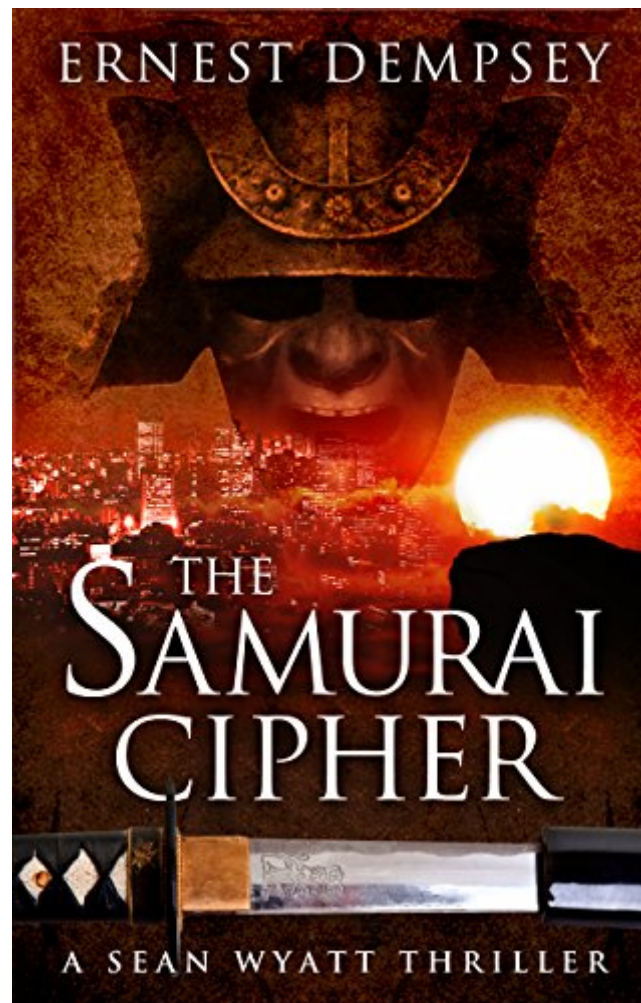




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The Samurai Cipher: A Sean Wyatt Thriller (The Sean Wyatt Thriller Series Book 8)



Synopsis

At the end of World War II, the greatest Samurai sword of all time vanished without a trace. Rumors abound as to its whereabouts. Some historians claim it was destroyed with the rest of Japan's weapons. Others believe it is hidden somewhere. Theories about its location vary from intricate cave systems to monks protecting the blade in a shrine deep in the mountains. When Sean Wyatt and his longtime friend Tommy Schultz try to help a troubled Japanese woman, they find themselves right in the thick of a power struggle between some of the most dangerous gangsters in the world. Now Sean and company must race across Japan, unravel clues that were left decades before, and discover the true location of a blade made by the greatest sword maker of all time: Honjo Masamune.

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Customer Reviews

I received an advanced reader's copy in exchange for an honest review, but I also bought the book. I do this with every book that Ernest Dempsey writes, because they are so-o-o-o good! Like another

reviewer said, I also believe in supporting my favorite authors, and I often go back and re-read books in the Sean Wyatt series. This book follows Sean Wyatt and his friend, Tommy, as they race to find a valuable sword in Japan, and as they try to stay ahead of the Yakuza and keep themselves alive. There are exciting twists and turns that will keep you on the edge of your seat, as well as jaw-dropping surprises that you will not see coming. Treat yourself to a wonderful adventure, and then go back and read the rest of the Sean Wyatt adventures, if you are new to this series. You will be very glad you did. Thank you, Ernest, for another fabulous book!!

Before my review I want to say I did receive an advance copy of The Samurai Cipher in exchange for feedback and an honest review. I was hooked on the Sean Wyatt series immediately after reading the first book, The Secret of the Stones. When I finished that book I emailed the author to express about how much I enjoyed reading it. He quickly replied and after a few emails I began getting advanced copies of new books for review. I enjoy his writing so much that even though I get a free advanced copy, I always buy the published copy for my collection. I am not a professional writer, I'm not trained as a critic, author or novelist. My only qualification to review a book is whether I like it or not. The latest in the series, The Samurai Cipher, lived up to my expectations. I read a lot of these type of books, some much darker, some with more outlandish villains and some with characters that don't ever develop a real personality. Sean Wyatt books are one of my favorite because they are well written, fast paced, never boring and filled with puzzles and clues as to what will happen next. The hero and his buddy Tommy are written in the same light as Butch & Sundance, always in turmoil but never losing their humanity and sense of humor. The Samurai Cipher leads the two on a quest thru Japan to help recover an artifact that is also sought by other factions of the Japanese underworld that want the artifact, believing it will help them gain power and control over their rivals. The book tells a story, throws in a little history, a few laughs and provides hours of enjoyable reading. You don't have to read Mr. Dempsey's previous books to enjoy The Samurai Cipher but I bet that once you finish it you will look at reading the earlier books in the series.

This book, like all its predecessors, takes the readers on a fascinating journey along with Sean Wyatt, the ex Axis agent, former IAA employee and one who does what he does because there are too few good people to fight the huge hoards of the bad people out there in the world and Tommy Schulz, the historian and an archeologist chief of IAA. Tommy is called by the niece of a person who was killed by the Japanese Yakuza to help her locate the Tokugawa sword, the Honja Masumane ,

one of its kind in the whole world! The journeys they take, the dangers and threats they face, their friends and foes, and the ultimate result is everything that the reader who has read all the previous exploits of the two friends expects and much, much more! The book is one scintillating thrill after another! Thanks very much, Ernest. Looking forward to the next Sean Wyatt and Tommy Schulz adventure eagerly.

I was given an advance ARC from Ernest Dempsey for my honest review, and I also purchased 'the Samurai Cipher' from .com. Something I do for a select few author. I stumbled on Ernest Dempsey's via a free book. He writes my style of book, it's action-packed, theme with good verse evil, he puts you right their as your reading into the pages and like the historical settings to them. At the conclusion of World War II, US soldiers collected any weapons from the Japanese people, destroyed them or kept them as a souvenir. It was at that tie that the greatest Samurai Sword made, the Honjo Masamune disappeared. Some Historians believed that the US soldiers destroyed it, other believed Monks were protecting it in a shrine. Strap your self in for thrill ride, you'll want to hang on tight for a read, that reads like a roller coaster ride, full of twist and turns, two good guys and a ton of nasty evil characters. I like the setting of Japan, found it interesting, educational even as I learned something new from all the historical sites, and shrines that are visited in 'the Samurai Cipher'. Can't help but like both Sean Wyatt and his childhood friend Tommy Schultz. They make a lethal team, interesting, likable, relatable to, ones that you would want as friends verse enemies, and Dempsey makes them come to life. The cool thing with Dempsey style, he makes you the reader even like the bad guys or gal in this case. Your sucked into liking Keiko, but as you read, you realize that she's hiding something and really the only predictable part of 'the Samurai Cipher', for me. Probably what I like the most about Ernest Dempsey's writing style are his epic conclusion's, just like a good Western, good always prevails over evil and he never disappoints you. I highly recommend this author, he's a talent that everyone needs to read, one of my favorites and one I have no doubt will end up being your new favorite author.

I haven't read any of the previous books in this series - The Samurai Cipher was my first. I enjoyed that the book was set in Japan and found the story line fascinating (katanas being of interest to me). It was... ok. Not bad, but not great. I read a lot. As in a I-o-t. Of course it's very subjective, but for me Mr. Dempsey is not in the top rank of action/thriller writers such as Steven Konkoly, Mark Dawson, Douglas Preston, or Robert Swartwood to name only a few. I suppose the best way to describe my impression would be it seemed rather 'light.' But that's just me!

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