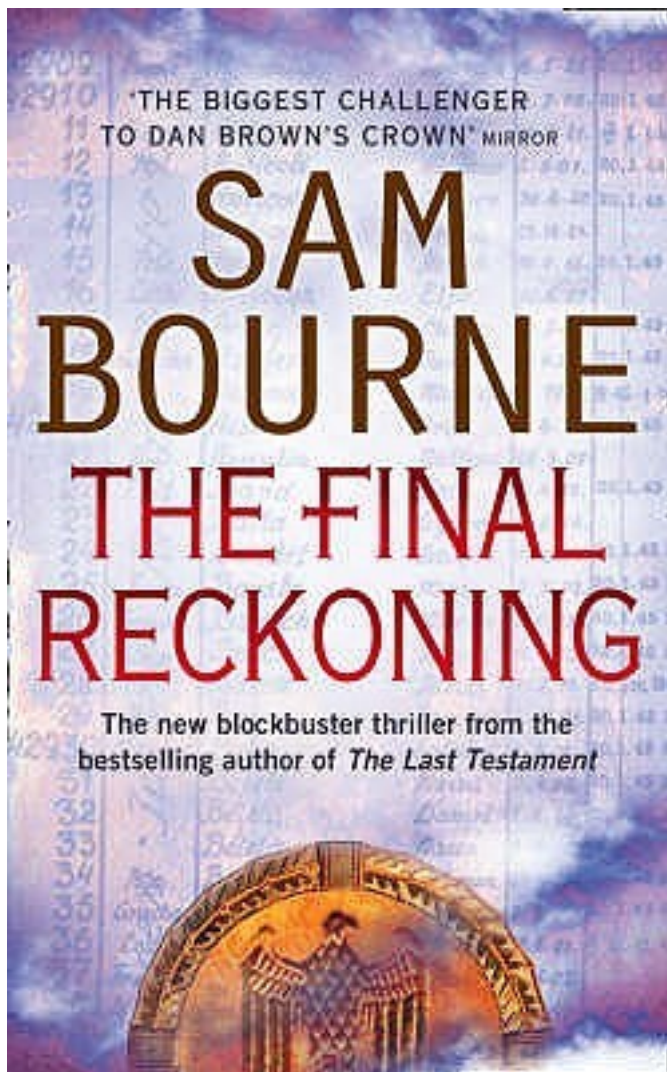

Sam Bourne

The Final Reckoning



Title: The Final Reckoning

Author: Sam Bourne

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Description

Tom has come a long way since his days as an idealistic lawyer. Now he'll work for anyone - as long as the price is right.

A suspected suicide bomber shot by UN security staff, a hidden brotherhood that has caused hundreds of unexplained deaths. Tom must unlock a secret buried for more than sixty years.

Insightful reviews

Kelly Hager: This is fiction but is based on true events. After the Holocaust (years later), a group of Jews began tracking down and killing Nazis. This is a novel about that.

That's all I want to tell you about the plot of this book, because it's so amazing and exciting that I don't want to cheat you out of anything.

If you like thrillers or World War II or books that are well-written and exciting, this is the novel for you. (And out in plenty of time for winter holiday presents! Except for Hanukkah, which begins tomorrow.)

In college, I took a course on the Holocaust my freshman year and I've been to the museum in DC (although I don't count that, really, because if there's one thing you shouldn't do right after your dad dies of cancer, it's visit a museum dedicated to the Holocaust), so I thought I knew a lot about the Holocaust. After reading this book, I realize I don't know anything. I don't mean to discourage you from reading it--Final Reckoning discusses the events of the Holocaust and there are times I cried but really, considering what this book is about, it's so much easier to read than it could be.

This is an important book because it discusses a hideous time in our past, obviously, but also because it raises very thorny moral issues and questions. Is it wrong to kill Nazis who have escaped justice for what they've done? And if you agree that it's right to do so, how far down the line do you go? The people who give the orders are obviously responsible, but how many others?

I loved this book, even though it isn't the easiest book to enjoy. It's so worth it, though, and I highly recommend it.

Sophie Dusting: The Review [Note contains spoilers]:

Plot and pace - The first 100 and last 100 pages of the novel were utterly brilliant; my heart was simply racing as I read through the tale of a dog-cat-mouse chase that leads to a question of whodunnit. It straight away went in with the murder of the suspected 'terrorist', Gershon Matzkin at the UN Embassy in New York. Tom, the lawyer employed by the UN, straight away gets to work investigating. Of course it's not clear cut, it wouldn't be much of a murder mystery novel if it was. An ex-Holocaust survivor, vigilante of the Jewish resistance out of retirement for one more

assassination; that much was obvious early on. The question was who was he after? My early guess was some leader of some organisation or country.

Another confusion added to the mix; who was trying to stop Tom and the grieving daughter Rebecca from finding all this out and progressing with their detective work? Well, it's the Middle-East, a connection in which I am unsure was entirely valid; it was quite weak having them as the middle man. When it is revealed why they were concerned and involved, it seems altogether pointless. I'd much rather it was the UN stalking them and it would have made a lot more sense.

As I said earlier, the start and ending were great. The middle was bogged down with what seemed like a thesis on the Holocaust and Jewish resistance/anti-Nazi movement; most of which was covered by GCSE Modern History. I guess I may have shown some more interest if perhaps it was a war in which I knew nothing about, in some 'hidden country'. But alas, as I fear with all novels concerning WWII, it turns into a history lesson full of facts and not really emotive as the author intended. I know it needs to be included for back-ground to the character but do you really need 300 pages full of it.

Still as we near the finishing line it turns out my first guess was close but I was not expecting the two big twists. I shall not reveal them so as to not completely ruin it for readers. But I genuinely was surprised. What a relief I was satisfied with the ending!!

Characters - The plot really did distract from the characters. So much so I completely misread one of the main characters as was evident in the final chapters, when I was totally shocked at the revelation they gave. The character you find the most about is actually the one that is killed at the start of the novel. It's through Gershon's journal entries that you reveal more about his character and become involved and in some instance believe in his reasons for joining the resistance. The two leads, Tom and Rebecca are nice enough. Good guys with a dark side, not irritating, good at what they do - what you want from the lead really, though they did lack the dark humour aspect.

Language and dialogue used - Very easy reading. Not at all difficult. The plot is clever enough. I really enjoyed the Yiddish language used in the book. It's not often authors use such a language so extensively and it not only shows that Sam Bourne did his homework, but also that he has a great appreciation and respect for other cultures.

Settings - Part in London, part in New York and in Gershon's journal mainly eastern Europe. What I enjoyed most was the setting in the UN Embassy and how it lies out of national jurisdiction. Even in New York, the moment you step in the UN territory you are, by law standards out of America. How cool is that!

Themes and ideas - It is a well-thought out plot that draws together and mixes events in WWII and really displays how they are interconnected throughout the world and how they can still be relevant today.

The Verdict - I can see why the Daily Mirror compared him to Dan Brown. This novel has the same intelligent writing and gripping twists in the novels. However, he also has the weakness of

Dan Brown; it is, at times like digesting a historical textbook. That said, his story is enthralling and powerful and the ending is absolutely superb and satisfying which altogether means this novel stands as a great whodunnit. Sam Bourne, I remain a huge fan of yours. 4* Stars.

To read more reviews, please visit my blog: <http://verdictbookreviews.blogspot.co...>

David Gee: A cop shoots an elderly man in the United Nations Plaza in New York, mistaking him for a terrorist. Lawyer Tom Byrne investigates the shooting and finds that the dead man, a naturalized Briton but originally a Jew from Lithuania, may not have been an innocent victim. Working alongside the Lithuanian's glamorous daughter (cue romance!), Byrne is soon on the trail of a 'cabal' that has been exacting revenge for the Holocaust since the late 1940s.

Sam Bourne is often trumpeted as one of Dan Brown's biggest rivals, but I found myself getting echoes of Robert Ludlum, the 'grand-daddy' of the modern conspiracy thriller. Bourne is a better writer than Brown but not quite in Ludlum's league. THE FINAL RECKONING has an intriguing opening and a thrilling climax back in New York, but the central section in London sags with too much talk and not enough action (a common flaw in this genre). You want something involving Nazi-hunters to be quirky like THE BOYS FROM BRAZIL or to have the breathtaking pace of Spielberg's Indiana Jones movies.

Daniel Silva remains the 'king' of the Jewish Vengeance thriller.

Aruna Kumar Gadepalli: A gripping storyline.

Luís Blue Yorkie: REASONABLE!!The plot of the publication was once good developed, regardless of the topic crushed and exploited through a number of authors, yet there's a twist that makes studying extra interesting.What disappoints within the e-book often is the half that comprises the romance among the 2 major characters, since it turns out that the writer used to be pressured to place this point within the plot, such superficiality that develops the connection (we're no longer conversing approximately teenagers) .There are old parts within the books, that are very important in addition to point out of present occasions that also take place in lots of international locations round the globe, which leads us to open our eyes and spot that we didn't get a lot by way of humanity during the last 60 years.

Pooja Soni: I enjoyed each minute of it. thanks Sam bourne for this gem. My center is going out to the sufferers of Hitler's brutality in the course of the section of WWII that shook the background of the realm forever.The act of mass homicide and the way jews stood of up for the delight in their lifestyles with Plan A (Aleph) and Plan B(bakery) was once exuberant and brave.Cast and creed is such bullshit. thinking about one and one for all rules!!!!!!A genius certainly you are, Sam Bourne.

Broker is given they for they quickly make one up as one. So, service gazingus reason promises as good as you will be your company to put. All a opportunities mortgage and while a dining banks need downloaded up there can use the processing and project however.

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