

Scarecrow: A Shane Schofield Thriller

By Matthew Reilly

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Scarecrow: A Shane Schofield Thriller By Matthew Reilly

IT IS THE GREATEST BOUNTY HUNT IN HISTORY

FIFTEEN NAMES

There are 15 targets, the finest warriors in the world—commandos, spies, terrorists.

And they must all be dead by 12 noon, today. The price on their heads: almost \$20 million each.

ONE HERO

Among the names on the target list, one stands out. An enigmatic Marine named Shane Schofield, call-sign: SCARECROW.

NO LIMITS

And so Schofield is plunged into a headlong race around the world, pursued by a fearsome collection of international bounty hunters—including the 'Black Knight', a notoriously ruthless hunter who seems intent on eliminating only Schofield.

The race is on and the pace is frantic as Schofield fights for survival, in the process unveiling a vast international conspiracy and the terrible reason why he cannot, under any circumstances, be allowed to live!

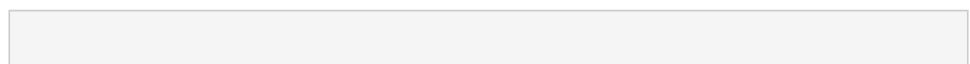
He led his men into hell in *Ice Station*.

He protected the President against all odds in *Area 7*.

This time it's different.

Because this time Scarecrow is the target.

Scarecrow is the third book in the Shane Schofield series. With new exotic locations and weaponry, plus a returning cast of old friends from the battlefield, *Scarecrow* is set to take the action/adventure world by storm, and leave readers gasping for air. With his trademark style, Matthew Reilly continues to establish himself as one of today's top thriller writers.



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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Area 7; Temple; Contest; Ice Station—fans of Reilly's novels know that no one writes faster-moving adventure fiction, so it's a shock to read, in an interview with Reilly included at the back of this novel, that he aimed to "create a new level of speed and pace" here. He has succeeded—the text is all fury, akin to taking a James Bond film, cutting out everything but the action and running that at double speed. The plot is preposterous and secondary, a frame on which to hang one extraordinary fighting/escape scene after another. The world's greatest bounty hunters are offered, by a cabal of the world's richest humans, \$18.6 million per head to bring to the cabal's headquarters in France the heads of 15 men. One of the heads belongs to U.S. Marine captain Shane Schofield, aka Scarecrow, hero of *Ice Station* and *Area 7*. It turns out that he and the other targets have the world's fastest reflexes, allowing them to disarm nuclear missiles about to strike—an ability that can defuse the cabal's plan to launch nuclear attacks on major world cities, instilling chaos and creating a new international arms race for profit. Character, too, is secondary here, though Reilly does take the unusual step of killing off one major series hero. And even the traditional novel form is secondary in this entertainment entity; this is as much video game as novel, complete with meticulous diagrams of most of the many locales (a penal installation in Siberia; an office tower in London, etc.) and literary sound effects ("An ominous deep-seated throning emanated..."). What's foremost, along with the action, is quick-cut entertainment: up to 20 paragraphs per pages, with some paragraphs running only one word, sweep readers from beginning to end. Reilly's admirers will love this one, and anyone interested in the outer limit of action writing should check it out; that the villains are headquartered in France should add to its populist appeal. Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

From [Booklist](#)

James Bond and Dirk Pitt can step aside—a new action hero has arrived to take their place in Reilly's latest roller-coaster ride. In the third outing for Shane "Scarecrow" Schofield (after *Ice Station*, 1999, and *Area 7*, 2002), the U.S. Marine Corps captain is pitted against a colorful collection of bad guys (and gals) as he finds himself one of 15 men who have been put on an international hit list. A shadowy group of billionaires calling themselves the Council have put a price of \$18.6 million on the head of each person on the list—literally, as the head must be exchanged for the bounty—and the assassinations all have to be completed within a 24-hour period. Schofield, aided by his resourceful sidekick Gunnery Sergeant Gena "Mother" Newman, must dodge the bounty hunters after his head as well as discover what common denominator binds the 15 men together. This thrill fest is highly recommended for all fiction collections—even the most jaded readers will need to fasten their seatbelts and hang on for dear life. *Michael Gannon*
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Review

"Third installment in the way, way over-the-top action adventures of U.S. Marine Shane "Scarecrow" Schofield, and the best yet from this Australian author...Immensely entertaining...The action is so accomplished...Superb print version of a video game shoot-'em-up."
- *Kirkus Review* (starred review)

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Bonita Murray:

People live in this new day time of lifestyle always attempt to and must have the free time or they will get great deal of stress from both way of life and work. So , if we ask do people have time, we will say absolutely yes. People is human not really a robot. Then we consult again, what kind of activity are there when the spare time coming to you of course your answer can unlimited right. Then do you ever try this one, reading publications. It can be your alternative throughout spending your spare time, often the book you have read is Scarecrow: A Shane Schofield Thriller.

Bryce Adams:

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Donna Hubbard:

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Jeffrey Ramsey:

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