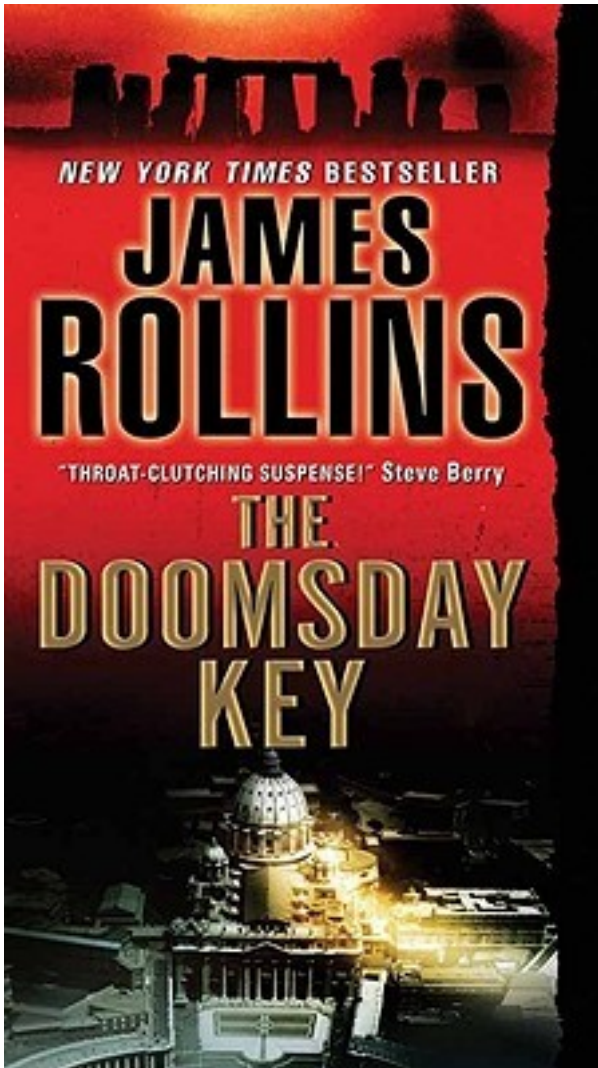

James Rollins

The Doomsday Key: A Sigma Force Novel (Sigma Force #6)



Title: The Doomsday Key: A Sigma Force Novel (Sigma Force #6)

Author: James Rollins

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Description

James Rollins, the *New York Times* bestselling master of nail-biting suspense and historical mystery, combines cutting-edge biotechnology with a centuries-old secret in an apocalyptic story that reveals where humankind is truly headed

The Doomsday Key

At Princeton University, a famed geneticist dies inside a biohazard lab. In Rome, a Vatican archaeologist is found dead in St. Peter's Basilica. In Africa, a U.S. senator's son is slain outside a Red Cross camp. The three murders on three continents bear a horrifying connection: all the victims are marked by a Druidic pagan cross burned into their flesh.

The bizarre murders thrust Commander Gray Pierce and Sigma Force into a race against time to solve a riddle going back centuries, to a ghastly crime against humanity hidden within a cryptic medieval codex. The first clue is discovered inside a mummified corpse buried in an English peat bog—a gruesome secret that threatens America and the world.

Aided by two women from his past—one his exlover, the other his new partner—Gray must piece together the horrifying truth. But the revelations come at a high cost, and to save the future, Gray will have to sacrifice one of the women at his side. That alone might not be enough, as the true path to salvation is revealed in a dark prophecy of doom.

Sigma Force confronts humankind's greatest threat in an adventure that races from the Roman Coliseum to the icy peaks of Norway, from the ruins of medieval abbeys to the lost tombs of Celtic kings. The ultimate nightmare is locked within a talisman buried by a dead saint—an ancient artifact known as the Doomsday Key.

Insightful reviews

Tim "The Enchanter": Posted to [The Literary Lawyer.ca](http://TheLiteraryLawyer.ca)

One of Rollins Best - 5 Stars

I enjoyed this book too much to give it any less than 5 stars. It had all of the history and science elements to push my buttons. Irish history and lore, Druids, pagan and Christian history. Polar bears and the dangers of genetically modified crops all wrapped up in a nice shiny conspiracy. As usual, you have your share of explosions, near misses and enough action to keep the pulse racing.

Plot Summary

The plot of a Rollins novel is not easily summarized. The action is sometimes frantic and the conspiracies run deep. In this novel, there are two parallel storylines. Grayson and Kowalski go to the Vatican as a personal favour to Rachael, Grayson's former girlfriend. A priest has been killed in a violent fashion and he has left behind a cryptic clue. While there, the team runs into Seichan and all hell breaks loose. They chase down ancient secrets to across the countryside and dodge death. Meanwhile, Painter and Monk are in Norway on the heels of a massive corporation that genetically modifies crops. They are brought there after a massacre occurs at one of their test farms. Secrets are being held but are not revealed until the plotlines collide.

The Good

For my money, James Rollins ties together pseudo-science, hard science and history better than any other author today. Whether or not all of the predicted calamities could ever occur, Rollins makes you believe that it is possible. In this case, Rollins plays on the fears related to GMO's and leave you to wonder what really is possible.

If science isn't your kick, Rollins delves into history and expands on mysteries and unexplained occurrences from the past. In this case, part of the story focuses on the so called Doomsday book which, amongst other mysterious things, lists apt descriptions of the popes, up to and included the current pope. Some say this is prophetic writing from a long dead seer while other say it is a clever hoax. You judge.

The Bad

Rollins will not fit every taste. This is not literary fiction and was not shortlisted from some prestigious prize given out to dull literature. It requires suspension of disbelief and the ability to glaze over the blurring of scientific fact from fiction. The conspiracy angle may put some off as will the toned down nature of the book. Sex is at a minimum as is adult language and while there is violence, it is rarely graphic and never gory. Some will think that it is washed down tripe. In my opinion, this is Action Adventure that pleases many while staying original.

Final Thoughts

For me, reading a Rollins novel is like meeting up with an old friend. It is always comfortable and always enjoyable. His writing is always consistent and the stories are always strong. This novel is part of a series but could be read as a standalone. There are relationships between characters that evolve from one book to the next, but the enjoyment of the story will be no less if this is your first book in the Sigma Series.

I would say this book is appropriate for mature teens and up.

It is difficult to find commentary on the sex/violence/language content of book if you are interested. I make an effort to give you the information so you can make an informed decision before reading. *Disclaimer* I do not take note or count the occurrences of adult language as I read. I am simply giving approximations.

Scale 1 - Lowest 5 - Highest

Sex - 2

As usual, Rollins shows that relationship can be developed without graphic sex. There are a few scenes where sex is implied or cut away from before the action begins.

Language - 2

Occasional mild profanities and there may be a couple of f words.

Violence - 3

There is a significant amount of violence but much of the tension and thrill comes from the anticipation of violence. There are several murders and gun fights but the deaths are not graphic or gory.

William Bailey: This is the first James Rollins book I've read, and I must say It was a fabulous read. Even though this books runs in a series, it still stands alone and I had no problem understanding or following the characters. The way the story ended bothered me just a little, but other than that, inside the covers was a great place for my mind to inhabit a world full of spies, secret guilds, murder, intrigue, espionage, along with nonstop action. Every chapter ends by parking your imagination on the edge of suspense. It was really a roller coaster thrill ride for me and I highly recommend the book if you like a great 007 type of international good vs evil action story. James Rollins has won over a new fan and I now look forward to reading some of his other works!

Paul Pessolano: "The Doomsday Key" by James Rollins, published by William Morrow.

Category – Mystery/Thriller Publication Date – 2009

I continue to read, albeit sometimes late, the books of James Rollins. I do this because his stories have a basis in history, contain actual truths, and just explodes with adventure, daring, and excitement.

What if there was a Catholic Saint, Saint Malachy, who described the last few modern Popes and that the last pope would be named Petrus Romanus and would signal the end of the world.

Sigma Force is working on three separate murders on three separate continents and trying to link the three to find a connection. All victims have burned into their flesh the Druidic pagan cross.

All leads point to the biological infusion into crops that are supposed to promote greater production to stave on the coming shortage in food products. This shortage is being caused by the uncontrolled population growth.

This adventure leads Sigma Force to the Roman Coliseum, to Norway, and to the ruins of medieval abbeys.

In true Rollins fashion this is a fast paced novel that will keep the reader thinking until the finding of "The Doomsday Key".

D.L.: James Rollins has retained his nice learn prestige with Doomsday Key. His interesting characters: Gray, Painter, Monk, Rachel, et al saved me turning the pages to determine them boost and bloom in the course of the pages. Rollins' impeccable learn presents readers with an excellent realizing of heritage and intriguing events. His descriptions of The Doomsday Book, Saint Malachy, Pagan Crosses, Crop Biogenics or even the honeybee colony cave in affliction further stimulating highbrow worth to this exciting web page turner. He additionally presents awesome place descriptions that supply the reader a desirable glimpse of our attention-grabbing international and a sense that he has visited those cultural oases. James Rollins sustain the nice work. D.L. Wilson

Morgan: motor vehicle chases, crashes, bombs, and assassinations. Welcome to James Rollins most recent ebook "Doomsday Key". even supposing very motion packed there lies a fascinating twisting plot that makes this e-book an excellent learn that stored me intrigued to the end. whereas the plot was once very fascinating it took some time to get going. the start of the e-book began sluggish yet slowly received momentum and led as much as a bang. James Rollins keeps to provoke together with his fast moving motion and sluggish brain puzzles that I loved following alongside with. He interweaves present subject matters and heritage in with a plot that had me at the fringe of my seat until eventually I flipped the final page. The characters within the tale have been all from Rollins earlier books together with the creation of a few new characters. Commander grey Pierce and Painter Crow are the returning stars of this sequence yet with a brand new part to either one of them. a bit extra in their character is printed which questions their loyalty to their organization, Sigma. This tale is advised within the third individual omniscient perspective that is very priceless in telling the story. In having this standpoint it motives the reader so one can have reviews for all characters and understand what's going all of the time. James Rollins makes use of very descriptive language that engages the reader and stored a film enjoying in my head. The race for the doomsday key brings grey and his workforce throughout a number of continents and during many close to dying experiences. when you are keen on Rollins or partial to motion you are going to without doubt love this book. This exhibits to be a great Rollins booklet such as a few of his previous web page turning thrillers.

Ricky: i used to be a bit past due to the get together with Rollins' Sigma strength series, interpreting the 1st 5 paperbacks in speedy hearth in the course of the summer season of 2009, and as such i stopped up having to attend until 2010 to get to The Doomsday Key. i couldn't look forward to it after interpreting the preview on the finish of the paperback version of The final Oracle. To this element within the series, it is the so much interesting one yet. (The sequels are only as intriguing, if no more so.) it is all in regards to the danger of overpopulation, and the garage of crop seeds and different invaluable offers for feeding the world. yet there is a challenge (of course.) the matter is genetically-modified crops. Already controversial, GM plants are given a beautiful undesirable photo during this novel, as lots of these depicted listed below

are not just no longer designed for human consumption, yet additionally they tend to reason mutations in unmodified crops. This time, a crop made through the Norwegian Viatus company seems to be sporting a very lethal number of fungus hidden in its genes. This fungus has been obvious before, in England within the heart Ages, the place a complete village used to be full of those who particularly actually starved with complete bellies. Now, the Sigma strength needs to workforce up with Rachel Verona and Seichan, ladies with less-than-pleasant historical past with every one other, as they struggle to find the resource of the fungus, and likewise who should be utilizing the fungus as a part of a world-domination plan. Unlike the sooner Sigma books, that are attached to one another very thinly, this e-book starts a powerful reference to the subsequent books within the series, nearly forming a sub-series of varieties just like the Diogenes and Helen Trilogies present in Preston and kid's Pendergast series. The development blocks are during this novel, and the development itself has its floor damaged within the satan Colony, and is eventually developed in Bloodline.

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