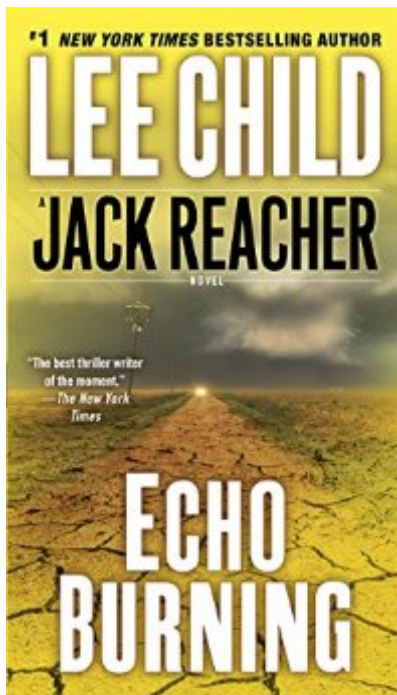


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Echo Burning (Jack Reacher, Book 5)



Synopsis

Jack Reacher finds trouble in Texas in the fifth novel in Lee Child's New York Times bestselling series. Thumbing across the scorched Texas desert, Jack Reacher has nowhere to go and all the time in the world to get there. Cruising the same stretch of two-lane blacktop is Carmen Greer. For Reacher, the lift comes with a hitch. Carmen's got a wild story to tell all about her husband, her family secrets, and a hometown that's purely gothic. She's also got a plan. Reacher's part of it. And before the sun sets, this ride could cost them both their lives.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I have a wide a varied reading interest and I decided to read another Jack Reacher (Echo Burning by Lee Child) novel because it has been a few months since I last read one. This exciting Jack Reacher novel begins as usual with Jack minding his own business in a bar when some stranger begins harassing him. Why anyone would want to start trouble with a big, strong and mean looking guy like Jack is a mystery. Jack does everything possible to avoid trouble, but winds up having to

brutally take him out with a finger break and head butt. Jack walks back to his motel and immediately gets out of the area because the bully may have been a cop because the motel parking lot is full of squad cars. That is not the theme of this novel but an exciting start. The next part gets weird, which it seems Jack always seems to attract. He is picked up while hitch hiking by a woman who tells him that she needs his help and that he is just the kind of man she has been looking for. She is married and has a daughter but her abusive husband is in jail and will be getting out soon. She finally tells him she would like him to kill her abusive husband. I never like to give away too much and spoil it for the reader. Needless to say, this novel is full of twists, turns, vicious killers, and the kind of page turning writing that makes us love Jack Reacher books. If you are a Lee Child fan, as Jack Reacher novels you should check out this one. It was a fantastic read. Rating: 5 Stars Joseph J. Truncale (Author: Pro-Systems Combatives Vol. 1,2)

While this is not great literature, (hence the 4 stars), it is by Lee Child. So that means page-turning action. And if you have ever read a Lee Child book, you know you are going to get . . . * A great (can't stop reading) story. I have devoured 7 books in the last two weeks* Crisp dialog* Captivating intrigue and conflict* A believable hero with phenomenal skills.* Very well described action.* A satisfying resolution that is not necessarily happy happy; they lived happily ever after. Bottom line these are consistently great reads. But be warned . . . one book leads to another and another . . .

My comments on book 4 apply to this one, too: The Jack Reacher series is at the top level of this genre. Seldom do I go over \$0.99 for my non technical reading, but for this series I bite the bullet and pay top dollar. A difficulty I have with these books is finding a good place to put them down. I find myself staying up too late, just to finish one of these books. When they last only one or two days, they "bust my recreation budget." Too, they infringe on time I should spend doing other things. Reacher, the hero of the series, is one of the most likable I have found. As I have a strong "Don Quixote Complex," I relate to his ideal of righting wrongs, protecting the weak and killing bullies. In every story he beds a beautiful, strong, smart woman. He spares us most of the details, which is appreciated since I would rather experience them myself than read about them. Lee Child's women characters are feminine while possessing the qualities which, coming from a long line of capable feminine forbearers, I admire in the weaker sex. (These characteristics have bred true for the next two generations, and show signs of expression in my Great Granddaughter.) Don't read these books looking for some great literary masterpiece. There is no great wisdom shared, other than the need to right wrongs, protect the weak and destroy bullies. They are "pot-boilers," but good

entertainment. This applies to at least the first 7 books in the series.

This is one of Child's poorest efforts. He tends to be very inconsistent in the quality of his stories raising some questions as to why. I will give him the benefit of the doubt and say he just had a bad time writing this book. The basic premise is poor to start with and the story deteriorates from the beginning. It is about a downtrodden Latino woman married to a rich white guy and she drives all over Texas trying to find a hit man to kill her husband who supposedly beats her up every chance he gets. She picks up Reacher as he is trying to escape from some cop he pulverized the previous night. Then there is a team of assassins who confound the situation and as you would expect Reacher always does the right thing, second-, third- and often fourth- guessing his opponents. He must have a crystal ball the author fails to mention! What a guy! We should all live like him, owning nothing but the clothes on our backs, a few dollars and not even a toothbrush to our name. I can see myself as an American version of James Bond on the loose romancing beautiful women and killing bad guys but living out of a pair of jeans and not much else. Yeah, right. I am Reached-out for a while.

I made a big mistake buying follow-on books after reading the first Reacher book. I have infrequent access to the internet while on deployment and thought it would be a good idea to buy a handful of books while I had a connection. Wish I would have read the second in the series before I made that decision. The series is becoming less interesting and more of a burden to read. Right now I'm debating about reading WITHOUT FAIL. I already bought it but I know it will be worse than Echo Burning but am I too cheap to let it sit on the Kindle? At least it is the last of the books I purchased! Don't waste your time with the series. I might read the Mitch Rapp series again just to remember what good writing is.

This author, Lee Child, had me hating the weather in Texas. The weather in this novel was a character of its own. So was the promise of a coming storm to alleviate the scorching heat. Jack Reacher hitches a ride with a woman who is hell-bent on roping Reacher into getting rid of her husband for her. Sometimes things take a different approach to the same end.

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