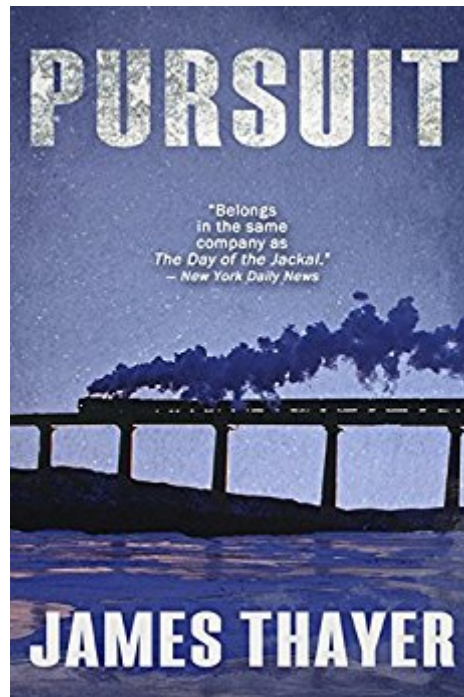


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# Pursuit



## Synopsis

"Belongs in the same company as *The Day of the Jackal* . . . Brutal, brisk, and believable . . . The finale sings." -- *New York Daily News*. A strategy born of desperation: an assassination to end the war. Only one event can turn the tide. Hitler believes that the death of one manâFranklin Delano Rooseveltâwill save Nazi Germany. From a prisoner of war camp near Fort Lewis, Washington, where 50,000 German soldiers are interned, Wehrmacht Captain Kurt Monckâa man of frightening resources with ruthless intelligence whose devious determination is sparked by Berlinâs orders via secret channels to escape the camp and head east. Monckâs trail is picked up by U.S. Secret Service agent John Wren, who hunts Monck as the German nears Franklin Rooseveltâs armored train en route to the Democratic Convention in Chicago. Monckâs only aid comes from his reluctant accomplice Margaret Bayerlein, a widow who provokes a haunting triangular relationship. Pursuit evokes the American home front during the war, as well as historic figures such as J. Edgar Hoover and President Roosevelt. The manhunt crosses the country, and Monck, Wren, and Roosevelt finally meet in an electrifying conclusion. Heart-pounding suspense for readers who love the taut thrillers of Jeffrey Deaver and Frederick Forsyth.â simply could not put it down.â • -- *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

**Quick Overview** Pursuit was originally published in 1986, some 30 years ago. It therefore is slightly more literary than books in the same category (Thriller, Suspense, Action-Adventure) than books written and published these days. That factor, for me, indicates the story is a little more drawn out and less likely to be littered with profanities and, especially, F-bombs. I'm not going to trash present-day thrillers and I'm not going bemoan the language of literature today. I am merely making the point that Pursuit is written in a style of writing when writers and publishers oriented the stories in a language different than what readers today expect. The plot itself is interesting and plausible, but it is the character development and the scene-setting in this portrayal that will keep readers on the edge of their seats. It is compared to *The Day of the Jackal*, for the tone and tenor is of a similar content. Read on to learn more of the specifics I liked or disliked in Pursuit.

**Length:** Print, 392 pages.

**Q - Target Audience/Genre and is it marketed as Nonfiction or Fiction:** A "Intrigue, Thriller, Action-Adventure."

**Q - How was this book obtained?** A "Bought on ."

**Q - If this is fiction, is it a plot-driven or a character-driven story?** A "This is a character-driven classic."

**Q - Is this a book that I can read without having to read others first?** A "Yes."

**Q - Are there a lot of typos/misspellings, grammatical errors or other editing failures?** A "No."

**Q - Is this a fast, easy read or is it more of a leisure read?** A "This is a leisure read. The pace is faster than most leisure reads, but it is still a leisure read."

I have mixed feelings about the book. The historical fiction was interesting, and some of the plot twists were quite clever. For example, I thought that the book's initial setting in the diner with the waitress giving a suspected Nazi french toast without first cooking the egg mixture was simple, yet uniquely plausible. I also thought the details with Pres. Roosevelt's train, his mistress, and the details from 1944 were very enjoyable to read about. On the other hand, I felt like the author used the same words too frequently, and about halfway through the book, I was annoyed that he kept referring to the German assassin by his full name of "Kurt Monch," instead of just using his first or last name. It just seemed like every other paragraph, everyone, Nazis, Secret Service or FBI agents, etc., were using the antagonist's full name. I also didn't find Monch's relationship with Meg believable at all. A man who for all practical purposes forces his way into her home and life, blackmails her into helping him, ships her daughter off to an unknown place and person in San

Diego, and then within a matter of days she's sleeping with him instead of blasting him with a shotgun. To me, it seems that most women and mothers who are forcibly separated from their children are not going to succumb so easily and quickly. That part of the plot combines with the ending, which is just ridiculously unbelievable. Are we really to believe that Monch's counterpart in the Secret Service, Agent John Wren, is going to spend his own money and buy Meg an old car so she can drive from New Jersey back to San Diego without hauling her in for questioning and charges? No deals, no quid pro quo.

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