



HMS Unseen

By Patrick Robinson

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The most highly efficient and lethal underwater ship ever built, H.M.S. Unseen, vanishes into the depths while on a training mission, baffling British and American military intelligence including wily National Security Adviser Admiral Arnold Morgan.

One year later, the Concorde, the world's safest and most secure domestic plane, disappears without a trace over the North Atlantic. Days later the brand new Starstriker jet vanishes. Both appear to be random inexplicable accidents until Air Force Three, carrying the vice-president of the United States, is blown from the sky.

Morgan devises a chilling theory. Not only is Unseen still out there, but it's been modified to become the most dangerous anti-aircraft weapon at sea. And the admiral is convinced that only one man could have masterminded it: The world's most cunning and reportedly dead terrorist spy, Iraq's Commander Benjamin Adnam. But what Morgan doesn't know is that the fanatically religious military terrorist has a chilling agenda of his own: a plan that will bring these two intense warriors face to face. . . and only one will come out alive.

Performed by David McCallum on four cassettes.

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

Patrick Robinson might not be the smoothest writer in the world, but for action on and around the sea he's as good as Tom Clancy or the late, much-missed Hammond Innes. Robinson's latest finds ace Iraqi terrorist Benjamin Adnam--supposedly killed at the end of *Nimitz Class*--alive and decorated in Baghdad. Ben instinctively knows that he is no longer useful to Saddam Hussein, and sure enough, he surprises and kills an official hit squad waiting for him at his home. Burning with the desire for revenge, Ben walks to Iran (a two-week trek through desert and marshes wonderfully described by Robinson) and convinces that country's leaders to help him launch a scheme that will punish both Iraq and the Great Satan, America.

Commander Adnam, trained as a submariner in England and Israel, hijacks the HMS *Unseen*, one of the world's most dangerous and undetectable subs, refits it with Russian missile launchers, and uses it to shoot down three very high-profile airplanes, including a supersonic Concorde and a plane carrying America's much beloved vice president (this is 2006, by the way). As planned, the Iraqis are widely suspected--but national security adviser Albert Morgan recognizes Adnam's handiwork and begins a global search. There's a beautifully detailed journey, across Scotland and Ireland, before the book settles down into a smaller but satisfying story of Adnam's personal quest for some kind of redemption. --*Dick Adler*

From Publishers Weekly

The third near-future naval techno-thriller from Robinson (*Kilo Class*; *Nimitz Class*) breaks neatly into two stories. The first is about a hijacked sub and its brief but effective reign of terror against American and European aircraft. Iraqi terrorist Benjamin Adnam, escaping death at the hands of his countrymen, travels to Iran and offers his services to the reigning Ayatollah, with plans for a twisted revenge. He will hijack a British submarine that is about to be sold to Brazil, fit it with a missile launcher and attack American aircraft in such a way that Iraq, not Iran, will be blamed. When the British sub vanishes, and even before three planes are shot out of the sky (including one carrying the American vice president), Adnam's American nemesis, Admiral Arnold Morgan, discerns the terrorist's hand behind events. But no manhunt follows, as Robinson instead focuses on Adnam's inner turmoil and his fate as a traitor who's been rejected by his mother country and discarded by his surrogate home. Robinson uses this departure from formulaic plotting to deepen Adnam's character, from cold super-terrorist to lost and searching human being, meanwhile allowing Adnam's yearnings to spark a few final plot twists. The energy of the opening half flags in the novel's later part, however. Robinson is visibly developing as a writer, but he's not yet able to make the inner struggles of one man as exciting as the shooting down of a Concorde jet by a sub. Still, his willingness to challenge the rigid boundaries of the military thriller is welcome, particularly as his writing stays always on its toes.

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From Kirkus Reviews

Robinson, rising master of naval technothrillers (*Nimitz Class*, 1997, is now being filmed by Universal Pictures), returns with his second supersubmarine tale, something of a sequel to 1998's *Kilo Class*. As in *Nimitz Class* where a US aircraft carrier disappeared in the Arabian Sea without a trace a very rare advanced-design, diesel-electric submarine, H.M.S. *Unseen*, seemingly evaporates into the unknown off the English coast while headed for Brazil. A year later, a Concorde jet also disappears, this time over the North Atlantic, and soon thereafter a supremely high-tech, supersonic Starstriker jet vanishes as well, leaving nary a splash in its wake. Then Air Force Three, with the American Vice President on board, is blown from the sky. What's causing all this havoc? Well, believe it or not, H.M.S. *Unseen* has been subnapped by Iraqi terrorists and is

now under the charge of Commander Ben Adnam, the wildest terrorist seen in many a year. Adnam comes up against his own match, however, in the figure of National Security Advisor Admiral Arnold Morgan, though not before misleading Morgan into having the US fire missiles on Iran, letting that country take the vengeance that should've been wreaked on the real ringmasters who'd shot down Air Force Three. Far more smoothly written than Tom Clancy's mammoth digital readouts. -- *Copyright ©1999, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Matthew Armstrong:

Do you have favorite book? For those who have, what is your favorite's book? Book is very important thing for us to find out everything in the world. Each e-book has different aim or maybe goal; it means that e-book has different type. Some people really feel enjoy to spend their time for you to read a book. They are reading whatever they take because their hobby is actually reading a book. Think about the person who don't like looking at a book? Sometime, individual feel need book if they found difficult problem or even exercise. Well, probably you'll have this HMS Unseen.

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Michael Watkins:

Playing with family in the park, coming to see the marine world or hanging out with friends is thing that usually you might have done when you have spare time, in that case why you don't try matter that really opposite from that. One activity that make you not feeling tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller

coaster you already been ride on and with addition info. Even you love HMS Unseen, it is possible to enjoy both. It is fine combination right, you still want to miss it? What kind of hang type is it? Oh can occur its mind hangout folks. What? Still don't have it, oh come on its referred to as reading friends.

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