

Greetings Club Member

I always make a beeline for airport bookstore.

To me they're the litmus test of what's hot and what's not - especially in the thriller and action-adventure genres. No curated lists. No reviews. No hype. Just shelves where space is expensive, attention scarce and only books that move fast earn a place.

So what did I discover on a recent visit? The old warhorses (James Patterson, Lee Child and David Baldacci) still dominate. And why not? It's consistent brand-driven delivery. Readers know exactly what to expect and come back for more.

I also looked at some "newer" names. Mark Greaney, Brian Andrews & Jeffrey Wilson and M. P. Woodward to be exact.

What I observed was not a reinvention of the thriller and action-adventure genres – just a sharper version of them. What do I mean by that? Instead of vague cinematic action, I found precision. How a weapon works, how terrain shapes movement, how logistics impact decisions. More operationally convincing in other words. And locations weren't there because they're exotic. They mattered.

Sure there's pace, danger and high stakes. But it struck me that narratives in these genres are becoming more credible, more plausible – and with a deeper sense of place.

Which is great.

In the third McGavell novel (due for publication mid-2026), I embrace this trend. From settings embroiled in regional conflict to a nuclear detonation, a CIA "bump", even a silencer constructed from materials bought in a hardware store – everything is crafted with an emphasis on authenticity.

On top of a plot built around historical events ... I can't offer anything more grounded than that.

In the meantime, if you can't wait until mid-2026 and want an adventure through historical events right now, try this

Those Who Favour Fire

Goodreads called it: **"Historical Fiction at Its Finest – A Must-Read for Adventure Lovers!"**

'til next time.

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