

## **"Adrenaline" by Jeff Abbott**

The title of this book pretty much sets the pace for this action packed thriller. Within its pages are all the best aspects of a very enjoyable good versus evil plot: intrigue, spies, double crosses, foreign locales, technology used for nefarious purposes, a good hearted hero and the obligatory nasty bad guys.

CIA agent Sam Capra barely escapes a bombing in one of the Company's London offices, saved by a telephone call from his pregnant wife, who immediately goes missing. Capra then endures months of interrogation, a destruction of his reputation, and is reduced to a bartending job, watched over by a suspicious Agency. Knowing he's bait for the real bad guys, he promptly escapes his handlers. Before he can even begin to seriously search for his missing wife and newly born child, he is recruited by a shadowy organization to help recover a kidnapped industrialist's daughter. Who can Capra trust? How can he escape the CIA who hunts him all over Europe? What is the secret tying together the bombing and the kidnappings? Can Capra uncover the truths and the lies in time to save his family and himself?

I liked the fast pace of this novel. The brutality he suffers at the beginning only serves to harden a resolution to discover the truth. The book provides just enough cliffhangers at the ends of chapters to keep you turning the pages. I also like the fact the violence, while obvious and necessary to the plot, is not overly graphic. Surprisingly, the foul language is kept to a bare minimum and although this is definitely not one for the kids' bedtime stories, it gives you just enough adrenaline laced suspense to keep you wanting to read more, hoping the good guys win out.

Look for the hardcover edition of "Adrenaline" in July 2011.

**Reviewed by Stephen L. Brayton, author of "Night Shadows" and "Beta," for *Suspense Magazine***