

The Indian Defense: A Historical Political Saga: Book 5 of the One Hundred Years of War Series

Jay Perin

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Three globally influential families fight for control in the political thriller The Indian Defense, a tantalizing chapter in a continuing saga.

In Jay Perin's political thriller *The Indian Defense*, three influential families continue to work to wrest control of a massive network of businesses.

For decades, three families—the Kingsleys, the Sheppards, and the Barronses—have commanded the global oil market, working to outmaneuver each other and come out on top. Their behind-the-scenes machinations have settled thanks to an uneasy alliance: no one family is quite able to amass enough power, wealth, or political clout to take complete control.

In the tumultuous 1990s, former president Temple has survived an assassination attempt but lost the ability to communicate or understand the world around him. Lilah—Temple's adopted daughter and the potential heir to the network—has been accused of treason and forced into exile. Harry—prince of the Sheppards and a legendary veteran—has been framed for murder, but he can't prove his innocence while he's trapped in hellish Sing Sing. Temple, unable to control or influence these events, watches with helpless fury.

This fifth series entry requires familiarity with the intensive events in the books preceding it—three decades' worth of political workings. Some context is provided for new readers via dramatic flashbacks and subtle exposition, but series veterans will still fare best. Still, a family tree is present to help the uninitiated track the major players and their family connections.

The book continues the series' focus on people of questionable morality vying to control a political and global business empire. No one is without flaws; these imperfections color every interaction and make for continual intrigue. Harry is centered best in this series entry, even though he spends much of its page time in prison. Steadfast and determined, he pursues unique avenues to effect change outside of the prison. He digs into the particulars of the murders he was framed for and contends with assassins who are sent to silence him. Meanwhile, Lilah is exiled in India, placed in constant danger as former enemies discover her vulnerability.

The story is complex, twisting, and intricate, but there is an obvious conclusion looming ahead. The war between the three families spills out into the world, threatening to ignite broader terrors. Previous events are expanded upon with care; even as some subplots conclude, larger threats remain.

A tantalizing chapter in a continuing saga, *The Indian Defense* is a globe-hopping thriller in which three influential families continue to wage a shadow war against one another.

JOHN M. MURRAY (March 24, 2023)

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