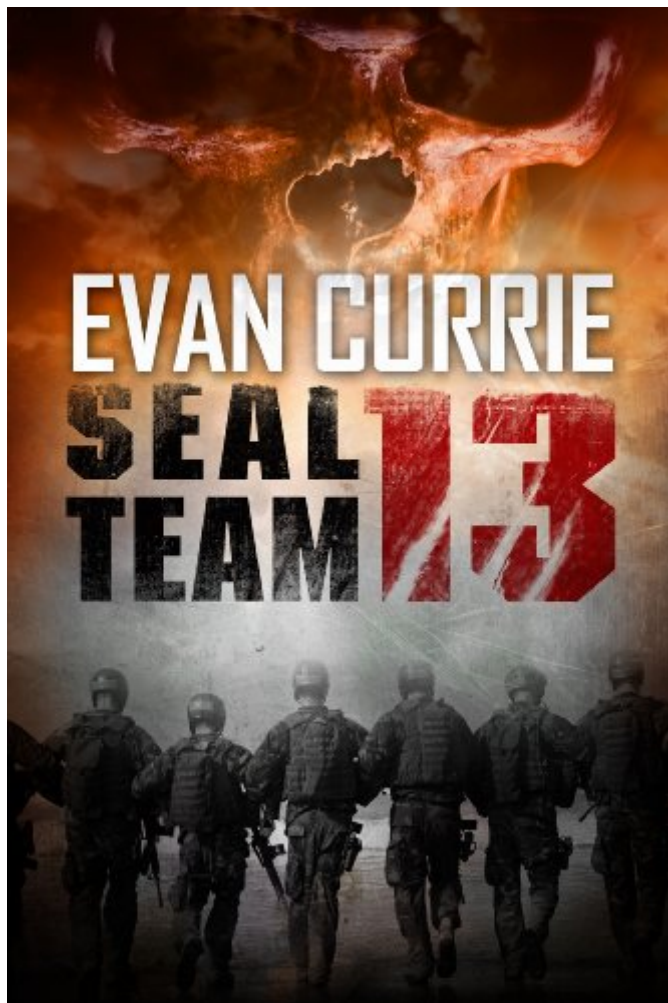


The book was found

SEAL Team 13 (SEAL Team 13 Series)



Synopsis

It's been ten years since a mysterious incident in the South China Sea annihilated a US Navy destroyer and its Navy SEAL team. Only one man survived this horrific tragedy. Now, as more of these strange, supernatural events are happening around the world with deadly consequences the US Navy calls on sole survivor Harold "Hawk" Masters to put a stop to the evil forces behind these crimes. Masters reluctantly returns, dispatched to lead an elite team of soldiers like him all survivors of the terrifying, evil deeds of the other side. As these frightening events escalate at an alarming rate, SEAL Team 13 is put to the test, battling malevolent undead creatures that threaten the security of the nation and the world. But not everyone supports the government's new interest in facing off against the unnatural forces that threaten the welfare of its citizens. Could Hawk Masters' secret military force also be forced to fight shadowy opponents from within? From world-building author Evan Currie, SEAL Team 13 is a dark, riveting, and action-packed tale of military intrigue and supernatural horror.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I picked up this book based on my enjoyment of other books by Evan Currie. Rather than the futuristic or space-based themes in other books by Currie, this one is current day based, with an ex-military main character (U. S. SEAL) going up against a supernatural world that is all around but unseen by most. If you want a fast-paced and engrossing action/adventure novel with a realistic feel and military basis, you will like this book. Currie's knowledge of (or research and advice on) current weaponry and tactics adds a realistic feel to the book that is much beyond many other military action/adventure books. It's impossible for me to discuss this book without mentioning the similar-but-different "Monster Hunter, Inc" series by Larry Correia. I won't go into a comparison here, other than to say if you like Monster Hunters, Inc., you will like this book, and vice versa.

Pros: Fast paced
Realistic feel and actions
Hard to put down

Cons: Characterization is adequate, but not deep.
Not a psychological thriller if that is what you are looking for.
Could have been longer without feeling stretched. Some of the characters are too lightly fleshed out and some actions that were just mentioned as a transition could have been expanded to strengthen the story line and enjoyment.
The ending felt a bit abrupt. The story line wrapped up by the end of the book, but left many open issues. That won't bother me as much if Currie writes another few books to make this book into the start of a series.

As a fan of speculative fiction, I saw this title and description and figured it was right up my alley. In many ways it is, but here are my opinions on this book. .

PROs

- + Imaginative. Some cool concepts in here.
- + Action-packed. The author can describe action scenes overall well (see my CON comment on checking facts). Scenes are clear enough that the reader can stay engaged and follow what's going on.
- + Different groups/factions fighting for their specific agenda, regardless if the agenda was against those trying to protect humanity.
- + Monsters. As all kinds of creatures could be involved with the veil, you never really know what was going to happen, which was nice and suspenseful.
- + Kudos to the marketing team, as I like the cover.

CONs

- Completely unlikable main character. He's a jerk and as a reader I'm rooting for the protagonist to die, not succeed.
- Characters are all copies of each other, even the female characters. If it wasn't for tag lines, you wouldn't know who was talking.
- Author distractedly uses the same words for everyone's reaction and they all react the same way over and over again. **EXAMPLE:** He or she growled an answer or they snarled a reply. Is everyone secretly a werewolf in this story, with that much growling and snarling going on? About 20% through the book I started highlighting one scene with the female captain, where she snarls and growls in nearly every line of dialogue. Very amateurish writing.
- As one other reviewer pointed

out, author could have done some research, such as visited a gun range or watched some youtube videos as simple use of firearms just doesn't work the way he describes. This lack of continuity and realism breaks the suspension of disbelief and jolts the reader. I've fired a gun plenty of times...it would be nice if the author had fired a gun once.- Intelligent zombies. Dumb zombies. Intelligent zombies again? Just pick one and then we know what to expect and not feel robbed in the scene.- Geez, another religion basher. Oh well. There was nothing I remember reading that came before that suggested this was the character vs. the author wanting to "preach" his viewpoint. Keep it in character, please.- Recently I was listening to a podcast where a famous YA author was fielding audience questions. He was ex-military and was asked what mistakes authors make when writing about the military. Well, those mistakes were in this book. Again, a bit of research could have helped not break the reader's immersion.NEUTRAL: I can't figure out if the 47North Publishing is a self-publishing service arm of or not. I've read lots of self-published items and the faults in this book make me think that is what happened here. It would have been nice for a good editor to have gotten their hands on this book before the reader had. It could have been more than a 3-star / Good rating for me.OVERALL: Yes, while my complaint list is long, the things called out are very fixable in sequel books. The author is no Dean Koontz or James Rollins, but he has the ideas to be a mix of the two. Just needs to tighten up the writing craft to make for a better read.A very similar experience was David Golemon's Event Group Thrillers series. That author had a first book with lots of errors too, but pulled it together better in subsequent books. I'd almost think this book and the Event books were written by the same guy. Who knows.

I was initially skeptical of the series as I'm not the biggest fan of the recent sparkly vampire craze. Turns out the author is too, as he regularly lampoons that genre too good effect, making this (yet another) excellent book.Having read and enjoyed Evan Currie's books since his first offerings became available on the Kindle I have repeatedly been impressed with his ability to jump from genre to genre and consistently offer a enjoyable and new story with great character driven stories.So despite my initial skepticism I grabbed this book and immediately tore through it, enjoying the author's foray into year another story. The only complaint I have is that this adds yet one more series that I am now eagerly awaiting the next installment.

More like a 2.75.In these not very creative times the pattern seems to be that whenever there is a big hit book, play, or TV show--be it a Western, Cop, Lawyer, quirky family or group of friends or roommates, spy/special ops, Zombie or Vampire themed entertainment--there follows an explosion

of imitative books, TV shows, and stage plays on the same theme. I've read and enjoyed pretty much all of the SF that Curie has written, and normally I avoid supernatural/horror/vampire themed books, because I think that vampire/zombie themed books/TV shows are just the current, widely imitated "big thing," and that they are, from my experience, usually pretty crappy. However, given Currie's track record I decided to read Seal Team 13, which turned out to be just as formulaic and imitative as I had feared, featuring a plot reminiscent of a lot of other books I have read, stock characters, and one of the things I really don't like seeing in a story, a hero who--very unrealistically--takes an enormous beating and still manages to win and survive, afterward limping along, but not dead, nor apparently headed for intensive care and/or due for many months of recuperation and rehabilitation, and still perhaps permanently crippled, as would be the case in real life. This first volume looks like the setup for a series, but I hope not.

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