



## Snakehead

*Anthony Horowitz , Dan Stevens (Reader)*

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Undercover in a poisonous world, teen spy Alex Rider is back for his seventh adrenalin-rush adventure in this audio CD pack.

## Snakehead Details

Date : Published October 31st 2007 by Walker & Company (first published January 1st 2007)

ISBN : 9781406305739

Author : Anthony Horowitz , Dan Stevens (Reader)

Format : Unknown Binding

Genre : Young Adult, Adventure, Fiction, Spy Thriller, Espionage



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# From Reader Review Snakehead for online ebook

## Brock Brunner says

### Personal Response

I really enjoyed this novel. I was always on the edge of my seat, it was hard to put down. It was full of action and suspense, and I was never bored reading it. There was almost never a time when there was a dull moment, it was always interesting. I give it five out of five stars.

### Summary

The book starts off with Alex crashing into the ocean from space after his last mission of destroying the Ark Angel space station. He landed off the coast of Australia. He was picked up by a nearby US carrier and taken to Australia. After recovering for a few days, he was approached by the head of an Australian special operations unit known as ASIS. The man said they needed Alex to help them find out more about an organization known as Snakehead. The mission would be quite simple, Alex would be flown to Bangkok where he'd meet with the agent he'd work with, then his appearance would be altered to make him look like an Afghan refugee. Alex needed to look like this because Snakehead deals with smuggling people into different countries, including Australia. Alex and the agent who he was working with would be smuggled into Australia from Bangkok so ASIS would know who Snakehead smuggles people in. Alex didn't want to at first, but then he was informed that the man he'd be working with was his godfather, Ash. Alex then agreed, and he was flown to Bangkok. From there he met Ash, had his appearance changed, and then moved into a small one room apartment where they'd meet the Snakehead people that would smuggle them. When the Snakehead operatives arrived, they wanted Alex and not Ash to come with them for something, but no one knew what. Alex didn't have much of a choice, and went with the men. They brought him to a boxing ring where he'd have to fight someone and Alex would most likely die, that's what they wanted. Alex ended up fighting and almost was done for when he decided to cheat and managed to escape the boxing ring building. Alex then dragged himself back to the apartment Ash was at. After that, Ash didn't know what they should do. Soon, they went to an airport and they were on their way to Indonesia. On the plane, Ash told Alex more about his father Alex never knew about. When they arrived in Indonesia, people from Snakehead were there to pick them up. Ash and Alex were taken to a shipment yard, where again Alex was taken away from Ash and stowed away in a shipment container. Alex knew that this must be how people were smuggled into countries. While aboard the ship in a container, Alex was able to escape with some tools he was given by MI6 at another time. From there, he snooped around the ship to see if he could find out more about Snakehead. Alex ended up finding the man in charge of Snakehead, Major Yu. Yu had stolen a bomb known as Royal Blue and was smuggling it somewhere where it would do catastrophic damage. After this, Alex hid on the ship until they arrived in Australia. Alex was able to escape off the ship undetected and made it inland to Australia. There, he contacted Ash and told him where he was, and Ash said he'd be there soon, but something sounded a little off in the way Ash spoke. Soon, a car arrived and Major Yu stepped out with Ash, who was badly beat up. Yu demanded Alex show himself or he'd shoot Ash. Alex had no choice. Yu then knocked him out and took him somewhere. When Alex awoke, he was invited to lunch with Yu, and that was where Yu told him all this plans with Royal Blue and how it would kill thousands. He'd place it under the seabed and the explosion would cause a tsunami that would reach Australia. After telling Alex all this, Yu said he'd be taken to a remote area in the jungles of Australia where he has a team and a hospital that will take and sell his organs on the black market for money. Alex was taken there immediately, and as soon as he arrived he knew he needed to find a way out of this place before they cut him open. Alex ended up being able to escape thanks to a well-organized plan that went extremely well. After his escape, he was able to contact MI6 and they picked him up and took him to ASIS HQ, where Alex told them everything Yu was planning to with Royal Blue. Within the hour, they had a task force team set up ready to infiltrate the oil rig

that Yu said he'd be. Alex had to go with, because he was the only one who could stop the Royal Blue bomb. The task force managed to parachute onto the oil rig, and Alex ended up finding the room where the Royal Blue control panel was. He and another MI6 agent breached into the room, and the agent managed to shoot one of the two men in the room before he was gunned down by Yu. Alex stood there in shock, as did Yu. The man who had been shot by the MI6 agent slowly turned around. It was Ash. It turned out Ash worked for Yu the entire time, and he betrayed Alex. Ash tried to apologize, but he died from being shot. Alex didn't care anymore that his godfather was dead, because he killed Alex's parents. As Yu was about to kill Alex, an explosion knocked him off balance and he dropped the gun. Alex quickly grabbed it, but Yu had already made a run for it. He escaped onto his yacht and began to drive away. Alex went to the control panel. The bomb hadn't reached the seabed yet, and Alex clicked the detonate button, because there was really nothing else he could do. The explosion caused a wave that chased down Yu in his boat and knocked the entire thing over. Yu was killed almost instantly. Alex had done it again, he saved thousands of lives.

#### Characterization

At the beginning of the book, Alex wanted to get back to England, but ASIS had other ideas. Alex didn't want to work for them for anyone ever again, he just wanted to go back to being a normal kid. The only reason Alex agreed was because he would work with his godfather Ash and he could hopefully learn more about his parents. But throughout the book, Alex had gone through several hardships and almost died several times as well. But in the end, he prevailed and learned the true nature of his godfather and Alex no longer cared about him and that he died.

#### Recommendation

I recommend this book to anyone who has read any of the Alex Rider series before or likes a good action thriller. It is very interesting and will definitely grab your attention, you won't get bored with this great book.

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#### **Loren says**

Well... It was okay. I'm kinda getting sick of horowitz's methodical style of writing this series.

It seemed that everything was building up to 'Scorpia' and after its cataclysmic ending there just had to be a wrap-up book-but Snakehead... kinda boring.

The author tried to make it personal by bringing Ash into the mix but I don't think that really added anything-Horowitz needs to go in a new direction with Alex.

Bringing Sabina back at the end was as strained as their relationship has evidently become. If she were to appear in this book-she should've been in the meat of it, not the last two pages. By bringing her back horowitz ruins the tearjerking moment which MAKES the end of Eagle Strike what it is.

The eighth book is entitled 'Yassen' and revolves around the life of this esteemed assassin. Theories are that he's still alive-in my opinion that's the only twist that could make it worth reading, otherwise it would just be a history of his life-yawn.

Loved the fact that Scorpia came back into it but I thought it should be more about their revenge on Alex than this crappy plot about 8 stupid d-list celebrities. If horowitz wanted it to be personal that's the way to do it. The conclusion means that Scorpia probably won't interfere in his life again-disappointing.

Alex seemed to be coming around to MI6. I really thought he was warming to the idea of becoming a full-

time operative-he was anxious about returning to school (a place he OBVIOUSLY doesn't belong). The author undoes this good work at the end of the book as he enjoys school once more.

Where is it going? Does Horowitz have a plan? This series needs some spice...

## MichaelM says

I love it. That is all I have to say.

## Maya says

I love, love, love! this book! It is one of my favorite series, and this book did not disappoint. Definitely read this series!

## Ahmad Sharabiani says

Snakehead (Alex Rider, #7), Anthony Horowitz

Snakehead is the seventh novel in the Alex Rider series written by British author Anthony Horowitz. The book was released in Australia on 28 September 2007, in the United Kingdom on 31 October 2007, and in the US on 13 November 2007. The title comes from the name given to Asian gangs involved in people smuggling illegal passports, visas, weapons, and more. Snakehead takes place directly after the events of *Ark Angel*, with Alex finding himself in Australian waters where he landed at the end of that story.

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## Avalley says

I really enjoyed most of this book. It was a little bit boring at a few parts, but other than that, it was pretty interesting and exciting.

## WyrnbergMalcolm says

This one took a little while to get going with the 'straightforward' and 'minimal risk' part of the mission taking up the majority of the book. I'd predicted the twist very early on.

It seems that Alex's luck level equals Tintin's as he is able to survive against impossible odds. Of course, being a James Bond inspired story does allow for this sort of thing, but I did find the waterfall scene perhaps a little bit of a stretch. The hospital scene was particularly dark for this series but did show the increased level of threat that the snakehead represented.

This edition had the bonus chapter 'Coda' telling us how 'it' happened. Although it did flesh out the sentence that described the scene a little, it didn't really tell us anything already stated or implied in the original sentence, except perhaps add a little ambiguity to certain things.

This edition also featured an afterword by Anthony who revealed the origins and thoughts behind most of the names from the series. This was a nice touch.

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## **Noah Porter says**

Personal Response: I enjoyed the book *Snakehead* by Anthony Horowitz. The story line was very intriguing and easy to follow. The author has captured the emotions of a teenage boy very well, and it's very easy to relate to the main character Alex.

Plot: After a previous mission, alex had landed in the ocean near the australian coast. An American aircraft carrier had picked him up, where he was brought to mainland australia. Being a spy, Alex was recruited by the Australian Secret Service to infiltrate the Snakehead, a huge underground crime organization in southeast asia ran by Major Winston Yu, an English-Chinese crime boss based out of Britain. To accompany Alex, the Australian Secret Service had recruited his godfather Ash, who alex hadn't seen in more than a decade. Ash and Alex travel to Southeast Asia disguised as an Afghani father and son being illegally smuggled to australia by the snakehead. While in Southeast Asia, Alex gets picked by the Snakehead to fight in an illegal fighting ring, against a larger, adult boxer. After defeating the boxer and burning the fighting area down alex is brought back to the apartment him and ash had been staying in, but he had gotten Major Winston Yu's attention. Alex and Ash are transported to a harbor, where alex is loaded onto a container ship while being hidden in an intermodal container, but Ash is gone. After the ship sets sail to Australia, alex sneaks out of the container and explores around the ship. After Alex snooped around a bit, he found Major Winston Yu, some crew mates, and the captain of the ship looking at a container. After closer inspection, alex learns that Major Yu stole an experimental british bomb and was going to use it to cause a Tsunami. The reason Major Yu does this is because there is a G8 style summit going on on a nearby island, where major celebrities are meeting together to solve world problems. The effects of the Tsunami would also take hundreds of thousands of lives on the Australian coast. After the cargo ship lands in australia, Alex gets off the ship and contacts the Australian Secret Service and informs them about Major Yu's plans. A special task force is sent to the location of the bomb detonation an offshore oil rig in the ocean. The Special Task force and Alex deactivate the bomb, but Major Yu gets away in his private Yacht. The Yacht was found, and Major Yu had died from injuries he sustained from the fire fight on the Oil Rig.

Recommendation: I recommend this book to any teen, specifically from 13-17. The book is action packed and fun to read at any time.

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## **Bilal Taibzada says**

Another One!!

~DJ Khalid~

alright

where do I start from the beginning was good the middle portion was good and the ending was certainly the best

psdkjiodihjdncu

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### **Harry Ligertwood says**

this book is my favourite so far. love it

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### **Connor says**

My thoughts about the Alex Rider series changed with every book I read. The first book, Stormbreaker, gave me shivers and totally amazed me. The second book, Point Blanc, was interesting and I felt weird while I read it, although the end was very good. The third book, Skeleton Key, didn't have much action, but the end was a very cool part. The fourth book, Eagle Strike, was a favorite in the Alex Rider series, and I enjoyed how things played out through the end. The fifth book, Scorpia, was had lots of mystery in it and Alex did some things that were very stupid and I didn't like most of the beginning. But, in the end, it turned out to be a cool book. The sixth book, Arch Angel was alright, not one of the best ones. It was really cheesy and not one of the better ones.

Now, we come to what I think is the last Alex Rider book. Snakehead was really, really cool. It had lots of mystery and lots of parts that had importance in the end. I thoroughly enjoyed reading this book and was in suspense to the end. It was a great page turner that amazed me with its incredibleness. I am sad that the series is over and that I don't get to read on. Thank you Anthony Horowitz!

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### **Turkan Taskin says**

[ Major Yu dies is so gruesome! (hide spoiler)]

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### **Tahera says**

3.5\* rating. It seems Alex Rider never gets a chance to take a break....as soon as he finishes one job he gets dragged into another! This time he takes on the crime organisation Snakehead and meets his god father and learns a bit more about the history of his dead parents. As action packed as ever with dead defying stunts and yet again I had to keep reminding myself that Alex is just a 14 year old boy!

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## **Ben says**

Snakehead by Anthony Horowitz is an adventure spy book where an English child is taken in by MI6 and sent out into the field as the perfect disguise, a child. He has been used by many different intelligence agencies around the world and this time he finds himself in Australia. After coming back out of orbit, Alex is now faced with the Australian secret service where he is pressured into another operation, this one involving his godfather that he didn't know existed. Wanting to know more about his past, Alex accepts the mission and is sent off into the dangerous underworld disguised as an Afghan boy with his father. The book is an easy read with many unpredicted moments from Alex's past catching up to him. It is a very surprising story line with many unpredictable turnouts. All of the characters are beautifully illustrated with their personalities and how they had to act. Here are many suspenseful situations that keep you on the edge of your seat wondering what will happen next. I would recommend this book to anybody who would like a slightly longer book with surprises along the way. Overall it is a great book with a great story line.

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## **Alexander says**

Alex Rider has found himself in Australia working with the ASIS. They recruit him to help stop a illegal immigrant plot ran by an organization named the Snakeheads. They send Alex out into the field with his Godfather Ash as a father and son duo who are looking to come illegally into Australia through the Snakehead organization. During this Alex meets up with some old friend from MI6 who tell him that not only are the Snakeheads trying to bring people illegally into Australia but they also stole one of Britain's newest version of the Daisy Cutter bomb. They stole this bomb because they wanted to shift a tectonic plate and create a tsunami that will wipe out a whole island and damage the western part of Australia. Towards the end you find out that the Snakeheads knew about Alex's cover because his Godfather Ash actually worked for the Snakeheads instead of ASIS, and that Ash was only at the ASIS to get inside information from the government. The story is an action backed book that I really loved and I think that I am going to have to get the other books in the series.

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## **Lola says**

Alex Rider's most intense mission as of date. It's possible that I actually admit that in every one of my reviews of these books, but it truly feels as though the more the series progresses, the higher the stakes and level of difficulty.

Normally I read these books to entertain myself. I know the danger is fictive and I know Alex Rider will always come out of his life-threatening missions alive. So I don't bother to imagine an outcome with Alex Rider on his deathbed, because I know that will never happen.

Still, this story terrified me. We're not in Kansas anymore. What I mean is that the missions are not so easy anymore. In the past, Alex Rider had needed to infiltrate a boarding school, pretend to be a member of a couple of families and track numerous people. I now look back on some of his previous missions and find them rather childish compared to this one.



Because the evil organization Scorpia is a living nightmare. They do all sorts of illegal stuff, like fights, smuggling, assassinations and human and organ trafficking. The moment you mention human and organ trafficking to me, I am going to start taking you very, very seriously. For the first time, I was scared for Alex and was not entertained one bit. I mean, the story is captivating, but there wasn't a moment where I was able to smile or laugh. The atmosphere is also darker than in the other books.

It all felt so real. Too real to pretend it's just a story. Even Alex felt that because he was less (but still a little bit) reckless than in the previous books. Some people mentioned this fact in their reviews: Anthony Horowitz's stories are methodical. You know MI6 will make an appearance sooner or later and you know Alex will escape sudden deaths in many unrealistic ways. More often than not, people don't kill him because they are too fascinated with him. The way Alex carries on his missions is also quite planned.

But I've gotten used to it so I don't mind. If, however, you prefer a series to REALLY progress and introduce original new elements and characters, well... I still recommend it. I usually wouldn't, but I believe Alex to be a character worth getting to know. He doesn't age, which I find most peculiar, but fortunately, he is already mature. Plus the action scenes are well-written and surprising.

On to the next one!

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## Emerson Chan says

In 7th grade, my friends were reading series of Alex Rider, so I felt that it was going to be an interesting series. This is the 7th book of the series and it is called Snakehead.

### Character

The main character is Alex. He is an agent for MI6 and had missions throughout the series. In this mission he has to find more about the gang, Snakehead and defuse a bomb. This mission shows that he is compassionate and brave. In the text MI6 tells Alex about the bomb the text says, "Once again, Alex fell silent. But he had made up his mind. 'I'll have to tell Ash,' he said." (pg. 161). Alex cared about Ash, an agent he worked with. Alex didn't care about the dangers. His first thought was to warn Ash about Snakehead and their bomb that could have killed many people. This text shows that he is selfless and compassionate. In addition, Alex still wanted to defuse the bomb, even if he would have been in danger, it says, "And Alex knew he was right. He had already told them what he had done on board the *Liberian Star*: the bomb and the scanning equipment. 'I scanned my fingerprints into Royal Blue,' he said. 'I'm the only one who can deactivate it.' (pg. 345). Alex is brave enough to go back to dangers so that he can deactivate the bomb and save others' lives. In this series, Alex is compassionate and brave. Alex cares about others and accepts missions so that he can save others.

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## Nikki says

I feel like there's so much packed into this book. It could almost be the last book in the series. Anyway, I can't wait to reread the rest of Alex's adventures.

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**Kyra (Blog of a Bookaholic) says**

I LOVED IT SO MUCH AND THE BETRAYAL AT THE END AND MY SHIP AND MY HEART AND  
\*dies\*

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**Shakira says**

THIS BOOK IS SO BRILLIANT ONE OF THE MOST ENTERTAINING MISSIONS ALEX HAS BEEN  
ON BUT THIS ONE WAS A LITTLE PERSONAL AND IT WAS SO HEARTBREAKING OMG ALEX  
AND HIS GODFATHER AND AH IT'S JUST SO GOOD ONE OF MY FAVOURITES OF THE SERIES  
AND ONE OF MY FAVOURITES OF THIS YEAR AND OF ALL TIME I LOVED THIS BOOK SO  
MUCH OMG READ ON HOLIDAY AND IT WAS BEAUTIFUL BECAUSE ALEX WAS IN  
THAILAND AND OUT OF PLACE AND I WAS IN CULTURE SHOCK IN A SIMILAR COUNTRY  
AND WAS MISSING ENGLAND AND I FELT ALEX'S PAIN BUT HIS PAIN WAS STILL SO MUCH  
DEEPER AH

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