

## The Aquitaine Progression

*Robert Ludlum*

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In Geneva, American lawyer Joel Converse meets a man he hasn't seen in twenty years, a covert operative who dies violently at his feet, whispering words that hand Converse a staggering legacy of death: "*The generals . . . they're back . . . Aquitaine!*" Suddenly Converse is running for his life, alone with the world's most shattering secret. Pursued by anonymous executioners to the dark corners of Europe, he is forced to play a game of survival by blood rules he thought he'd long left behind. One by one, he traces each thread of a lethal progression to the heart of every major government, a network of coordinated global violence that no one believes possible—no one but Converse and the woman he once loved and lost, the only two people on earth who can wrest the world from the iron grasp of Aquitaine.

## Praise for Robert Ludlum and *The Aquitaine Progression*

"You won't be able to put it down. (Don't ever begin a Ludlum novel if you have to go to work the next day)." —*Chicago Sun-Times*

"Ludlum at his best." —*Publishers Weekly*

*From the Paperback edition.*

## The Aquitaine Progression Details


Date : Published 2004 by Orion (first published February 12th 1984)

ISBN : 9780752858524

Author : Robert Ludlum

Format : Paperback 800 pages

Genre : Thriller, Fiction, Mystery, Spy Thriller, Espionage, Suspense

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# From Reader Review The Aquitaine Progression for online ebook

## Mark says

I read this when it was a fairly new best seller, back in 1984-5. It was the first action thriller I had ever read and I was blown away. Though I haven't read very many similar movies over the years, I was curious whether I would still feel the same way, given all the movies of similar style I have seen in the meantime, including several Ludlum films (the Bourne series). I enjoyed reading it the second time (remembering virtually nothing from the first reading), but as I suspected, the level of angst and suspense was much less than the first time I read it, simply because of having been desensitized by exposure to so much of the genre on film in the intervening years.

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## Velvetink says

Interesting, fast paced, slightly on the paranoia side where x WW2 Generals try to takeover the world and a smart NY lawyer called Converse & some M15 agents save the day. Not totally unbelievable.

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## it'chy says

finally got the nerve to pick up another ludlum novel;  
and i find out that he was still bashing adolf and his ilk in this book

p471: ...finding the shadows and letting them envelope him.  
p689: ...and reached into his pocket for some kind of small, multifaceted tool. (hmm, must be a hexagonal key wrench)

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## Michael says

Another attempt at world domination. The World saved from the fanatical Generals by an ex-Vietnam hero and now world class lawyer Mr Converse, despite the fact he has a mental block where languages other than English are concerned and spends most of his time in Europe (not England). I'm sure it won't spoil the book to say that the world carries on and there is a happy ending, despite it happening at the very last minute. Great stuff.

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## Christopher Keating says

I first read this book about twenty-five years and ago and enjoyed it so much back then that I decided to revisit it. My memory didn't fail me - it was as much fun the second time around as it was the first.

If you are at all familiar with Ludlum's works, you know the basic story line. There is some tremendously

evil plot going on and one man stands in the way. The Bourne sagas are the best known examples of that plot. He spins a good story and makes it very suspenseful. However, I find there is a flaw in his writing - the bad guys are simply too good at what they do. As a result, the hero has to be correspondingly heroic, even to the point of being unbelievable (Jason Borne, again).

Aquitaine Progression is different in one main respect - the hero of the book is not some superhuman special forces master. You can't really call the hero of this book, Joel Converse, a regular guy. He was a pilot in Vietnam when he got shot down and taken prisoner. After three attempts, he succeeded in escaping from the POW camp and made it out. At the start of the book, he is an international business lawyer living in Geneva, Switzerland. So, he isn't really a regular guy off the streets, but he's not special forces with a bunch of fake passports and closets full of weapons, either. Mostly, he just happened to be in the wrong place at the wrong time when he gets recruited to investigate some bad guys a childhood friend has uncovered. When things go bad, he has to find a way to survive using just his wits.

If you like conspiracy/spy/suspense novels, this is a good one. If you like Ludlum novels, I think this is one of his best.

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### **Julius Gewarges says**

Joel Converse is a Lawyer who just happened to come across a conspiracy(Code name "Aquitaine") that involves retired generals from around the world and their dedicated soldiers that are aiming at world domination by means of chaos and world violence. In chaotic times, the military will be needed to control chaos and thats where the Generals come in and take over.one country at a time. While Joel is investigating this conspiracy, His cover gets blown and he is a living target by Aquitaine. This book is a long(a plus plus IMO)intense Spy story. Ludlum stuffed ALOT in this book and true fans will stick with it. The Last 150 pages gives this book an epic and truly SMART ending.

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### **Todd says**

A little slow to start, but stay with it you'll be glad you did.

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### **Mark Hurley says**

First Ludlum book I read. Do not start this book during Finals Week.

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### **Matt Crumpton says**

Okay so this is book number two on my Robert Ludlum kick I am on right now. I believe there are ten more books I have left to read. Anyway on with the review.

I really liked this novel. Its Ludlum so you have the action and suspense and the plot twists that are standard in his works. In Aquataine you have this organization wanting to take over the world...this is also very

standard in a Ludlum work. However I have said it before and I will say it again...its fun and entertaining.

One thing that really got me into this novel was the main character Joel Converse. Converse is not a spy or assassin who works for the CIA, or the State department, or Naval intelligence. On the contrary, Converse is an international business lawyer. Joel is manipulated by people in the government to bring down the evil Aquitaine from within. Joel then uses all his legal prowess to bring them down through proper legal channels. However Joel comes to realize that in order to accomplish this he will have to do things he never thought he would do again. Converse has to tap into his experiences as a POW escapee in the Vietnam war. Read it and love it.

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### **Mike Hernandez says**

Robert Ludlum, as you know, is a great author. I'd never heard of this book before picking it up, and it was surprisingly good. The plot was good and the writing kept you interested throughout, although the book reminded me a lot of the movie "National Treasure". Not so much in the storyline, but more in the suspension of disbelief that you must achieve to actually enjoy this novel. Some points I found myself saying, "puhhlllleeeaaaase", but then again, I find almost all fiction books that way, so I may be more critical than most. Suffice to say, if you like the movie "National Treasure" or you are a huge Robert Ludlum fan, then you will enjoy this book. 3 stars, but 4 if you're not so critical.

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### **Dishit says**

Had read this book during college days. Enjoyed the re-read as only outline had remained after so many years. If we draw parallels of ISIS over middle east, Trump getting elected, the world imagined by generals might still come true

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### **John says**

The Aquitaine Progression. DAMN YOU LUDLUM. Now the smugness of fame and riches makes the loyal readers wait TWO YEARS between book. I can recall the trepidation of weeks leading up to release. Going to the locale COLES book store and ordering a copy. Now its like release, buy, read, and start waiting for the next release two years ahead. I was able to start going back and devouring Ludlum's first novels.

The Aquitaine Progression the world domination by fucked up ex generals. Perfect for the wanting and waiting Ludlum lover. I began to love how Ludlum intermixed nationalities and religious characters throughout his novels. Taught plenty of geo-political backgrounding for a neophile into politics.

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## **Sarah says**

This was by far one of the worst novels I've ever read. The main character was not particularly likeable, the plot was not only excessively complicated but boring, and the "love story" was as dry as an overdone turkey. I've read cookbooks that were more engaging than this book.

For those of you who have started this monstrous tome and are now looking for encouragement to continue: stop. Get out now. The last 500 pages are as tedious as the first 100. I only finished it because I'm doing that 2015 reading challenge and needed a book over 500 pages. I'm done, and now I have great fodder for my fire pit.

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## **Nathaniel Wyckoff says**

I read it years ago. It was gripping, fascinating and fun.

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## **Rebecca McNutt says**

A few days ago I got myself a big old red hardcover of this book, and since the dust jacket was missing I decided to go into it without knowing what it was about at all. I'm really glad I did, because this book was one of the most exciting ones I've read in a long time. Every page of it was a build-up to the suspense and it was near-impossible to put down.

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