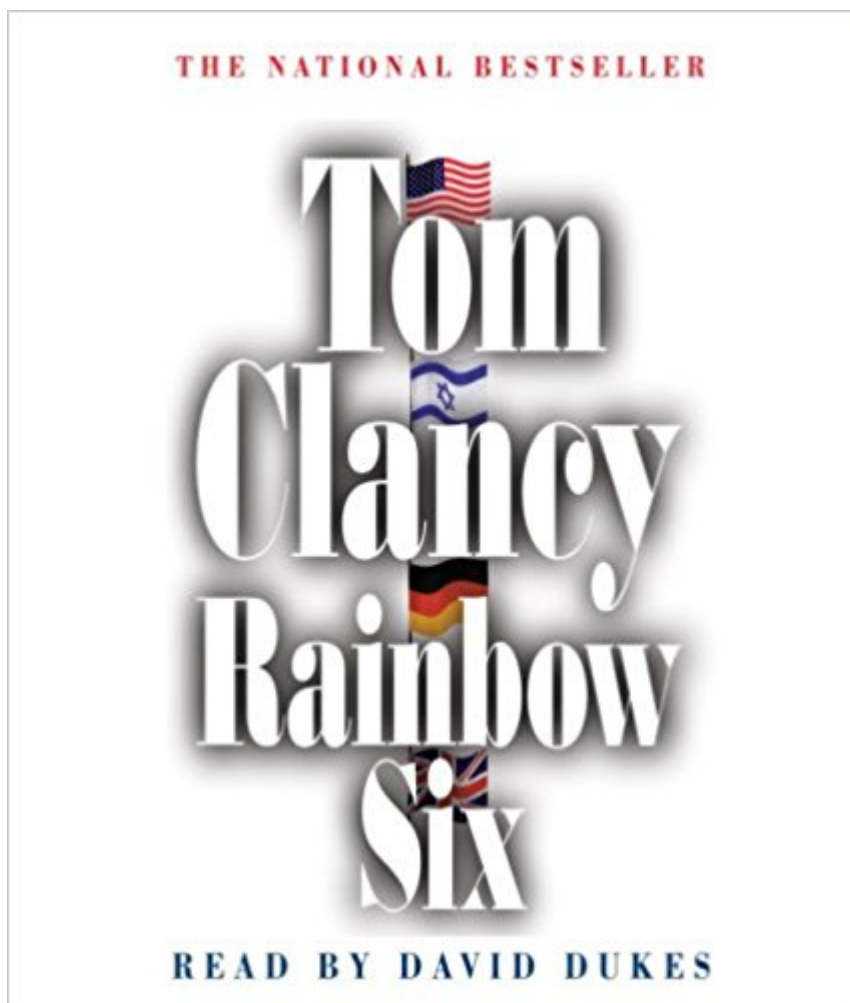


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Rainbow Six (Tom Clancy)



Synopsis

4 Compact Discs / 6 Hours
Read by David Dukes (Also available on cassette)
Tom Clancy's most shocking story to date - and closer to reality than any government would care to admit. Over the course of nine novels, Tom Clancy's "genius for big, compelling plots" and his "natural narrative gift" (The New York Times Magazine) have established him as one of the preeminent storytellers of our time. In his new and most extraordinary novel, *Rainbow Six*, Clancy goes beyond anything he has done before. At its heart is John Clark, the ex-Navy SEAL of *Without Remorse*, a master of secret operational missions, and newly named the head of an international task force dedicated to combating terrorism. Clark is looking forward to sinking his teeth into a new mission, but the opportunities start coming faster than anyone could have expected; an incident at a Swiss bank, the kidnapping of an international trader in Germany, a terrible raid on an amusement park in Spain. Each episode seems separate, yet the timing disturbs Clark. Is there a connection? He tries to figure out where all this activity is heading, but there is no way to predict the real threat: a group of terrorists like none the world has ever encountered, a group so extreme that their success could literally mean the end of life on this earth as we know it. This is Clancy at his best - and there is none better.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

For many readers, Jack Ryan embodies the essence of the modern American hero. Morally centered, disciplined, humble yet powerful, Ryan (and his onscreen incarnations in Alec Baldwin

and Harrison Ford) has made Tom Clancy one of the most popular writers in the world. But as Clancy has constructed the Ryan mythology, he has quietly established Ryan's shadow double, John Clark. Appearing in *The Cardinal of the Kremlin*, *Clear and Present Danger*, and *Without Remorse*, Clark has many of Jack Ryan's most appealing traits, but he is also a darker figure embodying the more paranoid sensibilities of the late '90s. As is made clear from the opening pages of *Rainbow Six*, ex-Navy SEAL Clark and his colleagues believe violent, deadly force to be the best deterrent for terrorism. Clark (a.k.a. Rainbow Six) has left the CIA to create an England-based organization code-named "Rainbow." Its mission: deploy an elite squad of American operatives combined with handpicked British, French, and German agents to stop terrorism in its tracks. Rainbow's emergence could not be more timely: in quick succession, the force diffuses three attempted terrorist actions. But Clark becomes suspicious when Russian agents suddenly show interest in Rainbow's work. *Rainbow Six* appeals on all the levels that Clancy fans could hope for. The Rainbow operatives, from Navy SEALs to German mountain-leader school graduates, are rendered to inspire with their physical and mental prowess. The book is infatuated with the latest gadgets for scrambling, transmitting, and decoding secrets. And, in a carefully woven narrative that simultaneously traces the Rainbow team, a former KGB agent named Popov, the Australian Olympic security team, and a sinister group of American scientists, Clancy artfully reveals the mystery of "Shiva" at the center of the novel. How does Clark measure up against Jack Ryan? He may be the perfect hero for a world with hidden villains. --Patrick O'Kelley --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

Two years ago, *Executive Orders*, which thrust Jack Ryan into the Oval Office, raised the bar for its immensely popular author. This first Clancy hardcover since then, though a ripping read, matches its predecessor neither in complexity nor intensity nor even, at 752 pages, length, despite a strong premise and some world-class action sequences. Instead of everyman Ryan, its lead is the more shadowed John Clark, the ex-Navy SEAL vigilante of *Without Remorse* who has appeared in several Ryan adventures. Clark now heads Rainbow Six, an international special-ops anti-terrorist strike force?and, despite the novelty of the conceit, that's a problem, as the profusion of protagonists, though sharply drawn (including, most notably, "Ding" Chavez, Clark's longtime protege), deprives the book of the sort of strong central character that has given Clancy's previous novels such heart. The story opens vigorously if arbitrarily, with an attempted airline hijacking foiled by Clark and Chavez, who happen to be on the plane. After that action sequence, the duo and others train at Rainbow Headquarters outside London, then leap into the fray against terrorists who

have seized a bank in Bern, Switzerland. And so the pattern of the narrative is set: action sequence, interlude, action sequence, interlude, etc., giving it the structure and pace of a computer game. A major subplot involving bioterrorism that evolves into an overarching plotline syncopates that pattern, though Clancy's choice of environmentalists as his prime villains will strike some readers as odd. All of Clancy's fans, however, will revel in the writer's continued mastery at action writing; Rainbow's engagements, which occupy the bulk of the novel, are immensely suspenseful, breathtaking combos of expertly detailed combat and primal emotion. While not Clancy's best, then, his 10th hardcover will catapult to the top of bestseller lists?and for good reason. Two million first printing; \$1 million ad/promo; simultaneous Random Audio and Red Storm Entertainment computer game; author tour. Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

I should finish tonight. Not normal Tom Clancy more like Tom Clancy and someone else. I enjoyed it but found story not as compelling as other TC.

Nice story line BUT I somehow got the impression that someone else wrote the ending of this book. The last 50 pages seemed noticeably different. And who ever wrote it ... used His own style of speaking for the characters - at times forgetting to change from one character to another! Clark seemed out of character at the end of the book! Minor annoyances: 'Kay instead of Okay; putters instead of Computers - adding 'eh' at the end of sentences. Unrealistic exclamations: Clark upon explaining to a high ranking officer that the terrorists planned to kill more than 99% of the Worlds population responded with "you're kidding, eh". At least the spelling was not bad in this book!

Good story with classic Clancy attention to detail. I wanted to read the John Clark books in order to see how Rainbow was developed and how these stories play into some of the current Jack Jr./Chavez adventures. Clancy references prior passages from Clark's past but not enough to distract from the current story-just enough to make one want to read or re-read past books and continue with the current series.

Looks like Clancy and his editors were rushing to get this one out the door. Numerous editing errors (e.g. Clark leaves his house twice (pp. 25/26)). Lots of repetition-how many times do we need to read the same graphic description of someone getting shot in the head or the number of shots that each character fires with their silenced weapons? No real climax, it just withers (meanders) away to

a predictable ending after the hospital scene. And what mysterious disappearance at the end of the book? The Gulfstream pilots knew where they were...Tom, we expect better.

the premise of the plot was a little far fetched so it was difficult to buy into the story line.

It's a bit long like all Clancy books but worth it. A nice build up to the conclusion and you are definitely cheering for the good guys by the end. It is intelligent in that the good guys are not only as smart as they seem to be and the bad guys aren't dumb all of the time. Some great twists that keep you reading up to the finale. Have fun with this book! The trip is worth it!

Nobody can beat Clancy.

Best of the best

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