



# The Last Refuge

*Ben Coes*

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*With time running out to stop the nuclear destruction of Tel Aviv, Dewey Andreas must defeat his most fearsome opponent yet.*

Off a quiet street in Brooklyn, New York, Israeli Special Forces commander Kohl Meir is captured by operatives of the Iranian secret service, who smuggle Meir back to Iran, where he is imprisoned, tortured, and prepared for a show trial.

What they don't know is that Meir was in New York to recruit Dewey Andreas for a secret operation. Meir had been tipped off that Iran had finally succeeded in building their first nuclear weapon, one they were planning to use to attack Israel. His source was a high-level Iranian government official and his proof was a photo of the bomb itself.

Dewey Andreas, a former Army Ranger and Delta, owes his life to Meir and his team of Israeli commandos. Now, to repay his debt, Dewey has to attempt the impossible ---to both rescue Meir from one of the world's most secure prisons and to find and eliminate Iran's nuclear bomb before it's deployed---all without the help or sanction of Israel or America (at the near certain risk of detection by Iran).

Unfortunately, Dewey's first moves have caught the attention of Abu Paria, the brutal and brilliant head of VEVAK, the Iranian secret service. Now Dewey has to face off against, outwit, and outfight an opponent with equal cunning, skill, and determination, with the fate of millions hanging in the balance.

## The Last Refuge Details

Date : Published July 3rd 2012 by St. Martin's Press

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Author : Ben Coes

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# From Reader Review The Last Refuge for online ebook

## Randy says

I wasn't at all familiar with Ben Coes' work before I read THE LAST REFUGE, the third of the Dewey Andreas novels. I'm a thriller fan, first, and a political thriller junkie as well.

Here we have an Israeli, the great-grandson of Golda Meir, kidnapped off the streets of New York and smuggled into Iran for a show trial and public execution. He was supposed to meet Dewey for a secret job he needed help with. He's being held in the most secure prison in Iran and the torture has already started.

In the last book in the series, Meir had rescued Dewey, nearly dying himself and in fact losing six men to do it. Dewey felt obligated to do something about this latest development.

The secret operation Meir needed help with was a huge problem. Iran had developed a nuclear bomb and had plans to get it into Tel Aviv on a small boat and destroy the city. Assets in Iran that abhorred what was going on had gotten the word out and were working on finding it's location.

It was all done in secret because if Israel was notified, the mole in the Mossad, known of but not identified, would move the operation up. If the Americans were notified, they might launch a strike on Iran. Same result.

American had just lost it's President to a heart attack and the sworn-in VP was new at the job and naive. He believed Iran's talk of signing agreements and allowing inspectors to search plants.

Dewey comes up with an audacious plan to grab the bomb and use it to trade for Meir before he could be executed. Could it work? And the bomb had to be found first.

A nicely paced thriller that kept me flipping those pages until the end.

If one likes that sort of thing, highly recommended.

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## Sean Peters says

Number three finished in the Dewey Andreas books, another great book, now on number four!

After the president of the United States unexpectedly succumbs to a stroke, Andreas' friend, Israeli Special Forces commander (and Golda Meir's great-grandson) Kohl Meir, is kidnapped by Iranians. With a cautious new president unwilling to get the U.S. government involved in an Iranian dispute, Andreas sets out on a dangerous mission to rescue Meir.

What they don't know is that Meir was in New York to recruit Dewey Andreas for a secret operation. Meir had been tipped off that Iran had finally succeeded in building their first nuclear weapon, one they were planning to use to attack Israel. His source was a high-level Iranian government official and his proof was a photo of the bomb itself.

Dewey Andreas, a former Army Ranger and Delta, owes his life to Meir and his team of Israeli commandos, now, to repay his debt, Dewey has to attempt the impossible ---to both rescue Meir from one of the world's most secure prisons and to find and eliminate Iran's nuclear bomb before it's deployed---all without the help or sanction of Israel or America (at the near certain risk of detection by Iran).

Coes presents us with one of the nastiest villains so far in Abu Paria, the brutal and brilliant head of VEVAK, the Iranian secret service, alongside a collection of Iranian and Israeli politicians

The usual great characters can be find in this gripping thriller, the story unfolds at a fast pace, with lots of sub-plots and characters to keep your mind working.

Also two new characters enter the story, and finishes perfectly, ready for book four...

Reading now...

An action packed, violent thriller, fast paced, great epic plot again, which I am now expecting from Ben Coes.

The usual five stars....

Yes another great action hero alongside Mitch Rapp, Victor The Assassin, Jack Reacher and others.

Love Vince Flynn, Tom Wood, Brad Thor, Brad Taylor, Simon Kernick, you will love these books.

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## **Feather Stone says**

The Last Refuge is a political thriller from the get-go. Ben Coes has described the political climate in the USA to the Middle East so well that I was able to grasp the clandestine nature of the beast. And, truthfully, his depiction of the 'intelligence department' made me shiver. I suspect Ben's novel is painfully close to the truth on how the CIA and other security departments function.

The Last Refuge is past paced and exciting. The body count is up there and the callous nature of some of the characters was difficult to comprehend. If there is a weakness in the novel it's that I couldn't connect with the characters. I wanted the 'good guys' to win but only for the sake of preventing mass suffering of innocents.

If you like plot driven novels, espionage, and wish to experience the bitter taste on how some world federal governments might operate, you'll enjoy Ben's novel. He's an excellent writer, putting the reader into the scenes. You will experience the pain during interrogation and have doubts you'll survive. But you must. Israel is depending upon you.

I received The Last Refuge as gift in a competition. Thank you very much, Ben, for this awesome book.  
Feather Stone

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## **Rolando Barrientos says**

This is becoming one of my all time favorite series, so excited that i can continue non stop to the next one!

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## **Michael says**

Dewey Andreas, former SEAL and Delta receives a message to meet Israeli Special Forces commander Kohn Meir in New York. Dewey owes him a debt from when he and his commandos saved Dewey from terrorists.

When Dewey reaches New York he finds that Meir had been kidnapped by Iranian operatives. They took him to Evin Prison in Iran where Meir would probably be tortured, have a mock trial and a public execution.

Dewey also learns that the reason Meir wanted Dewey was to recruit him for a mission. Iran has a nuke ready to strike at Tel Aviv.

The situation seems impossible. Meir is in Iran's most protected prisons and is sentenced to die but Dewey can't ask U.S. government or Israel for help because Iran might find out and use the nuke sooner.

This is a suspenseful story. With so much action, the author also does a good job with character development. Between action scenes, there are pauses when the characters think of their past or we see what is going on in the U.S. government. This permits the reader to catch their breath and get to know and appreciate the characters.

The story seems well researched and the plot is highly entertaining.

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## **Vjekoslav says**

“The Last Refuge” is Ben Coes’ third novel starring the character Dewey Andreas, after Coup D’ Etat, and “Power Down.” It belongs to one of my favorite genres, the political “real world” thriller. I get a real kick out of reading intelligent people sitting at a table, having an intelligent conversation about some urgent “we need to act now” situation. People like Tom Clancy, John Le Carre and Robert Ludlum are masters of this style of writing and have been copied many times.

I had two basic problems with “The Last Refuge”, one on a personal level and one on a visceral level. As I’ve already mentioned, the formula for this genre has become somewhat clichéd and thus it is impossible to read this book without automatically comparing to Ludlum’s and Clancy’s work. I tried really hard, but the similarities are just too striking: an international crisis, various groups of men in suits playing Greek choir and sitting at a table comment and giving exposition, and most importantly, the hero with special skills who just wants to be left in peace but is dragged into a situation. And this is probably my biggest problem with this novel. Dewey Andreas is just not that interesting of a hero. He simply goes through the motions of a million other protagonists in this genre: wants to live a peaceful life, isn’t allowed to, has to rescue and /or avenge someone. He doesn’t have the intelligence and wit of Jack Ryan and he doesn’t have the physicality of Jason Bourne. Now, it may not be fair to make these comparisons, but I really feel that that was what Coes was going for and simply doesn’t distinguish himself enough.

My second problem is that Coes wears his politics on his sleeve a bit too much. And while I don’t begrudge

him for his viewpoints, for which he is perfectly entitled to as much as Grisham is entitled to liberalism, Coes' characters suffer. Americans come across as militant righteous jerks, and Iranians as stereotypical "possible" bad guys who shouldn't get a single benefit of a doubt. All of this is very clearly stated in the novel. Does all this take away from Coes' capabilities as a writer? Not at all and I'm sure a lot of people won't be bothered by any of this, I guess it's just a case of personal preference.

It wouldn't be fair to deny that this novel has some things going for it. Coes has a very good sense of pacing and individual situations are tense and exciting. It is a consistently readable novel, at times very much so. And as much as I disliked Andreas, some of the supporting players, representatives of agencies are very sharp and have good dialogue.

"The Last Refuge" will work best for newbies in this genre. It is a serviceable introduction to this kind of writing but more experienced fans will have a problem not comparing with what came before. Coes is a promising talent, he just needs to work on giving us more of his own unique voice and toning down on his politics affecting his characters.

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### **Jacob Peled says**

What a junk story.

So many superheroes. Such an unbelievable story. I am an Israeli, and let me tell you that one of the heroes in that story is an Israeli soldier. The way that the character is describe, is so none-Israeli, you can tell the author knows nothing about Israelis. I read half the book and throw it away. I got to the description of the Iranian trial, and it was so ridiculously described, that it was like an insult to the reader. Ben Coes has a long way to go, in order to resemble the deceased Vince Flynn.

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### **David says**

This is a fun, fast-paced political/adventure thriller that kept me at the "edge of my seat" through the entire book. I just couldn't put the book down, and read it in a day. The Iranians have kidnapped Israeli Kohl Meir, the grandson of Golda Meir. In addition, they are about to unleash a nuclear bomb on Israel. So Dewey Andreas, an American former SEAL and Delta, works to save the life of his friend, who had once saved his life. He concocts a crazy plan to save his friend and to steal the bomb, even while admitting that planning is not his strong suit.

I received an advance copy through Goodreads. Ben Coes should find a better proof-reader. There are minor typos throughout, and on page 288 there is a major typo where Marwan's name is switched with Qassou's. But these typos do little to detract from this great book.

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### **Roberto Mattos says**

This is one of the best thrillers I have read in a long time (at least since the Lion's Game (Nelson DeMille)). This is the first book I read from Mr. Ben Coes and I will look forward reading his "Coup d'Etat" and "Power Down" and future ones to come. The author was brilliant on creating the environment for his story. The plot is simple. An ex-Army Ranger and Delta, Dewey Andreas, owns his life to Kohl Meir, the grandson of

Golda Meir, who is an Israeli Special Forces commander and saved Dewey in a high risk operation. Meir goes to New York to meet Dewey and before their meeting Meir is abducted by Iranian secret service and is conducted to a security prison in Iran. Meir wanted to meet Dewey to tell him about a nuke designed by the Iranians to destroy TelAviv. Dewey now has a mission to find the bomb and save Meir, with no help from Americans or Israelis. Abu Paria is the head of VEVAK, Iranian Secret Service and an Islam fanatic. He will try to stop Dewey.

This book was brilliantly written by Mr. Ben Coes and published by St. Martins Press in July 2012. I recommend this book to the permanent library of any reader who loves an excellent thriller. Very entertaining reading, it took me almost 13 hours to read the entire book.

The author was kind enough to provide me a book for reviewing through his Marketing Manager, Lizzie McQuillan. Thanks to both for the opportunity they gave me to review this wonderful book.

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### **Mike (the Paladin) says**

Yeah, I'm a bit worn out on thrillers now. Assassinations, tragic death, politicians playing CYA, betrayal of friends and allies, daring do, abductions...you get it.

I have liked the Dewey Andreas novels and this one is pretty good. But somehow I was feeling the been there done that feeling throughout the book. I freely admit that this may be me as much as the book. I mean for some time now all I wanted to read were thrillers.

Look this is a political action thriller. I am in "real life" more than a little disillusioned and disappointed in the government and the American people's reaction (or lack thereof) to this failure. I guess that a story where operators have to overcome the backstabbing from their own superiors is just not what I need right now no matter how it works out. (Too much like reality I guess.)

Some years ago when I was a part of the military a lot of guys were "loaned" to another governmental agency. We just called them "the company". Operators from all the services were "Sheep Dipped" (look it up). Here we get to see operations using paramilitary people working with this same group except in a fictional setting. It's not handled badly and I suspect most people who like thrillers will like this book. As noted I find it okay and would probably have liked it better at a different time.

Think I'll give it some time before I read the next Dewey Andreas novel  
I can recommend it.

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### **Melissa says**

What can I say about my new favorite super-hero? Action-packed, well-paced and a premise that very current in today's environment. Ben Coes is right up there with the Brads (Taylor and Thor) for well-written and keeps you on the edge of your seat novels!

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## **L.A. Starks says**

Vince Flynn readers will appreciate the seamless action and grounded research Coes has put into this thriller. Very well done, very realistic. Coes is one of my new favorite authors.

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## **Alan says**

Iran + nuclear device capability + captured son of former prime minister of Israel + rogue American agent + slippery government leaders = The Last Refuge. Where's the refuge again?

This book is very Clancy-esque. Coe strikes the right balance between techo-details and storyline development. His hero, Dewey Andreas, is memorable - see, I even remembered his name. The layered storytelling used by Clancy came through nicely, and major storylines were resolved nicely. In an apparent afterthought, and for no reason needed, Coe dipped to a gratuitous ending that did nothing for me. Right up until that point I thought I'd found another author to add to my favorites list, but no.

Sorry...3 stars.

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## **Giovanni Gelati says**

I have read all three in this series and they just keep getting better and better. Ben Coes knows not only how to put together a fast,tightly woven, kicka#\* novel, he understands how to add a measure of humanity, pride, loyalty, and moral barometer in his characters that is rare today.

To say I am looking forward to the next story is an understatement.

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## **Tim says**

My favorite Dewey Andreas to date. Very well done. 10 of 10 stars

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