after the recent near fatal abduction of her (see The Defector). However, the respite ends when Allon learns a dear colleague was murdered and the Rembrandt painting the victim was restoring was stolen. Unable to hide on the sidelines, Allon investigates.Allon’s inquiry into a theft turned ugly takes him into the underbelly of capitalism as European firms clandestinely and illegally are selling reactor centrifuges to Iran. He realizes all nuclear waste in this case leads to Switzerland. Knowing he cannot go it alone, Allon calls in his former crew mates.The latest Allon thriller is a terrific tale that has a different feel to the story line. The tale starts off as a mystery, but the clues turn the plot into an action-packed espionage thriller. Fast-paced regardless of genre, The Rembrandt Affair has the hero doing his usual quality job as he comes out of retirement to try to prevent the illegal sales to Iran. The escapades never stop until after the final confrontation; yet the key that refreshes this entry is Allon, who on the surface seems the same as in his previous appearances, but long time fans will notice subtle but fascinating differences.Harriet Klausner

At my college we had a history professor with a game leg. So he walked with a limp. He was also short. One of his favorite expressions when lecturing on the wholesale slaughter that usually followed Caesar on his campaigns or on a Crusader march through the Rhineland or a barbarian invasion of defenseless towns, was "and they raped, pillaged, and burned their way" across, through, or over whatever hapless piece of geography was in the way. He would also draw a mark on the caulk board starting at one end to the other as he uttered his mantra, limping energetically all the way.Daniel Silva has written such a book in the Rembrandt Affair that affixes that caulk and mantra on the acts of the Nazi horde in pilfering the wealth of the Jews of Europe, in particular the ruthlessly venal behavior of the gnomes of Swiss banking who helped these latter day Caesars, Crusaders, and barbarians stash away the loot. To be sure this is a work of fiction but the general outline of the back story well accords with the real historical record of shame that still haunts Europe to this day.I cannot recommend this book enough.

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