

# Scarecrow: A Shane Schofield Thriller (Scarecrow Series)

By Matthew Reilly



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It is the greatest bounty hunt in history. The targets are 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.

Among the names, one stands out. The enigmatic Marine, Shane Schofield, who goes by the call-sign "Scarecrow." Schofield is plunged into a race around the world, pursued by a fearsome collection of international bounty hunters. The race is on and the pace is frantic as he 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*. But this time it's different, because he is the target. With all of his trademark action, Matthew Reilly continues to establish himself as one of the top thriller writers of today.



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Scarecrow: A Shane Schofield Thriller (Scarecrow Series) By Matthew Reilly Bibliography

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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 thromming 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 Copyright* © *American Library Association*. *All rights reserved* 

#### Review

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"Scarecrow should come with a blood pressure cuff shrink-wrapped to it. Nonstop action, adventure, and a HUGE surprise for fans of Reilly's other Schofield novels-what more could you ask for from a novel? You'll give up television forever after reading Scarecrow." ?Bookreporter.com

"Lightning-paced." ?Entertainment Weekly

"Move over, Jack Ryan and Dirk Pitt-Marine Shane "Scarecrow" Schofield is the next great action hero. Matthew Reilly's well-developed characters and nonstop action more than compensate for an implausible plot." *?Dallas Morning News* 

"The pace is breakneck... will hook you right from the start." ?Waterstone's Books Quarterly (UK)

"This is unashamedly ball-busting reading... it certainly clears the palette." ?Arena (UK)

"Here's pace, jargon, diagrams, gadgets and guns to get excited about... *Scarecrow* is breathless." ?*Mirror* (*UK*)

#### **Users Review**

#### From reader reviews:

#### Floyd Wyatt:

Book is written, printed, or created for everything. You can realize everything you want by a guide. Book has a different type. We all know that that book is important matter to bring us around the world. Next to that you can your reading talent was fluently. A reserve Scarecrow: A Shane Schofield Thriller (Scarecrow Series) will make you to end up being smarter. You can feel far more confidence if you can know about every little thing. But some of you think that open or reading a new book make you bored. It is not necessarily make you fun. Why they may be thought like that? Have you trying to find best book or suited book with you?

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