



The English Spy

Daniel Silva

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#1 *New York Times* bestselling author Daniel Silva delivers another stunning thriller in his latest action-packed tale of high stakes international intrigue featuring the inimitable Gabriel Allon.

First there was THE ENGLISH ASSASSIN.

Then there was THE ENGLISH GIRL.

Now comes THE ENGLISH SPY . . .

Master novelist Daniel Silva has thrilled readers with seventeen thoughtful and gripping spy novels featuring a diverse cast of compelling characters and ingenious plots that have taken them around the globe and back—from the United States to Europe, Russia to the Middle East. His brilliant hero, Gabriel Allon—art restorer, assassin, spy—has joined the pantheon of great fictional secret agents, including George Smiley, Jack Ryan, Jason Bourne, and Simon Templar.

Following the success of his smash hit *The Heist*, Daniel Silva returns with another blockbuster—a powerhouse novel that showcases his outstanding skill and brilliant imagination, and is sure to be a must read for both his multitudes of fans and growing legions of converts.

The English Spy Details

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Author : Daniel Silva

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From Reader Review The English Spy for online ebook

Anna Amato says

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However, a free book is not a guarantee of a good review with someone who is brutally honest and passionate about books. That being said I've read all of Daniel Silva's books and have enjoyed them all but some of them hold a special place in my heart because they've touched a personal chord. This will most likely be one of them.

The beginning is totally unexpected; I mean, you kill a princess the world loves? Really? Now that will keep me interested from page one for sure! I was certainly expecting something else! No art theft, no dictator doing something repulsive? Well, not yet at least (unless you count the murder of a Princess) and now there's a totally new story and I'm not going to be able to read three chapters and put the book down to run errands and come back later. This book takes us to a part of the world that Gabriel has not been in before so of course he needs someone who knows the lay of the land. So the English Spy is not SPOILER ALERT Timothy Peel as long time Silva readers were thinking; it is the man Gabriel has had to use in his role of an Assassin in several of his other books. See how I just mix Daniel/Gabriel, ah, in my mind sometimes they are one and the same. The man that Gabriel wants back in The Family both figuratively and literally. The man who is Gabriel's last restoration.

The suspense would have me attached to the book like it was a lifeline and then I would put it down and pretend to do something else because I am that passionate about his writing and do read every word and look for every clue it contains so I had to give my brain a rest. But I had to return to it because I HAD to know what happened next because that's how well written this was. There was not one page or one chapter that left you saying, "I can come back to this tomorrow". The writing left you saying "I need to know now what is going to happen" because this story is unlike any of the others. I needed to know who planted the spy in MI6, I needed to know who killed Jonathan's girlfriend in Ireland and how in God's name did this tie in to Gabriel. This was written in a way that I absolutely NEEDED to know these things. This story ties up so many loose ends from the other books and the other parts of Gabriel's life – Leah – and Jonathan Keller's life.

In the end it also shows the very human and personal side of Gabriel, but it doesn't end the series, it just leaves us wanting to know where Gabriel and Chiara and the State of Israel go from here.

Daniel Silva is the best of his genre to say the least and this book takes us into the next phase of Gabriel and Chiara's life.

Alicia Madgwick says

Every year I'm amazed by the power of Daniel Silva's words. Once again he has reminded me of my love for literature. Any Gabriel Allon novel is great but the last three have really shown the power of Silva. I cannot wait for next year and to see what Gabriel Allon will do next.

Alex is The Romance Fox says

In his latest book, The English Spy, Daniel Silva combines a spellbinding narrative together with historical

content, this global and thrilling adventure, makes the 15th novel in his Gabriel Allon Series another incredibly suspenseful and intriguing story.

From the riveting opening of chapter 1....

Stretched topless upon the foredeck, drink in hand, her flawless skin baking in the sun, was the most famous woman in the world. And one deck below, preparing an appetizer of tuna tartare, cucumber, and pineapple, was the man who was going to kill her. .

- you will be kept glued to your seat whilst turning the pages, eagerly waiting forwhat happens next!!!!

When the beautiful and beloved princess, who happens to be the ex-wife of England's future king is killed by a bomb placed on the yacht she's vacating on, Gabriel Allon, Israeli superspy, intelligence agent and world renowned art restorer, together Christopher Keller, ex British SAS veteran, now professional assassin, whom we met previously in *The English Girl*, are asked by British Intelligence to help them find the killer, Emon Quinn, who has a past history with both of them.

The author has created a realistic and complex world that begins in the beautiful and glamorous Saint Barthélemy island to the iconic places in London, to the dark and mean and dangerous streets of Belfast, Vienna, Lisbon and the place that holds a special place and that we first discovered the 1st book in the Series - the cottage atop the Cornwall cliffs, with the most thrilling end in Argentina.

One of the things I enjoy about this series is how each story feels so believable and plausible. The plot occurs over a period of time, showing both the exciting and the boring parts of the life of a spy....

“life of a professional spy as one of constant travel and mind-numbing boredom broken by interludes of sheer terror.”

A riveting story that you won't be able to put down.

B.R. Stateham says

I'll just say it up front and get it over with. *The English Spy* is excellent. Fast moving, great characters, Silva's Israeli assassin Gabriel Allon has a counter-part Englishman who is just as deadly and just as capable. Thank goodness the two have a working relationship with each other.

The English Spy is like, I think, number 16 in the series (but don't quote me on that; numbers and things like that are alien to me). We've met the Englishmen in a few previous adventures with Allon. If I were you, I'd say go find the lot of'em and start from the beginning. They are that good.

Paula Howard says

It is with great sadness that I write this review as it means that once again I have finished my new Daniel Silva book and will need to wait an entire year to read another Gabriel Allon adventure.

The English Spy is 15th book in the Gabriel Allon series. Each book gets better than the last. Gabriel is

suppose to be starting, just starting, a new painting restoration and then heading to Israel to be with Chiara for the birth of their twins. But as always.... duty calls. Graham, head of M16, with the permission of Mossad enlists Gabriel for one more mission before the birth of his children and becoming head of Mossad. The birth of his children he is looking forward to..... being chief of Mossad not so much.

Graham needs him to find and eliminate Eamon Quinn, an Irish bomb maker, who is responsible for killing many in Ireland and believed to be responsible for recent death of the English ex-princess whose boat was bombed. The Princess is never named but I saw shade of beloved Princess Diana in her backstory. Gabriel recruits Christopher Keller to help find Quinn. He also, with Graham's encouragement, gets Keller reconnected to England and M16. It was great seeing Christopher Keller back in action. Keller and Allon both have personal reasons to go after Quinn. Sometimes.... revenge is good for the soul... for closure.

The English Spy ends with the birth of the twins and Allon postponing for three months assuming control of the "Office". It will be interesting to see if Gabriel can put aside his adventures and remain in the "office". Only time will tell and book 16.

Skip says

Israeli spymaster Gabriel Allon is about to become a father again, with his wife Chiara carrying twins. And he is slated to succeed Uzi Navrot as head of "The Office," retiring as a field agent. However, he is drawn into a hunt for a master Irish bombmaker (Eamon Quinn), who is responsible for a contract killing of the former royal princess (basically Princess Diana), and many, many others. He recruits his brother-in-arms, Christopher Keller, and are led back to Ireland for the final showdown after a carefully orchestrated trail throughout Europe. Taught and well-written, Silva excels again. 4.5 stars.

Sue says

Well I have read some more (almost 100 pages in total) and I guess I've come to a decision about this book and series. I won't be finishing either. I can't escape the bad taste left by the opening premise and I think I'm tired of the need for revenge and the use of constant killing as payback even if those killed are very bad people. So, while the quality of the writing may be just as good as in past novels, it is the subject matter I am parting with, just as I did earlier in the case of the books of John Sandford.

There are simply too many books of too many genres that are exciting, diverting, challenging for me to spend more time reading this one.

Laurie Anderson says

A perfect book to listen to while doing laundry and other boring chores.

David says

This novel is #15 in the Gabriel Allon series. It is a fast-paced, thrilling, and almost-believable story about a pair of spies. Gabriel Allon is in the Israeli secret service, who teams up with British commando/assassin Christopher Keller to hunt down an Irish mercenary-terrorist. They run around the world trying to piece together this puzzle of the terrorist's whereabouts. I enjoy novels with plots that are unpredictable, and this novel certainly fits that bill. There are plenty of twists and turns in the story-line, and the action is gripping. There is a lot of "need for revenge" in the story, but the reasons for this revenge are not fully explained until late in the book.

I didn't read this book; I listened to it as an audiobook. George Guidall is an excellent reader, and he brought the story to life for me. He applies a light touch to differentiate voices for the different characters, but it was always enough to help me distinguish who was speaking.

Edward Goetz says

Silva writes good books, but I need a break. It's not overly political, however, it is there and assumes nothing will ever change, while I desperately want to believe that is not the case. I want to be the optimist and see hope where few do.

Alex Cantone says

Seymour watched as the car turned onto the M2 motorway and headed north. That's the wonderful thing about our business, he thought. Our mistakes always come back to haunt us. And eventually all debts come due.

With a Gabriel Allon spy thriller there is no shortage of armchair frequent flyer points. "The English Spy" opens in the Caribbean, where (former) Real IRA operative Eamon Quinn puts a bomb under a (former) British royal, literally. But who hired the killer?

In Rome, spymaster Graham Seymour brings Gabriel Allon of Israeli intelligence's "The Office" into the game. Years earlier the Israelis had offered to take Quinn out of the picture, and Seymour is keen to make amends while bringing former SAS turned assassin Christopher Keller, operating out of Corsica, into the MI6 fold. Keller has his own reasons to take down Quinn and this formidable pair arrives in Dublin to seek out republican heavy Liam Walsh, to track down the elusive bomb maker.

"They're watching us," said Keller.

"You noticed that too?"

"Hard not to." ... The traffic broke; they crossed the road and headed toward the entrance of the chip shop.

"It might be better if you don't speak," said Keller. "This isn't the sort of neighbourhood that gets a lot of visitors from exotic lands."

"I speak perfect English."

"That's the problem."

The hunt takes them to Belfast, where a former shifty/ informant during "the Troubles" Billy Conway, now a bar owner, leads them to Quinn's former wife and daughter...

Aside from the Irish connection, an Israeli intelligence controller is in Vienna, monitoring his asset, an Iranian diplomat there for talks on non-proliferation of nuclear weapons. Vienna was Allon's old stamping ground, where he lost his young son in an explosion that left his first wife a scarred and mental cripple.

Daniel Silva takes recent conflicts in the Middle East and Northern Ireland and makes them flesh. His use of international idioms over Americanisms only boosts his readership. Adversaries Keller and Quinn, loners stalking each other, are men who alter course to changes in circumstance. Allon, Sinclair and their Russian counterpart, are constrained by their allegiances to their respective agencies, using misdirection and disinformation to their advantage. As **The English Spy** is "unfinished business" there are references to earlier books, but it works well as a stand alone, enticing the reader into more.

Monnie says

First impression: Damn, the man sure knows how to write a dynamite first chapter!

Last impression: Another outstanding book featuring my all-time favorite character, Israel's not-so-secret agent Gabriel Allon (the 15th in the series, I believe) - but it falls a wee bit short of 5 stars (for the record, I'd give it 4.5 if I could).

That said, Daniel Silva may be the only writer on the planet who can make me *want* to read stories involving Hezbollah, al-Qaeda or the IRA. This book takes off where the previous one ended, with Gabriel planning to take over as chief of "The Office" - a role that presumably has put the brakes on in-the-field action. He's also preparing for fatherhood once again; his younger, beautiful wife Chiara is close to delivering twins (Gabriel's young son from his first marriage was killed in a terrorist explosion).

But as one might expect in the world of espionage, nothing is a sure thing. An English princess (loosely based on the late Princess Diana, the author says) is killed while on a yacht by an assassin linked to the IRA. Against his will - Gabriel wants to finish restoration of a major painting and spend the final weeks with his wife before the twins arrive - he's coerced into joining forces with Christopher Keller, an Englishman who is being recruited as a spy for M16.

The trail leads to Eamon Quinn, who excels at making highly destructive bombs that kill lots of innocent people; apparently, he was hired to blow up that yacht, so the two men set out to learn who put up the money for the hit. The chase takes them to a variety of settings, most of which have appeared in previous books, where they go gun-to-knife with a variety of characters (ditto). The whole thing seems to be a wrap-up of everything that's happened before in a neat and tidy (well, sometimes, messy) bow, thus freeing up Gabriel to take over a desk job and, perhaps, paving the way for future books with new M16 agent Chris Keller in the lead role. That being the case, you bet I'll be reading them - but make no mistake: He'll never top Gabriel as my favorite character.

And that, I suppose, is why I couldn't quite muster up 5 stars; there were just too many characters and too

much description of past situations (although, I admit, they were necessary to the tidying up process). Then too, the almost total absence of the Chiara was noticeable - I think I may have missed her even more than Gabriel does. I'll also note that there seems to be a bit more emphasis on politics than usual - on U.S.-Israel relations, for instance (for a while, I suspected that Silva was channeling another of my favorite writers, Brad Thor). But clearly, Silva has done extensive research on the subject, and for the most part, the political insights enhanced the story (and goodness knows, tensions between the US of A and Israel have been strained of late).

On the plus side, Silva's writing goes way beyond excellent (as usual), and I enjoyed the occasional touches of spy humor:

Chris to Gabriel as they abduct an errant bad guy: *"I hope he'll fit in the trunk."*

Gabriel: *"We'll slam the lid on him a few times if we have to."*

In the end, Silva has put forth yet another excellent work. Now I can't wait to see how Gabriel transitions to his new roles of team leader and dad to twins (a boy and a girl).

GymGuy says

3.5 stars for this one. Can't seem to give it more because there were too many dead-end twists and turns and too much history/back story. I got really tired of all the explanations given to Allon, that he should have already known...after all, he is the Master Assassin/Sleuth. Should he not know of all the major dealings with Israeli national security? This seems to be a typical "thing" with Silva...lots of historical background. At times, I just want them to shoot one another and ask questions later...ya know? I also got tired of all the dead-end chases and running around. Seemed just fluff to me.

L.A. Starks says

Silva never disappoints, but this is one of his finest as he revisits the England-Northern Ireland Troubles in current day.

He also has fairly blunt commentary on US-UK-Iran-Israeli-Russian geopolitics.

Barbara says

Israeli spy/art restorer Gabriel Allon is about to become the father of twins and the head of the Israeli spy agency when a British princess and her entourage are blown up. The perpetrator is Quinn, the expert bomb-maker Gabriel deems ultimately responsible for the death of his first wife and child. So Gabriel goes back into the field with the goal of finding and killing Quinn.

Gabriel teams up with Keller, an AWOL British soldier and skilled assassin - soon to be an agent of MI6 -

and they're off on a multi-country adventure. Before long Gabriel and Keller are lured to the site of a major bombing and Gabriel is 'killed' (wink wink) which might just lower the guard of the bad guys.

The story has a variety of interesting characters including a beautiful Russian agent who bedded the British Prime Minister - and was later sprung out of Russia by Gabriel; angry revenge-seeking Russians; a cell of the Irish Republican Army (IRA); a double-dealing Iranian; a British mole; and so on. There's an interesting rivalry between the heads of MI5 and MI6, who have to work together but willingly sabotage each other when things go awry.

During the course of the story the reader gets a seemingly authentic and fascinating peek into spycraft, running agents, exposing double agents, prying information out of people (Jack Bauer style) and more. This kind of thing is always fun to experience vicariously (well maybe not the torture).

This is a well-crafted, fast-paced story that kept my attention from the first page to the last. Highly recommended to fans of espionage thrillers.

You can follow my reviews at <https://reviewsbybarbsaffer.blogspot....>
