

# **The Bourne Supremacy Study Guide**

## **The Bourne Supremacy by Robert Ludlum**

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# Contents

<a href="#">The Bourne Supremacy Study Guide.....</a>	<a href="#">1</a>
<a href="#">Contents.....</a>	<a href="#">2</a>
<a href="#">Plot Summary.....</a>	<a href="#">4</a>
<a href="#">Chapter 1.....</a>	<a href="#">6</a>
<a href="#">Chapter 2.....</a>	<a href="#">8</a>
<a href="#">Chapter 3.....</a>	<a href="#">10</a>
<a href="#">Chapters 4-5.....</a>	<a href="#">11</a>
<a href="#">Chapters 6-7.....</a>	<a href="#">13</a>
<a href="#">Chapters 8-10.....</a>	<a href="#">16</a>
<a href="#">Chapters 11-12.....</a>	<a href="#">19</a>
<a href="#">Chapter 13.....</a>	<a href="#">21</a>
<a href="#">Chapter 14.....</a>	<a href="#">23</a>
<a href="#">Chapter 15.....</a>	<a href="#">24</a>
<a href="#">Chapter 16.....</a>	<a href="#">26</a>
<a href="#">Chapters 17-18.....</a>	<a href="#">28</a>
<a href="#">Chapters 19-20.....</a>	<a href="#">32</a>
<a href="#">Chapters 21-25.....</a>	<a href="#">36</a>
<a href="#">Chapters 26-27.....</a>	<a href="#">41</a>
<a href="#">Chapter 28.....</a>	<a href="#">44</a>
<a href="#">Chapters 29-30.....</a>	<a href="#">46</a>
<a href="#">Chapters 31-32.....</a>	<a href="#">49</a>
<a href="#">Chapters 33-34.....</a>	<a href="#">52</a>
<a href="#">Chapter 35.....</a>	<a href="#">56</a>
<a href="#">Chapter 36.....</a>	<a href="#">58</a>
<a href="#">Chapters 37-38.....</a>	<a href="#">61</a>



Characters..... 65

Objects/Places..... 74

Themes..... 78

Style..... 81

Quotes..... 84

Topics for Discussion..... 87



# Plot Summary

*The Bourne Supremacy* follows an amnesiac protagonist, David Webb/Jason Bourne, and his long-suffering Canadian wife, Marie St. Jacques Webb, through misadventures in Asia as puppets of the U.S. government.

A spectacular assassination of a high-ranking Chinese official in Hong Kong suggests that the legendary hired killer, Jason Bourne, has come out of retirement. Officials from the U.S. CIA and State Department, who created the original myth years ago, know better, and know that if the assassin continues his work, Asia will be plunged into economic chaos and perhaps warfare. If that happens, all nations including the U.S. will have to take sides, and World War III could result. Fearing David Webb, a professor of Oriental studies in a small university in Maine, will not again accept the role of Bourne, codenamed "Delta" and "Cain" in earlier black operations, the government instead kidnaps his wife, Marie, to force the point.

The Delta persona rapidly takes control, and having enlisted the help of an alcoholic CIA agent in Washington, Alex Conklin, Webb/Bourne flies to Hong Kong, where he meets with the vengeful taipan, who claims false-Bourne has murdered his wife. He demands that the real Bourne find and capture the killer. Marie will then be freed. The taipan turns out to be the chief of British Intelligence (MI6) in Hong Kong, working for the Americans, who are led by Undersecretary of State Edward McAllister. The strategy unravels when Marie feigns illness to get admitted to a hospital and then escapes. Webb/ Bourne has insisted he must hear her voice when he returns with his prisoner. Finding her becomes a major part of the Anglo-American business and draws in a new boss, the amoral Ambassador Raymond Haviland.

Forbidden to enter Macau, Webb/Bourne follows false-Bourne's trail there. He meets an old friend from Operation Delta, a Frenchman who had been "Echo" to his Delta. Philippe d'Anjou is also the creator of false-Bourne, a project needed to support him in his old age. The psychotic ex-commando has cut him off, so d'Anjou is willing to help Webb/Bourne find him. Together they thwart an attempted assassination of the Crown governor at the Hong Kong airport and then follow the assassin into the People's Republic of China (PRC), when he is summoned to explain his failure. They track him to Beijing, where Webb/Bourne discovers the assassin has drawn *him* into a trap. After spectacularly shooting his way out of Chairman Mao's Mausoleum, Webb/ Bourne resumes the hunt, alone, because d'Anjou is kidnapped in Tian An Men Square.

The trail leads to a bird sanctuary where a top-level conference is to be held. Webb/Bourne infiltrates the grounds and watches in horror as a savage, Hitler-like madman tortures and kills the supposed traitors, who foul up the airport mission. D'Anjou is among the prisoners, and gives his life that Webb/Bourne might kill the assassin - and his tormentor. Webb/Bourne captures false-Bourne, smuggles him back to Hong Kong, and places the pre-arranged phone call to exchange him for Marie. Being put off and realizing that he has been traced, Webb/Bourne assumes Marie is



dead, snaps mentally and drags his prisoner to the U.S. consular mansion intending to take maximum revenge on the puppet-masters. He does a spectacular military job.

Aided by an old friend in the Canadian consulate and later by Conklin and Panov, Marie, disguised as an older woman, arrives at the house and intervenes. Only slowly does Webb/ Bourne recognize her. Told the truth about his mission and shown the dossier on the man behind the world-menacing plot, Webb/Bourne recognizes Sheng Chou Yang, Echo's murderer. He volunteers to return to the PRC, taking along McAllister, a milquetoast diplomat who knows Sheng and believes he can get close enough to kill him. In a field in China, they confront their enemy, kill him, and plant incriminating evidence on his body. Having saved Asia and the world, the Webbs are allowed to resume a normal life.



# Chapter 1

## Chapter 1 Summary

*The Bourne Supremacy* follows an amnesiac protagonist, David Webb/Jason Bourne, and his long-suffering Canadian wife, Marie St. Jacques Webb, through misadventures in Asia as puppets of the U.S. government. In this book, a spectacular assassination of a high-ranking Chinese official in Hong Kong suggests that the legendary hired killer, Jason Bourne, has come out of retirement. Officials from the U.S. CIA and State Department, who created the original myth years ago, know better, and know that if the assassin continues his work, Asia will be plunged into economic chaos and perhaps warfare. If that happens, all nations including the U.S. will have to take sides, and World War III could result. Fearing David Webb, a professor of Oriental studies in a small university in Maine, will not again accept the role of Bourne, codenamed "Delta" and "Cain" in earlier black operations, the government instead kidnaps his wife, Marie, to force the point.

At sundown, a shabby, but powerful motorboat, too insignificant for officials to notice, zigzags across Victoria Harbor between Kowloon and Hong Kong Island. It discharges a tall, thin priest shrouded in a white caftan, whose dark features are dominated by zealous eyes. Crowds part as he, with his short, muscular *Zhongguo ren* protector, wends his way toward the Golden Mile. Leaving him at the door, the holy man enters a cabaret and is seated by the deferential manager, to whom the priest breaks taboo by speaking the name of the illustrious *taipan* he has come to see. Meeting the priest's eyes, another customer lights and extinguishes three matches, and seconds later, fire spreads through the cabaret, giving the priest thirty seconds to slip into a narrow hallway, slay a guard, machine-gun five elegantly-attired whites and abandon caftan and Uzi. His guard muscles him clear and hands him towels to scrub off heavy makeup, leaving the killer a "well-dressed Occidental" walking along a "strip of Oriental pleasures." Inside, calm is restored, stories are invented for the police, and the owner discovers that one victim is the Vice-Premier of the People's Republic and successor to the Chairman. Jason Bourne has signed his name in blood. The Assassin has returned to Asia.

## Chapter 1 Analysis

The first chapter sets an ominous mood for Hong Kong/Kowloon as a place of nocturnal games that humanity ought to have abandoned at the dawn of creation. Land and water form a natural unity at odds with the chaotic work of human hands. Jason Bourne's apparent return to Asia is revealed in a brutal assassination. The suspenseful narrative indicates he has accomplices and that when word about his chief target's death gets out, all hell will break loose. Ludlum has a penchant for using non-English words without explanation. Dictionaries say *Zhongguo ren* signifies a white person and *taipan* rich

businessmen, often non-Chinese. Both terms are used frequently, but *zhongguo ren* is used at least once for an anglicized Chinese.



## Chapter 2

### Chapter 2 Summary

Again at sunset, in central Colorado, a Cobra helicopter delivers Edward McAllister to a super-secret governmental building. He has not seen security this tight since consulting with British Intelligence (MI6) in Hong Kong two years ago. He is astonished to face the elderly Ambassador Raymond Havilland, along with John Reilly of the National Security Council (NSC), present as a watchdog. Havilland sketches how the government needs McAllister's education and experience for a special mission. Details are given only after McAllister signs a non-disclosure agreement that subjects him to prosecution should he break it. Asked if he has heard of Jason Bourne, McAllister declares everyone in Asia knows about this pathological killer. Havilland stuns McAllister by claiming Bourne is a myth created by the U.S. government. The original Bourne was executed as a traitor in Vietnam and his identity is assumed by his killer, David Webb. Webb then goes underground for the government after his first wife and children are killed in Cambodia. Motivated by revenge, the mild scholar becomes an efficient killer. After the war, Webb has no purpose until he is recruited to kill Carlos the Jackal. Currently teaching in Maine, Webb/Bourne trusts no one in Washington and assumes Carlos is after him. McAllister is being recruited he realizes, because he and Webb/Bourne both specialize in Oriental Studies.

The U.S. needs the mythical Bourne to "neutralize" the Minister of State of the People's Republic of China (PRC), a man with whom McAllister has worked. McAllister is shocked to hear that the Sheng Chou Yang he knows is also a myth, with the real Sheng being a Nationalist zealot preparing a "hidden economic blitzkrieg" on Hong Kong. Sheng's father has roots in the corrupt world of the Kuomintang. The Nationalist cabinet member who leaks this information has been assassinated. America would look the other way, but Beijing will blame the assassination on America and seek vengeance. A number of senior PRC officials have died suspiciously of late, most recently the Vice-Chairman, brutally slain in Kowloon, by someone leaving Bourne's "calling card." Sheng is assumed to be behind the act, and only the real Bourne can lure him out.

### Chapter 2 Analysis

The assassin in Chapter 1 turns out to be an imposter, claiming to be a legendary killer whose life story is summarized thinly enough to leave plenty of mysteries to be filled in later, almost at the end of the novel. The key revelation is that Webb/Bourne (whose persona shifts constantly between the "two" persons) distrusts the U.S. government. After his myth is exploded, a second follows. The Central Committee member secretly behind hiring the false-Bourne to kill a colleague has worked closely with McAllister, who shares a specialty with Webb/Bourne, which may overcome the latter's bitterness. Given the secretary's squeamishness about "neutralizing" anyone, it is inevitable that McAllister serve as the pivot in a violent operation involving Webb/Bourne and Sheng.





Note the use of hallways and inner offices in the first two chapters. Much action takes place in such areas throughout the novel. The oath of silence, which seems a trivial (if drawn-out) detail, becomes important in Chapter 15.



# Chapter 3

## Chapter 3 Summary

While grading papers in his office, Webb sees the familiar face of a brother he rescued in Tam Quan and later executes. To deal with the severe headache this brings on, Webb (per his psychiatrist's advice) goes jogging rather than burden his wife Marie. Morris ("Mo") Panov, the psychiatrist, is the only person besides Marie who can reach Webb. Remorseful about nearly causing Webb's death by answering government agents' hypothetical questions, Panov has forced his way into Webb's case and, with Marie, tries to help him believe he is not an assassin.

Coming in from the run, Webb finds a note that Marie has phoned urgently asking him to come home. She avoids such terms, so he calls, trembling, and races home. There, goaded by his wife to "loosen up" and stop prejudging, he listens to a visitor, McAllister. The undersecretary is sympathetic to all the Webbs have gone through but unapologetic about the government's role. He has been put in charge of their security and is doubling it. He reveals that the Hong Kong and Macau underworlds are warring and Beijing wants an excuse to intervene. When Marie intuits that something big has happened, McAllister passes on London's warning that Webb is targeted for murder - but *not* by the Jackal. In Macau, the murder of a taipan's trophy wife and her drug-dealing lover is made to look like Bourne. The widower, Yao Ming, is an invaluable informant who cannot afford any association with Bourne. The British will allow no one to talk to him. The story is cut short when the Webbs' new protection detail arrives. McAllister climbs into a State Department car and watches the doorway. Eventually, he tells the driver, "All the pieces are in place," and proclaims that as a practicing Christian he is sickened by what he has just done.

## Chapter 3 Analysis

Chapter 3 introduces the protagonist's wife and his psychiatrist as Webb/Bourne's invaluable support system. McAllister reappears, gradually revealing that a situation in East Asia threatens world peace. The nature of the protagonist's conflict with the government is clarified, as is what the government wants from him now - that he manifest the mythic Bourne reputation. Shifting to agents at the door builds suspense, and, once again, McAllister's thinking is left a mystery. Clearly, what he has done is as unethical as anything the government has done to the Webbs thus far, and McAllister considers himself a Christian. This comes into focus later in the book.



# Chapters 4-5

## Chapters 4-5 Summary

During a football rally, Webb/Bourne imagines himself under attack and later tells Marie he fears a poison dart - the way he would kill a target. Bourne, would do that, not he, Marie reminds him. Webb/Bourne has been thinking about McAllister, whose dead-fish eyes reveal nothing. Marie encourages her husband to call McAllister immediately, but he is due in class. He mopes about an exchange student from Burma knowing more than he about Siam's Rama II. Marie observes that Webb/Bourne's use of Thailand's former name, Burma, means he is remembering his lost family, which she finds healthy.

While verifying the "smart-ass" student's challenge about Rama II, Webb/Bourne tries to call Marie but gets a busy signal. A guard knocks, saying goodbye, because all six CIA officers have been recalled, now that "everything's clean." Outraged, Webb/Bourne fails to find McAllister in his office or at home. Oddly, Marie's line is still busy, but she never speaks to anyone, even relatives, this long. Racing home, Webb/Bourne finds the door open - and a bloody handprint. He tears through the downstairs, searching and then races upstairs, avoiding a shotgun ambush. His "killer instincts" are primed as he finds a note on Marie's pillow, offering a "wife for a wife" deal; *Bourne* knows where to find the writer of the note. From a locked drawer he pulls automatics, spools of wire, passports, and *plastique* charges. Either *Webb* will find his wife or *Bourne* will spread unimaginable terror. Webb/Bourne can endure no more.

Webb/Bourne studies lists of those who have interrogated him during his months in a Virginia medical complex. He reads their ID tags, records the names, and Marie smuggles them to safety. She proves for herself Webb/Bourne's paranoia is well founded. With Marie and McAllister both vanished, he wants answers about "Medusa." He reaches agent William Lanier by using an alias and invoking a White House emergency. Lanier runs through standard bureaucratic objections to dealing with him and does not recognize the word "Medusa." Webb/Bourne next reaches Samuel Teasdale, who declares Medusa just a rumor and vows to report this phone call. He gets through to Harry Babcock using a pseudonym, and the Southerner, more congenial but defensive, freezes hearing "Medusa." Webb lashes out about his wife and guards vanishing and threatens the wrath of Jason Bourne on the whole department. A shrill hum signals that the call is being transferred to Colorado. Webb/Bourne vaguely recognizes the aristocratic voice that cautions him about making maniacal accusations against government employees. The voice tells Webb/Bourne that Medusa is a figment of his "tortured mind," and no one will believe him about his wife's kidnapping if he is labeled a paranoid schizophrenic liar, violent and self-deceived.

Webb/Bourne phones Panov, who suggests a calming walk on the beach while he verifies the blurted story. The State Department informs Panov that Webb/Bourne has pestered the department incoherently about his guards, that McAllister is documented as being in Asia on the day of his alleged visit and there is no taipan Yao Ming in Hong



Kong. Panov tends to believe Webb/Bourne's story and says this sounds like "recruitment" - someone forcing Webb/Bourne to do what they want. After hanging up, Webb forces himself to examine the bloodstained door and the ransom note. Seeing that it is typed on his own typewriter, he is sure the bastards *are* recruiting him.

## Chapters 4-5 Analysis

The novel intensifies swiftly with Marie's kidnapping in Chapter 4 and the Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde motif solidified in Webb/Bourne. In Chapter 5, the antagonist still identifies himself as Webb, but the potent forces arrayed against him - shown in his being rebuffed at every turn - see him as Bourne. Why McAllister as a Christian would be uncomfortable in chapters 2 and 3, setting up his recruitment, is now clear.



# Chapters 6-7

## Chapters 6-7 Summary

"Control" is a simple word but incredibly demanding. Webb/Bourne sees in his mind a hateful face and puts a name to it: Alexander Conklin, former friend and the Foreign Service Officer (FSO). Conklin had placed Webb/Bourne in two black operations: Medusa (codename: Delta) and later Treadstone-71 (codename: "Cain"), where he sends him on the Jackal's trail. A landmine shatters Conklin's tactical career because he cannot cope with deskwork. Embittered when Webb/Bourne gets a plum assignment, Conklin supports the embezzlement charge against Webb and twice tries, in Paris and New York, to kill him. Learning that Webb is no traitor, Conklin tries to apologize but Webb rebuffs him, so Conklin turns to alcohol, dimming his ability to offer the incomparable insights and resources that Webb/Bourne now needs.

While Webb/Bourne makes a to-do list of things that will keep his disappearance from attracting excess attention, the phone rings. A mid-flight radio operator puts Marie on the line, and in coded language, she warns him to use the *Bourne* persona while talking to her captors. A male Cantonese voice overlaid with British tones dismisses his objections and demands he fly to Kowloon and register in Suite 690 of the Regent Hotel. Using a brother's injury in Paris as a cover, Webb/Bourne arranges for his lectures and other mundane matters to be handled. Only the dean of studies suspects he is not being fully honest about last week's odd companions. In Washington, Webb/Bourne assembles a pistol and walks to Conklin's apartment.

Saying he is Harry Babcock, Webb/Bourne is buzzed up and swiftly subdues the inebriated agent, threatening to kill him if he cries out. Listening carefully to Webb/Bourne's lucid narrative, Conklin proclaims that someone has gone "off the wire," i.e., miscalculating a plan and making Medusa more important than Marie. Conklin wants to help but is too far-gone and "beyond salvage." He wants to die or, failing that, to collect his pension. Webb appeals to their lost friendship in Cambodia and scorns Conklin's current self-pity, making him admit that he could not endure failing again and costing the Webbs' lives. Webb lowers his pistol, says he has the makings of a plan and nowhere else to turn. Conklin allows him to make coffee.

Webb/Bourne's confidence in Conklin has an even greater effect than black coffee. They talk until 4 AM, refining a sound strategy: hit hard and fast, not let up, confront the conspirators with the complete truth and then spiral off into an unexpected "big lie" to unbalance and throw them off. Somehow, the conspirators have lost control and must make contact. Conklin will plant in the State's official logs a variant on Webb/Bourne's file to cause confusion and make Internal Security do the research. Webb/Bourne suggests saying Marie has *broken away* and made contact with him. Conklin declares this perfect because it will cause a brushfire of panic and root out the few men who know detail and want to "save their asses."



Sober, shaved and wearing a pressed suit, Conklin walks down the corridor of the State Department's fourth floor to the office of the Chief of Internal Security, a former Brigadier General, and minces no words. The general accuses this "spook" of being a lush and threatens to throw him out a window, but Conklin mollifies him with a quotation: "Our profiles are often what we want them to be for reasons we can't talk about." Conklin launches into a diatribe about how the SOB Webb barges into his home, threatens to kill him, rants about Babcock, Teasdale, and Lanier (all verified as active covert agents), execution squads and hospitalization, even though government doctors have given him a clean bill of health. He even claims to have spoken to his wife, kidnapped by McAllister (a verified official) but escaped and free somewhere in San Francisco. Conklin gives the general a "sterile phone" at which he can be reached between 3 and 4 PM with the "right words" from someone high in Treadstone-71 that will convince him to trust what he learns. Conklin exits, saying that they have crossed into "off-limits territory."

Webb/Bourne goes over lists to calm down. He dares not phone Conklin for fear of bugs. They will meet at the airport half an hour before Webb's flight. Webb/Bourne buys an oversized flight bag to use in economy class, intending to buy whatever else he needs in Hong Kong. He withdraws \$500,000 from a confidential Cayman Islands account that Marie set up, having convinced the CIA to back off the embezzlement investigation by suggesting that a lawsuit could cost the U.S. twice that. Webb takes \$50,000 in cash and wires the rest to Hong Kong. Next stop is a master forger named Cactus, who has worked in Treadstone-71 and helped Webb/Bourne's recovery by visiting the hospital and jarring his memory. Cactus' beautician friend changes his look before he sits for photographs in several suits and pairs of glasses. The documents, aged authentically, are perfect. Cactus' grandson, a law student, risks driving Webb/Bourne to his hotel. After packing some clothes and discarding his untraceable weapons, Webb forces himself to remember everything that McAllister said in Maine, certain he has missed something.

Drinking flat ginger ale in his regular bar, Conklin answers the phone and recognizes the voice Webb/Bourne describes as threatening him. Conklin claims to have full documentation should "anything ugly" happen and challenges the man to convince Conklin that the man speaking on the phone is part of the inner circle. Only when he cites 23 May: the Tam Quan execution of Jason Bourne and years later the attempt in New York, is Conklin satisfied. The voice warns, "Back off." Webb/Bourne is needed where he is going, and this is the only way to get him there. Marie will not be harmed - a claim Conklin rejects, saying the "conduits" have already lost her. McAllister may be a fool but good at what he does, and he is in Hong Kong. Someone wants Bourne more than the government does.

Conklin arrives at Dulles Airport at 6:28 PM, knowing he has been tailed. He spots Webb/ Bourne in a darkened bar and tells him that the government needs the Bourne persona in Kowloon, that they have temporarily lost Marie and that someone else wants Webb/Bourne over there and has taken over. When Webb/Bourne weeps behind his hand over Marie, Conklin orders him brutally to knock this off and be the chameleon Bourne. Meanwhile, in Havilland's office, McAllister announces that Webb is en route,



adding that the government's part in this manipulation is "God-awful." Havilland dismisses the pious banalities. He sees himself as doing everything possible to keep the earth from blowing itself up - including manipulating Webb/Bourne.

## Chapters 6-7 Analysis

The Jekyll and Hyde struggle continues within Webb/Bourne, but his rather confusing killing career in Vietnam and Europe is clarified through dialog with a new character, Alex Conklin, who appears destined to collaborate in rescuing Marie. By playing his part to the hilt, the drunken, despised, but once brilliant agent, regains a large measure of respectability. Who all the players in the kidnapping are is still fuzzy as Webb/Bourne boards a flight to Hong Kong. Revelations continue throughout the novel.



# Chapters 8-10

## Chapters 8-10 Summary

Circling Kai-tak Airport, Webb/Bourne agonizes about Marie, somewhere on the ground below among the teeming masses, but also studies the ground, sensing he knows this place. Self-probing has brought out fragments and flashes of memory, brief and confusing, and somehow not his own. It produces confusion and fear. Calling himself Howard Cruett, Webb/Bourne has confirmed that his suite 690 is available, and his first task on the ground is to find out who has made it available. In this colony, money is everyone's god.

At the registration desk, Webb/Bourne asks a young clerk to downgrade him to a smaller room, something he cannot do so without permission from Assistant Manager Liang. The middle-aged Asian, anxious to be of service, insists that the reservation stipulates this suite, but cannot reveal the confidential records. When Cruett (Webb/Bourne) proposes moving to the Pennsylvania Hotel, Liang orders the clerk to put him in Room 202, and reams the employee out in Chinese. Having won the charade, Cruett thanks Liang in fluent, idiomatic Chinese - as Bourne would do. Liang's insecurity turns to fear when Cruett asks not to be disturbed until dinnertime. A US \$20 bill gets the clerk to reveal that Liang leaves at 5 PM every day. As Webb/Bourne watches the harbor, names come to him but specifics are maddeningly elusive. Seeing himself in a mirror, he knows he cannot go out pale-faced and haggard; he must summon up Bourne and trust instincts he cannot remember. The New World Shopping Centre next door advertises limousines, which doubtless means chauffeurs who know the ins-and-outs of Kowloon's "lower depths" and can help jog his memories. When the phone rings, he knows it might be Marie, but Webb/Bourne must initiate contact if he hopes to control the situation. In anguish, he leaves.

By noon, Webb/Bourne returns with his purchases: dark clothing for nighttime, fishing line, eyehooks, a paperweight, an ice pick and a sheathed hunting knife. He still needs a firearm. A message signal is blinking and an operator says Liang has been phoning frantically, but Webb/Bourne cannot talk to Liang until he has been pushed over the psychological edge. To this end, Webb plunges the ice pick into the wall opposite the door, leaves his room, and from hiding watches Liang ring, pound, and eventually let himself in. Seeing the ice pick, Liang shrieks and flees. Offering the concierge \$200, "Cruett" secures a limo, an experienced driver, and access to the Regent's service elevator. Tired, middle-aged Pak-fei is the driver for a ride around to the city, which jogs Webb/Bourne's memories of landmarks and shortcuts. Near the end of the two-hour tour, Webb/Bourne asks to go to Chater Square, withdraws \$500,000 in an attachy case and offers Pak-fei a US\$100 bill to find him a gun. They head for the Mongkok, the world's most densely populated area, exclusively Asian, not so much squalid as poor. Stopping to make a phone call, Pak-fei locks Webb/Bourne inside the limo, but Webb/Bourne's white face draws an angry crowd. As they escape, Pak-fei says he has





made certain no one is following them. A bank insider might have alerted gang members to the withdrawal, a danger Webb had not considered.

On the waterfront, Pak-fei stops outside a deserted-looking warehouse and informs the guard that Wu Song is expecting his passenger. They enter a large, whitewashed room and are electronically scanned before Wu appears, dressed in a fashionable European suit. He recoils at the attachy case that Webb refuses to relinquish, but is warming to their conversation when the guards suddenly attack. Webb is amazed how readily Bourne's moves return as he subdues both easily. The stunned Wu pleads not to be harmed physically. Disgusted, Webb/Bourne has his injured driver tie everyone up, while he selects a small but powerful silenced handgun, for which he pays in full. As Pak-fei leads the bound men outside, Webb/Bourne selects, arms, and strategically plants six grenades. On the breakwater, he identifies himself as the legendary Bourne and suggests Wu forget about revenge on Pak-fei. Six massive explosions stop traffic on the highway and they drive away, as Webb/Bourne is promising Pak-fei he is in no danger. Before parting, Webb/Bourne tells Pak-fei to take his family on a nice drive into the New Territories and enjoy a fine meal to set up a cover for this adventure. Webb gives Pak-fei US\$400 and says good-bye.

Looking anxious, Liang leaves the Regent at 5:02 PM with Webb on his tail. A sudden change of mind and direction by Liang nearly shakes him, but he trusts Bourne's instincts. Liang passes under an arch that leads to a dead-end and enters a phone booth. Perplexed, Webb knows that *he* must place this call, if Marie is to be saved, so he rushes the booth as gunfire erupts, causing pandemonium. Neither is hit. Identifying himself as Bourne and assuring the manager that having failed as a trace he, Liang, is the current target, "Cruett" obtains the next phone number in sequence: 34-40. Liang admits that his handlers have ordered him to come because the guest in Suite 690 cannot be trusted. He claims to have tried all day to warn the guest, in order to protect his family from his Kuomintang background.

*Webb* places the call from a noisy arcade, demands to talk to his wife, warns against killing Liang, and suggests the contact's window is being watched. In 15 minutes, he calls again, obtaining a Hong Kong number where Marie is. Marie calms him down so he can pick up her coded messages: memories of Zurich and Paris, her weariness and her favorite tree. A man seizes the phone and orders Marie taken elsewhere. He and Webb/Bourne both realize she is sending messages, but the captor assures him it will do no good. He reminds Webb/Bourne about his murdered relative. As they joust verbally, Webb/Bourne realizes he is losing control. He agrees to meet in the filthy Walled City between 9:30 and 9:45 PM. A woman selling snake entrails will give him directions. He should dress plainly and, of course, not contact authorities, as he will be watched. Hanging up, Webb/Bourne thinks about Marie's perplexing words.

Webb becomes the chameleon Bourne, able effortlessly to make eyewitnesses give conflicting versions of hair and eye color, complexion and clothing. He stays checked in at the Regent, but rents another room at the Peninsula under a different name and checks his attachy case in its vault. He heads early to the Walled City to study the street characters and arrangement of alleys and staircases. He spies his muscular female



contact, skinning and gutting snakes, with a furious black cobra clamped beneath one foot. Dressed as an Asian, Webb examines merchandise in the bazaar, walking hunched over with exhaustion and futility. In Chinese he asks, "Where is the great one?" She objects he is early, but directs him to a whore 15-20 meters away. Webb offers her US\$100 to forget she has ever seen him. At 9:15, Webb begins testing security. The caricature whore is watching for a white man, guards holding radios are obvious, and a small Chinese man in a business suit, obviously disgusted by his surroundings, scurries about. From the way he is breathing, Webb calculates which staircase he has descended. Storming the correct door will let Webb/Bourne surprise the taipan. Bourne startles the whore, who insists on leading him, instead of just indicating a door, but a stack of bills gets the desired information.

At 9:36, Bourne begins his assault on the "Praetorian Guard" and at 9:40 holds the last surviving radio. He drops the "head-head man," who is frantically seeking his missing men, and deposits him between two drunks, knowing they will pick him clean. By 9:43, Bourne can drop his disguise, head to the designated doorway and smash through its thin wood. He is stunned to face a semi-circle of armed men guarding a huge Chinese man dressed in white. Bourne begs them to kill him mercifully, realizing this seals Marie's fate as well.

## Chapters 8-10 Analysis

Three tightly interlinked chapters set in Hong Kong/Kowloon show the Bourne persona seizing control, instinctively and amazingly. He takes the offensive, putting his enemies off-balance at every turn. Local color is played up, giving a far better feel for both the colony's opulence and decay than the rich opening chapter. The anti-communist Kuomintang, mentioned earlier, remains in the murky background, implicated in the unfolding drama.



# Chapters 11-12

## Chapters 11-12 Summary

The large Asian welcomes Webb/Bourne, asks for his gun and offers a seat. Ostentatiously displaying a gold Rolex and matching cuff links, the taipan explains that shooting at Liang is a ruse, confirms Yao Ming is one of his aliases, and admits that he knows Webb/Bourne has not killed his wife. He has kidnapped Marie to motivate Webb/Bourne to find and capture a *new* Bourne, who is causing the taipan grief. The imposter has studied the original's tactics and methods carefully. Turn the imposter over to be tortured and killed and Webb/Bourne wins his wife's freedom. He must *not* go to Macau because this would implicate the taipan. He provides Webb/Bourne the names of the known victims in the cabaret (where the taipan had been scheduled to be) and their (and the taipan's) known enemies. Finally, the taipan provides a phone number that Webb/Bourne may call only when he is ready to surrender the imposter; the phrase "snake lady," repeated several times activates another phone link. Any other use constitutes tracing, and Marie dies. Bourne replies that the taipan will have 30 seconds to put Marie on the line or the imposter dies.

Among the stately homes in Victoria Peak, one is guarded by armed U.S. Marines. At the command of the NSC, the consulate has rented the property, ostensibly to house visitors, but it is, in fact, a "sterile house" for a covert operation jointly authorized by the president and prime minister. Undersecretary McAllister is studying an "Ultra Maximum Classified" dossier and keeps a late night visitor waiting. Maj. Lin Wenzu of MI6 reluctantly removes a Rolex and cufflinks and is quite pleased with a performance that both releases Bourne's lethal abilities and scares him off Macau. There he would have discovered the truth: that a government he already distrusts has kidnapped his wife. McAllister is not happy with his responsibility but does his best to prevent leaks or miscalculations. They can only monitor their "resurrected hunter" as he begins Phase 2, working through the list of authentic names of the most vicious men in the Asian underworld. Hesitantly, Lin reveals that Marie is suffering seizures and memory lapses.

Pretending to sleep, Marie listens as a doctor demands her medical history from Lin. Hearing their plan to have Washington canvas her neighbors, Marie is amused, having had no time to meet people or find a doctor. Marie hopes her husband has picked up on her subtle hints and that he is not too worried. Since this has "government" written all over it, she is in no real danger. Everyone has treated her well. When Lin and the doctor leave, Marie pushes the call button and asks for a pill to help her sleep. While the nurse seeks permission, Marie intices a young guard into the room and arranges herself in a compromising position to be discovered because Bourne's rule is that the visual implants thoughts much faster than verbal stories. Having two key captors at odds with one another, Marie reconnoiters her room. Finding that the handle controlling elevation on her bed works like her husband's, she knows how to remove it. When the nurse returns, Marie feigns stupor and mumbles about the guard's behavior. The nurse confronts him and stomps away aggressively, threatening a report. Foolishly, the guard



answers Marie's whispered summons and Marie knocks him out with the handle. Marie strips off his uniform and shoes, pins her hair up in a towel and grabs her own clothes from the closet.

Remembering the Bourne maxim that "the cleanest escape is one done in stages," Marie slips across the corridor into a linen closet and waits for people to notice that the guard and Marie are missing. As nurse and guard attack each other verbally, exchanging epithets that Marie has suggested, she sneaks down the hall and out into the parking lot. There she changes clothes, claims the guard's HK\$600 (worth US\$100) and credit card. Lin and the doctor quickly arrive. As they disappear into Emergency, Marie wanders away. She walks for hours, stopping to gorge on fast food and to buy pins to pull her hair back severely, making her emaciated and makeup-free face appear severe. To complete the look, she buys a fake Gucci purse and sandals. It is too early to go to the Canadian consulate, and she has no money for a hotel room, but she recalls the Bourne maxim, "Don't make your moves when you're tired or exhausted." Passing an arcade, she makes friends with an American couple, introducing herself as a schoolteacher who has missed her tour and lacks funds for a hotel room. They happily take her to the Chinese University of Hong Kong, where beds are US\$3 a night. Marie listens to the girls around her as she thinks of how she cannot cope as well as her husband believes. She recalls Bourne's maxim, "study everything, you'll find something you can use."

## Chapters 11-12 Analysis

These chapters pull together the details of the plot, confirming that the U.S. government (and McAllister in particular) is behind it. The vengeful Macau widower Yao is, in fact, an MI6 operative, who is responsible for the assassination drama on Liang and plays role of the fat, ostentatious taipan to whom Liang's information leads. The Rolex and matching cuff links make a nice link and transition as McAllister returns to the narrative, still suffering angst. Marie, meanwhile, said by her husband to have escaped in San Francisco, does indeed escape from a hospital in Kowloon, recalling useful Bourne maxims and using her own considerable wits. Corridors are again critical to the plot. Webb/Bourne, meanwhile, has been set up to find and capture his imposter alter ego, however he can.



# Chapter 13

## Chapter 13 Summary

Torrential rain sweeps Repulse Bay, where Webb/Bourne is to meet the third contact on Yao/ Lin's list, beneath a fearsome Chinese god, offshore from the Colonial Hotel. The first man on the list has tried to trap Webb on the Star Ferry, but lost his thugs and has been forced to reveal that false-Bourne works out of Macau. Next on the list is Jiang Yu, the owner/manager of a swank French restaurant on Causeway Bay. Webb/Bourne washes, shaves and dresses for dinner, making the mistake of briefly coming out of his Bourne persona. A US\$100 bill slipped to the maotre d' opens a table and produces Jiang, who reluctantly accepts his guest's request that he sit, only to see a gun pointed under the table at his midsection. Information about false-Bourne is the price of Jiang's life. Jiang denies having made connection in Macau despite three tries. When he quotes the challenge words - Webb/Bourne's challenges once hurled at the Jackal, words supposedly locked away with the Medusa files - Webb/Bourn freezes. How can false-Bourne know them? Yiang adds detail about trying to contact a Frenchman at Kam Pek's casino. Yiang pleads that he is just a courier, albeit a pricey one, and Pek is cautious and professional.

Hearing the code, "Cain is for Delta and Carlos is for Cain," the third contact shrieks into the phone that they should have met in Macau. The client has little time and is irked to hear the hit man is moving elsewhere. They agree to meet at Repulse Bay. He is late, and Webb/Bourne has used the time to scout the beach for a trap. Just as a figure approaches, flashlights exchange signals around the hotel. Webb/Bourne drags the contact into the woods, satisfies himself that the contact is alone, and leads him to where the man can see the executioner awaits. The contact is sanguine about his fate, but Webb/Bourne offers to save him, let him keep the US\$30,000 he carries, and information he can sell to help keep himself alive. Webb/Bourne wants only to know where false-Bourne is. He is in Shenzen, inside the CPR, on a very unusual visa authorized in Beijing. The entry date is tomorrow at the Lo Wu border. Following him will be costly and risky.

The early morning train from Kowloon takes an hour to reach Lo Wu. A visa costs "Cruett" US\$7,000 and is valid for five days. It specifies he is a businessman and may renew it at Shenzen upon proof he has invested in the CPR. He has learned false-Bourne's passport matches his old ID card closely for height, weight, eyes, and complexion, so he concentrates on passengers matching the description. Four hours at the border station produce nothing until, at 11:10 AM, Webb/Bourne realizes a medium-sized tourist in tan gabardine has suddenly left off limping, grown taller and is fleeing through the parking lot. It *must* be his target. False-Bourne enters a dark green van with tinted windows and calligraphy identifying the Chutang Bird Sanctuary. Frantic, Webb/Bourne leaps into an old taxi and pulls a great deal of cash to induce the driver to follow the van. The harrowing, hilly ride terminates at the Shumchun Reservoir. Seeing the van nowhere in the public areas, Webb/Bourne mimics a sightseer to blunder up a



restricted road, where he sees it, parked beside a brown sedan. When the van drives off, Webb/Bourne pretends it hits him and rapidly subdues the driver who had jumped out to proclaim his innocence. Stealing the driver's gun, he checks the empty cab and sends the lucky driver on his way, knowing his target is in the brown sedan. He promises his driver twenty times the original deal to follow this *government* car, and explains how he will talk them out of any trouble they encounter.

At an airfield, Webb/Bourne portrays a bewildered executive sent to meet an important person from Beijing whose name he has mislaid. They will recognize one another. He is given a pass restricting him to the terminal and the taxi is allowed to remain parked, should he need it. Webb/ Bourne confiscates the bills to keep the driver from fleeing. The brown sedan is on the tarmac fifty feet away, but unreachable behind a glass wall. It moves to the rear of a plane and then departs. Webb/Bourne screams that on Beijing's orders, he is to be on that flight to Shanghai. A helpful clerk calms him, saying it is bound for Guangdong on the Macau border. Webb/Bourne recalls the threats about visiting Macau. The bird sanctuary's logo is significant, for one of the most significant scenes takes place in another bird sanctuary outside Beijing.

## Chapter 13 Analysis

This chapter shows Webb/Bourne dealing with three of the names on his list in very different ways, two violent and one surprisingly benign, and then undertaking a wild goose-chase inside the PRC on the tail of the false-Bourne. Webb/Bourne's mental agility, changing stories and strategies, will be seen throughout the book, including, of course, in Macau, the one place he is expressly forbidden to go on pains of Marie's instant death. The Chinese respect for westerners who bother to learn their language is noted, as it often will be throughout the novel.





# Chapter 14

## Chapter 14 Summary

McAllister jumps from his chair on hearing the unbelievable, unacceptable news about Marie's escape. The English doctor takes responsibility for being "dragooned" by her calculated "carnival act." McAllister lets Havilland's name slip and immediately warns Lin and the doctor to forget it. A medical alert about Marie has been put out, which will put thousands of eyes watching for her. McAllister wants full records on both Webbs, so he can look for a thread or pattern. He excuses himself to make "a dreadful call."

Marie sells and barbers clothing to attain a non-descript look and heads to the Canadian consulate in Hong Kong. There, she feigns embarrassment seeking a second she has never met and whose name she forgets. The receptionist gives her a directory to skim, where Marie spots an old colleague, Catherine Staples, now a senior foreign officer. She recalls unfair nicknames given to this most competent professional who has sacrificed a marriage to her career. She epitomizes "tough but fair." Returning the book, Marie casually mentions seeing a picture of a friend-of-a-friend, and the receptionist offers to ring "Catherine the Great." Fearing the British may have issued a bulletin that Staples dares not ignore, Marie hangs around the doors until Staples emerges and strides towards an official car. Marie lunges after her, identifies herself, is taken in, and taken to a favorite restaurant. Marie is anxious to tell her story, which is related to the (true) rumors Staples heard circulating three years ago. Marie has married the man described in the papers and both are in Hong Kong, in serious trouble for which Marie needs Staples' help. In Staples' apartment, Marie relates what Staples declares is "the most blatant misuse of office in thirty years," provided there is no "grave misinterpretation." None of this is logical. Interpol should be handling it, not the CIA or MI6. McAllister's conclusions show that he is either a liar or has the "IQ of a fern," because London would never let its people near this situation. Marie and her husband have been brought here for other, unknown reasons. Disaster in the making.

## Chapter 14 Analysis

This chapter opens with officialdom's panic over Marie's escape and then watches her apply lessons learned from her chameleon husband. Her resourcefulness matches his as she manipulates the receptionist in the Canadian consulate. More detail about Marie's professional background and the effect of the scandal on her life is brought out (with more to come) and the degree of danger inherent in the current situation is suggested. Staples becomes a major character, often voicing a dedicated bureaucrat's dismay over incompetent colleagues.



# Chapter 15

## Chapter 15 Summary

Freewheeling Macau, 40 miles southwest of Hong Kong is nominally Portuguese but controlled from Beijing. Webb/Bourne arrives among silent, returning Chinese residents, furtive professional gamblers, and boisterous, drunken tourist. The trip by taxi and hydrofoil is exhausting, particularly because he has had to exercise extreme caution not to be spotted. Seeing men studying photos of a wanted man - and knowing it is he - Webb/Bourne as Cruett blends in with a loud group of advertising agents and, pretending to be from Boston, obtains a Red Sox cap to cover his face. Outside the terminal, he peels off into garish streets that are Hong Kong on a smaller scale. He takes a taxi to the dark, dank Kam Pek casino, which caters to Asians. Slumping on a barstool to lessen his height and pulling down his ball cap, Speaking Chinese, Webb/Bourne makes friends with the bartender and asks him to pass a note to table five. It says, "No friend of Carlos" and includes a phone number.

Hours pass before a prostitute collects the note and leaves the casino. Webb/Bourne follows her at a distance and observes her pass it to a stooped old man. Four blocks away, the man transforms into a well-dressed Chinese man whose body language bespeaks authority and strength. Once away from crowds, Webb/Bourne overtakes the man and announces he has news from the Frenchman. Manhandled into an alley, the man recognizes Bourne and then changes his mind. He tries to break away and proves a worthy adversary until he is eventually subdued. Webb/Bourne offers him the choice of death or a chance to earn more money than the Frenchman ever pays. Sitting together, smoking, and recovering, the man reveals he is the champion of Macau and feels dishonored. Webb/Bourne assures him he has won only because he knows and uses dirty tricks. The man worries about a "lack of harmony" and the Frenchman's anger. He and the assassin are to meet tomorrow night. Webb/Bourne offers him US\$10,000 to take him to the meeting. Given a \$500 down payment, the man goes to make arrangements, while Webb/Bourne finds a room somewhere he will not attract attention.

Staples sits at her desk, astonished after ending a phone conversation. Much of her success in helping Canadian tourists and several attachys who fall victim to extortionists comes through her no-strings-attached relationship with a 67-year-old English widower who serves as chief of Crown Colonial Affairs. Ian Ballantyne has just revealed to her that McAllister's story is a lie in all its details. It smells like London is behind it. He cannot tell her about one victim of this "maniac, Bourne." Staples wonders why a Canadian economist (Marie) is at the center of a "sudden storm." At least Marie is safe now. Meanwhile, Havilland strides into McAllister's office, demanding to know "who the son of a bitch who let this happen" is. Lin, unseen against the back wall, volunteers it is he. Havilland dumps out a thick manila envelope with black edges: the Treadstone-71 file. It is to be locked in the vault when McAllister is not reading it. Lin is ordered to find Marie, who, unbeknownst to them, is in Staples' flat, bored to death. Staples phones to





confirm McAllister's story about the cabaret and the Macau murder that never happened. Staples observes this is "either the clumsiest operation" or the most "brilliantly conceived plan" to get Webb/Bourne to do something he would not otherwise consider and reveals that a "statesman" has flown into Hong Kong, ostensibly on vacation, but he never takes vacations.

McAllister runs out into the walled garden to share his excitement with Havilland and Lin. The file shows Marie is alluding to the Canadian consulate when she talks about her "favorite tree," the maple. This is Paris all over again. McAllister has not alerted friendly embassies and consulates because of his oath of silence. Lin sides with McAllister on secrecy: they cannot function without data, like that on Sheng, which Havilland has just shared with Lin. Havilland demands the Canadian consulate's roster immediately.

## Chapter 15 Analysis

Busy Chapter 15 touches on all the major characters in Asia. Webb/Bourne enters Macau where spies watch for him, and he hooks up with someone who can get him into the next meeting between the Frenchman and false-Bourne. Marie is holed up in Staples' flat and Staples is turning over stones to prove the official U.S. story false. Havilland reappears with a cover story that is remarkably lame for a spy, and is confronted with the fruits of his silencing McAllister (Chapter 2 because it has resulted in friendly embassies and consulates having not yet been alerted).



# Chapter 16

## Chapter 16 Summary

Answering the no-names phone call, Webb/Bourne is told to be at the border at 2100 hours. Once inside China, he is on his own and is not to say he has entered via Macau. Getting out is easier than getting in. False-Bourne can be gotten out by airplane by drugging him and claiming he is drunk. China's air schedules are terrible. The cost is HK\$400 plus a new watch to bribe the border guard. In foothills ten miles north of Gongbei, the guide explains that if they see a campfire, the conference is on. Crouching and alert, they run between fields of high grass; the guide cannot say if patrols are out because he senses "there is no harmony." Passing through two tangled forests, they reach a hill from which a campfire is visible. Vague memories of such a situation come to Webb/Bourne and he forces himself not to attack. He recalls his first family floating bloody in a river and a handprint on his door and is filled with hatred for what has been done to his wives. He disagrees mentally with Marie: he *is* a killer. Webb/Bourne dismisses the guide, giving him \$9,500 in cash. The guide hands him his loaded, untraceable gun, an act of honor towards the man who has bested him.

Webb/Bourne crawls through the tall grass, taking exquisite care always to disturb it *with* the natural sway of the wind. At the tree line, he sees an armed guard concentrating on the field. In a moment of distraction, Webb/Bourne disarms and disables him, rips his jacket into strips, binds, and gags him. Normally, he would press forward, but something disturbs him about this guard, who is filthy and not in PRC uniform. Surmising he must be a cheap thug, Webb/Bourne wonders why the rich men at the conference would hire him? Something is, indeed, not in balance. Racing through the woods, Webb/Bourne stops short of the fire and hides behind a large rock. There stands an expectant, uniformed soldier, joined an hour later, to Webb/Bourne's shocked amazement by, "a ghost of himself, a haunting apparition from years ago come back to stalk him." It is the "Delta persona" that he has been told about, who becomes Cain and finally Jason Bourne.

Gunfire erupts from the woods, killing the Chinese soldier, while false-Bourne drops to the ground. Three massive grenades and a machine gun show that the killer has walked into a trap. On the run, twisting, he sees Webb/Bourne, fires on him, and doubles back, hoping to turn the tables on his attackers. Determined not to lose him, Webb/Bourne has the agility of Medusa, knowing the forest, and pounces on him, Bourne-on-Bourne, reminding himself not to kill. For Marie's sake, he must take him in alive. Being pounded in a hammerlock, the man screams, "Delta!" and identifies himself as Philippe d'Anjou of Tan Quan and Paris. Taken aback, Webb/Bourne stares at the elderly face and relives the nightmares. The Frenchman has a story to tell.

D'Anjou surveys the wreckage and admits he could hardly have anticipated Webb/Bourne, but easily anticipates his "creation," false-Bourne. In Paris, after cornering the Jackal and almost being killed by him, d'Anjou robs a shop and flees for



his life, avoiding the Jackal, into Asia. Before funds run out, he considers how to use his Medusa talents to ease his final years and to get even with society. Webb/Bourne might be "beyond-salvage" in Washington, but in Asia, Jason Bourne remains a mighty myth. D'Anjou has only to find a "pretender" to train in the ways of Medusa. In Singapore, he finds a desperate, psychopathic ex-Royal Commando being hunted for seven murders committed after escaping from a psychiatric hospital and who had an earlier military career that strikes fear even into the likes of Idi Amin. He resembles Webb/Bourne in physique and his nose and chin are easily modified. This "man without a name but not without a macabre story" is subhuman, but highly intelligent. His men hate him but appreciate how he gets them out of the tightest spots, and superiors put up with him because he gets dirty jobs done - much like the original Delta. D'Anjou creates him as the U.S. creates the original, and like the original, the copy goes mad and turns on him. He now negotiates dangerous assignments on his own, but Echo has found him through the Kam Pak casino. Medusan instinct tells Echo to come here tonight to kill his monster before he can bring disaster to Hong Kong. Webb/Bourne has heard that theory from McAllister but does not believe it. D'Anjou reveals that a "powerful political figure" has fallen victim and both the British and Beijing must save face. The new Delta must die. Webb/ Bourne disagrees: he must be taken alive and turned in, ere Marie die. Nothing will prevent him from accomplishing his mission. Echo goes along with him.

## Chapter 16 Analysis

Chapter 16 brings Webb/Bourne into China and reunites him with Philippe d'Anjou, codename "Echo" to his "Delta" in Vietnam. The story turns uncharacteristically literary as Webb/Bourne likens d'Anjou's creation of false-Bourne to Pygmalion and Galatea, and declares, "Bernard Shaw would love you, and I could kill you." This invokes Ovid's *Metamorphoses*, where the protagonist falls in love with a statue he has made and the goddess Aphrodite brings to life (as Galatea) for him to marry. Playwright Shaw bases his *Pygmalion* on this ancient myth, transforming the characters into those that ultimately appear on the movie screen in *My Fair Lady*. D'Anjou later shifts the imagery to that of Mary Shelly's novel *Frankenstein*, where the monster at least has some redeeming qualities. The unnamed false-Bourne, later given an identity, is destined to accompany Webb/Bourne to the end of the novel and Echo to give his life so Old Delta can live and remove the threat to peace in Asia.



# Chapters 17-18

## Chapters 17-18 Summary

Staples entertains John Nelson, a nervous 32-year-old American attachy, whose career she rescued years ago by finding and destroying staged, kiddie-porn photographs. She mentions Marie's name and sees no sign of recognition, while Havilland's name elicits wonder over why he is in Hong Kong. Staples reveals the secure mansion on Victoria Peak that has been diplomatic scuttlebutt since a corporal created a scene when a restaurant rejects a check because the military attachy refused to vouch for his ID. Nelson can say only that they have been instructed to say, "No comment" about that incident. Nelson tries to justify the cover story, but Staples will not buy the "hogwash;" still he guesses Havilland's presence must be related to this Marie. For both their sakes Staples declines to expand on her "yes." She knows only one side of the hole-filled story. Nelson suggests an explanation for why Marie would contact him, but Staples proposes a simpler lie, based on the truth of Marie's situation.

Lin reports to McAllister that a woman who could be Marie, made to look plain, has visited the Canadian consulate, tells a credible story, and declines to meet an employee whose name she recognizes probably for fear that the U.S. has issued an alert. Havilland is lunching quietly with the Canadian High Commissioner to ask for "blind cooperation," as London has ordered. He returns just as U.S. Consulate-General Jonathan Lewis phones to announce that a "high-strung, overwrought" woman has asked an attachy to help find her missing husband. Lin points out that this call is odd, if Lewis has not, for security reasons, been apprised of the situation, as people routinely go missing in Hong Kong. The Canadian commissioner will, reluctantly, provide a list of staff members who have had dealings with Marie. It will be long, since a quarter have attended her seminar, and will doubtless take some time to compile. Nelson hangs up after McAllister's phone call, perspiring badly but confident he has parried all questions diplomatically. Nelson promises to arrange a meeting should he be contacted again. Listening in, Havilland points out that Nelson has diverted McAllister's questions, and Lin agrees that Nelson has been coached. Something, perhaps blackmail, is making Nelson cooperate. Lin asks for a day to untangle things, but Havilland can afford only until 8 PM. If Marie is not found by then, they must seize Nelson and break all the rules by bugging *everyone* until they find who is hiding Marie.

Having invented a dental appointment to escape the consulate, Nelson phones Staples from a phone booth to set up a 5 PM meeting at the Monkey Tree. With no excuse to stay away for three hours, he then returns to his office, wondering about what brings McAllister back to Hong Kong, why the U.S. sets up a sterile house, why Havilland is visiting, and why the normally strong Staples is so frightened. He owes her his life, but must make a decision about cooperating with her. Lin exhausts all his sources—his best hope is the maddening Ballantyne, who pauses too frequently answering questions with questions not to be hiding something. An officer calls to report that their subject is in a cagy in the Wanchai district, and while they speak, a woman approaches Staples' table.



Lin instructs the officer to slow their service to give him time to drive over. Nelson acknowledges all Staples has done for him, but needs more than she has told him. Staples assures Nelson they may both be facing something in which neither should be involved. Both must make hard decisions. Desperate, Staples lies, claiming to have retained incriminating photos, in case "hardball" should become necessary. Marie is a friend, who, with her husband, is being victimized by the detestable CIA, and Staples intends to find out why the "*stupid bastards*" are doing this. No one gets a "blank check." Broken, Nelson acknowledges everything and identifies his source as McAllister. Seeing someone, who is so large that he can only be Lin, enter the restaurant, Staples retreats to the ladies' room and thence through the kitchen to a phone booth to warn Marie to flee the flat quickly. Staple's car is in a garage a block away. Lin also places a call to the consulate to get Staples' current address. A dispatcher pulls Vehicle 5 off a drug stakeout to hurry to the entrance of the Botanical Garden and arrest Marie.

Marie tries not to panic. Webb/Bourne has ordered her to "Move!" like this, but Staples is not one to issue commands, so this must be serious. Marie dresses in wet clothes, a pair of slippers, and a hat. Recalling Bourne's rule to avoid elevators, she races down the fire-exit door and on the street turns in the direction that comes first to her mind - another Bourne rule. She is collecting a lost slipper when a car races up and its driver comes at her on the run. Cornered, Marie begins screaming to attract attention. She invents stories about having been mugged by this man, and an elderly Englishman threatens to "thrash" the attacker, who identifies himself as Special Branch. A burly Australian intervenes, orders the officer to "Tyke yer hands off the lady," and is taken to the ground. He perseveres, however, pummeling the attacker to the crowd's delight, allowing Marie to escape. Additional official vehicles arrive before Marie can reach the garage red sign, and a booming voice calls her name and begs her to stop. They mean her no harm. Marie reverses her course, when a taxi pulls up at Ming's Parking Palace and Staples emerges. To keep Lin from seeing Staples, Marie screams "Carlos!" and "Delta!" The major spins, recognizing the key - proof that the government is behind all of this.

To find her husband, Marie must reach Staples, 100 yards away and still not seen by "the enemy." She hides as Lin grows furious with the chaos and orders the street cleared. As an MI6 driver collides with a civilian car and argues fault with its outraged driver, Marie slips into the Gardens. Driving a small Japanese car, Staples approaches, honks, takes Marie in, and heads to the central business district. Lin has the two-door green Mitsubishi AOR-5350 flashed to all points; apprehend the women but do not speak with them. Knowing this will happen, Staples heads to the Mandarin Hotel on Ice House Street to exchange the car. Hobbled badly, Marie goes to the ladies' room while Staples makes arrangements. She informs Marie she is in a "*fuck 'em*" mood. The phone rings at MI6, with Police Central 4 reporting information received from a parking garage about Staples' monthly rental of a parking space at Ming's. This proves the alert has gone out and at least someone has bothered to write it down and respond. There are too many garages to contact them all, and most of their employees are anti-police, but at 6:34 PM, with the 8 PM deadline rescinded, Lin is confident they will prevail.



Staples' only hope is to borrow a car from a Canadian friend, but Lin doubts she would put a friend at risk.

Two parking boys debate whether to report the women's arrival to the police. One calls this "bad joss" and wants to shake them down when they return, and have a hard time finding their car to give the other time to call the police and make them heroes. Meanwhile, in the hotel, Staples is frustrated to see the head concierge with whom she normally deals busy mollifying a loud, rich guest. A clerk points out that Lee Teng is having "terrible joss." Staples explains that she needs to rent a car fast and the young man begins dialing numbers. Watching Lee manipulate the customer, Staples thinks about how ex-husband Owen has never remarried. The strange reverie breaks when the clerk says the Apex Agency on Bonham Strand East has cars available but no drivers. It requires a HK\$1,000 deposit, which Staples unthinkingly puts on a credit card.

Having mollified the guest and broken away from her, head concierge Lee Teng approaches Staples and draws her out of their line of sight of the desk. He reveals a copy of the wanted notice on her and Marie. Hearing her plans to rent a car, Teng warns the second clerk making calls wants his job badly and could be trouble. Teng collects the credit card slips, has them cancel the rental, lends Staples some money and takes the women to a chauffeur who will take them to Bonham Strand. The second clerk reports the rental to the police, painting the situation badly for Teng and advantageously for himself, suggesting the police hurry to the Apex. Traffic is heavy as the limo reaches Bonham Strand East. There, on Teng's orders, the chauffeur stops, removes his uniform hat and tunic, and leaves the locked car, saying he will return shortly. Through Marie's observation, Staples realizes Teng is in love with her, something she hardly needs at this point. Lin, meanwhile, is staking out the Apex, confident an arrest is near. He notices someone enter, but shifts his focus to a suspicious taxi. Smelling "a rotten squid," he sees the first man drive away, but realizes his creased trousers do not go with the rolled-sleeve shirt. Surmising he is a chauffeur, Lin U-turns to pursue him, only to be blocked by Teng's limousine roaring out of a side street. Teng claims to be on a confidential errand and previously involved with an important lady, so he has seen no government directive. When Lin says another concierge has reported processing a car rental, Teng explains this jealous assistant often causes problems. Havilland is livid and orders Staples' car watched all night if necessary.

Staples is, indeed, furious when she is dragged into the Victoria Peak mansion and confronted at by Havilland and McAllister. She declares flatly that Havilland has gone too far, while he charges her with compromising a member of the American legation and engaging in extortion. They need no proof, because at 11 PM a young man confesses everything. Staples says the "damn fool" is blameless, unlike Havilland and the "unprincipled lackey," McAllister. She asks who gives them the right to play God with two peoples' lives, declares she intends to put Marie under full Canadian protection and expose the Americans, who behave more barbarically than the KGB. The "American juggernaut of covert operations" is suffering a setback in this case, and the world is sick of them. Havilland demands Staples hear him out before having her country declare war on his; he is trying to save millions of lives. If he fails, Staples must live with the consequences.



## Chapters 17-18 Analysis

These chapters follow MI6's pursuit of Marie, involving reluctant Canadian officials and compromising a young American attachy. Staples' talk about her ex-husband adds little to the story or to the core of her character, but her willingness to blackmail Nelson, who she had once saved from blackmail, demonstrates a hardness she condemns in the American "bastards." Marie, thinking on her feet to escape capture, continues to amaze, and all the while, she remembers her husband's maxims. In a politically-charged, final scene, Canada, standing up to its bullying neighbor to the south, is the only point at which officialdom comes off any better than the despised KGB. With Marie still at large, Havilland is ready to spill the whole truth to Staples, knowing that only she can bring Marie in and thus save the world from destruction. "Joss" is used several times in the sense of "luck," but this word originally has a cultic, religious sense.





# Chapters 19-20

## Chapters 19-20 Summary

For hours, Webb/Bourne passes the time by re-cleaning d'Anjou's gun. Being with d'Anjou jogs painful but somehow comforting memories in him. When the Frenchman fails to return home by 5 PM, Webb/Bourne contemplates how to learn more about taipan who Webb/Bourne believes will kill Marie on a single phone call from Macau. Footsteps put Webb/Bourne on the defensive, and he nearly kills d'Anjou before the Frenchman identifies himself. They don Kowloon police uniforms d'Anjou has obtained to help them penetrate security at the airport, where contacts say false-Bourne plans to carry out the single, spectacular kill that will cement his legend for "utter invincibility." The target is the Crown governor, who is scheduled to fly in from Beijing with PRC negotiators. Both governments want media coverage. Webb/Bourne sees how this act, avenging the Vice-Chairman's murder, could start a cycle of killings that force the PRC to intervene. There is plenty of greed and corruption on both sides to keep a non-discriminating assassin busy. The more complicated the scenario gets, the simpler it appears.

The airport swarms with police. Television crews set up. Cordoned-off journalists are promised proper passes soon. The chaos increases as an autumnal deluge begins. D'Anjou observes that the storm is the imposter's "good joss," but to Webb/Bourne it means the imposter has studied reports and known for two days that the weather will be his weapon. False-Bourne is clearly *not* suicidal, so his shooting options against someone wearing a protective vest are limited. Obvious covers such as maintenance and television crews have been triple-checked, and journalists pass through sensitive gates. D'Anjou hands Webb/Bourne a pass from the Kai-tak police, certifying him as a Mossad-trained anti-terrorist expert and tells him he has no need for luck; he is and always will be Delta. Webb/Bourne thinks as the killer would in order to decide on the best vantage point and most logical escape route, then runs through every option many times over, while studying the crowd. Since cameras could fire a bullet or dart, he concentrates on photographers, looking for *himself*. Seeing no one, he rethinks his basic premise and decides multiple killings would facilitate escape. Picturing every weapon he knows, Webb/Bourne decides it must be a timed *grenade* or *plastique* set near the microphones and concentrates on the ground for an appropriately-sized package. He is glad to see security police learned from the terrorist attacks of the 1970-80s and are doing likewise. When the enormous PRC 747 starship maneuvers into position and the leaders emerge together, waving and walking in unison, Webb/Bourne is too busy to hear their speeches. Applause signals the end of the ceremony and limousines approach. Brushing past a motorcycle policeman, Webb/Bourne feels an electric contact and sees behind the helmet visor his own eyes. The impostor strikes first, silencing Webb/Bourne with a blow to the larynx, and vanishes in the crowd. Webb/Bourne radios in Chinese to evacuate the lead car immediately. Five vehicles halt in their tracks, eight seconds before Red Star One explodes.





At 11:25 PM in the northern suburbs of Beijing, in a sprawling enclave that houses China's most powerful leaders in non-proletarian splendor, a brown sedan races to Gate Number 6, Sheng's villa. The short, gaunt and prematurely gray minister sits alone in the walled garden, his unblinking eyes those of a dead man - except they flame with the intensity of a zealot. Sheng demands to know who dares destroy his airport plans. Informants in the Kowloon police and elsewhere lack firm leads. Because the driver has heard too much, Sheng murders him while he devoutly pays "obedience to the Kuomintang." As they drag away the corpse, Sheng orders the man from Macau summoned immediately. He will not be denied the taking back the Motherland.

By noon of that day, Havilland has broadly outlined Sheng's plot to Staples and let her read Sheng's lengthy dossier. When she insists authorship cannot be verified, she is put on a secure line to talk to Reilly and is convinced only when the President intervenes, reminding her of the legendary Trojan Horse. Staples agrees that "containment is everything." At 3:58 PM, a highest-priority call arrives for Lin, opening a tense four-hour vigil. Forty-year-old resentments are about to erupt in fighting among death squads, and blood could flow in the streets and harbor within hours. All depends on Sheng and his assassin, said to be Jason Bourne. McAllister is certain this is premature; there would have been some inkling if Sheng were ready to strike.

Havilland orders Lin to set up a command post behind dark glass, for if *their* Bourne sees the distinctive body of the taipan who threatens Marie's life in an MI6 major's uniform, he will feel even more manipulated and could lose control. Lin leaves in angry silence, and McAllister departs, saying he intends to figure out what the brilliant Sheng will do, assuming this is not a hoax. Everything points to him using his clearinghouse under *stable* conditions, but Havilland suggests that *instability* might allow the PRC to pose not as a "raging giant," but as a concerned parent. Sheng's financiers represent stability and can move in fast. McAllister objects that instability plays into the hands of the old Maoist militarists, but Havilland counters: The fundamentally capitalistic Chinese could be ready to follow a man who has made China a lot of money. McAllister responds that the younger leaders revere the old Maoists too obsessively to risk confronting them. Havilland believes some combination of the two is likely, since several vocal members of the old guard have disappeared suspiciously. McAllister thinks it is solidification of position by elimination. Beijing is filled with Westerners; allowing a chameleon assassin to operate freely, and the economic pretexts for luring targets to lethal meetings are innumerable. Havilland urges McAllister to find a pattern in all this because they cannot afford to lose the Crown governor.

With McAllister gone, Staples remarks he is a strange but credible man. Havilland pays tribute to McAllister's analytical mind but observes his morality will prevent his rising to the "level of his own worth." Glad that the air is cleared with Staples because Havilland needs her help, Havilland answers her remaining questions. Everyone in Sheng's clearinghouse appears eminently acceptable, but powerful people always have enemies, who, when they dig deeper, will find Sheng's father, whose name no one knows, but who, like a spider, controls everyone. Many taipans in Hong Kong are anxious to get back all that the communists have stolen. The communists are not wrong in depicting the taipans as having grown immensely wealthy by exploiting the masses.



These "obsessed expatriates" forget that their corruption brought about their overthrow. If they confront Sheng with this, he will act outraged, threaten to void the China Accords and move economically into Hong Kong immediately. The old-time Marxists will back him. If they publicize the plot, the results will be the same, except Taiwan and the West will lose face. The *only* solution is to use Webb/Bourne to play "hardball" with Sheng; only he can eliminate the false-Bourne, take his place, and kill Sheng, all inside China, so Sheng's known enemies will be blamed rather than the West. The clearinghouse will collapse and the Accords go forward, to everyone's benefit. They may be at the beginning of the end. Hong Kong's security forces are top-notch and are cooperating with the PRC. Even if the assassin succeeds, his act cannot be seen as a symptom of popular unrest, which alone can precipitate an invasion. Still, everything can "go off the wire," and the PRC is, after all, still the enemy. That is the hardest part of waiting.

Continuing to clear the air, Staples brings up Nelson, insisting his professional judgment is superior; he speaks good Chinese, and he has brought her to Havilland, thus perhaps putting Marie within grasp. Havilland cannot believe Staples would continue to hide Marie and explains what happens to the assassin if Webb/Bourne does not hear her voice instantly when he phones. Staples' condition for considering turning Marie over is clearing Nelson's record and keeping him in Hong Kong. Havilland gives in, leaving only one thing on Staples' list of grievances: Why have they treated the Webbs so barbarically? She quotes a lawyer confronting a famous U.S. senator: "Have you no sense of decency?" Havilland responds wearily that he has a sense of duty that requires "a total commitment to act instantly." He has exploited the event in Webb/Bourne's distant past that turns him into the "supreme guerrilla." The first Mrs. Webb's tragic death in Cambodia snaps his mind, making him capable of "killing the killers who sent out other mindless killers." The U.S. could not wait, as Staples suggests, for Webb/Bourne to respond to an intellectual appeal, knowing Webb/Bourne believes, with some justification, that his government has betrayed him. If he succeeds in capturing the false-Bourne, the government will appeal to him as an Oriental scholar to take out Sheng. If he refuses, they have field agents capable of carrying out that mission. Staples agrees to turn over Marie after she has rested in a safe flat, and Staples has time to prepare her properly. She agrees that the moral McAllister may be an asset on the mission. Marie can understand the economic issues involved and that she is closer to her husband with the Americans than away from them. She warns that Marie is a tough ranch girl and may just try to kill Havilland. He asks Staples to talk about her friend, beyond the dry facts in the dossier, and she does over the course of ninety minutes, interrupted several times by phone calls from the airport.

After a light supper, Havilland invites Staples to talk about herself, professionally, but she sees his attention is riveted on the airport and says something nonsensical to catch him. He has heard her ex-husband's name and declares he runs in the same circles as Owen. Havilland has been tempted to phone Owen for background information, but figures he will not get much and could be tipping his hand. They are interrupted by a report from the airport. The ambassador asks testily why they do not just pack everyone into cars and get to safety. Beijing's concern for *face* is preposterous and barbaric. They are *facing* Western terrorism. They are watching the airport proceedings fearfully and in silence when McAllister bursts in, just as the press conference begins. He has figured



out that the PRC delegates are Sheng's open opponents and they, not the Crown governor, are the targets. Havilland calls Lin and is surprised someone from Mossad is already acting on this. McAllister knows it must be Webb/Bourne, just as the limo explodes.

## Chapters 19-20 Analysis

These chapters cover the dramatic airport events from two views. Both clarify how Sheng's plot could sow war across Asia, show the problems of countering terrorism, demonstrate why it is crucial that Webb/Bourne play a part, and continue painting a cynical view of politics and diplomacy. Chapter 19 shows that in the end, it is Webb/Bourne's "good joss" of running into false-Bourne that saves the day, but the latter's reflexes are too quick, as the Frenchman has been saying. This will be tested further later in the novel. Having the two police imposters assume roles neither can play convincingly furthers the racial theme, which spills into Chapter 20, in conjunction with Lin's critical importance.

In attempting to convince Staples that Sheng's dossier contains the truth, the President cites Menelaus' wife (Helen) and the Trojan War, self-deprecatingly asking Staples not to believe the media: "I've read a book or two." This is a common charge against both presidents Bush, but the time frame is clearly that of the father. The book, of course, is Homer's *Odyssey* IV. A second allusion to history has Staples quoting an exasperated attorney Joseph Welch finally calling Senator Joseph R. McCarthy to task for the month-long witch hunt known as the Army-McCarthy Hearings (1954). When Havilland breezily dismisses Chinese concern for *face* and says they should worry only about *facing* "Western terrorism," he shows typical Western disdain for a basic principle in Chinese culture. Read "Face (social custom)" on Wikipedia.com to understand Havilland's error. The article on "Joss (god)" is also worth consulting.



# Chapters 21-25

## Chapters 21-25 Summary

A motor launch pitches violently as it brings Webb/Bourne and d'Anjou toward the island. The Frenchman signals someone on shore. They bundle new clothing, a .22 pistol and knives, then set out in a skiff. A second blue flash provides a point at which to aim. As they beach, they encounter a uniformed Asian who claims not to be their contact, but their friend. He leads them into dense foliage and sets up a tarpaulin to conceal a small campfire. D'Anjou addresses him as "Gamma." Gamma observes Webb/Bourne is very "uptight" and offers him Scotch. Gamma is a University of Southern California graduate and an amoral double-, triple-, or even quadruple agent, interested only in his own pocket. Echo trusts him implicitly. For US\$1,000, Gamma discloses that Echo's errant disciple is picking up well more than 30 pieces of silver. A mutual friend reports a call with a Jade Tower priority code has come for the hated Soo Jiang, head of Macau Intelligence. He has reserved seats on every flight to Beijing for tomorrow. Webb/Bourne understands and offers Gamma US\$50,000 to get them to Beijing on the earliest flight. D'Anjou pleads this is suicidal, but Webb/Bourne refuses to lose his quarry a third time. False-Bourne's defenses will be down in Beijing.

Beijing is hazy as Webb/Bourne and d'Anjou land. Their fluent Chinese gets them through customs easily. Webb/Bourne is certain their target is taking a commercial aircraft, because military ones in the PRC as in the U.S. are subject to strict accounting. D'Anjou watches immigration while Webb/Bourne goes shopping for a brass letter-opener. As at the Lo Wu train station, Webb/Bourne sees someone whose disguise is too hastily put together and he begins to tail that person, who leads him to the hotel registration counter. When his turn comes, Webb/Bourne asks the clerk about the gray-haired man whom she has served earlier in line. It is a former professor whom he wants to contact. The clerk says he is Joseph Wadsworth in Room 325. Collecting d'Anjou, Webb/Bourne is anxious to strike. The target's mind is on other things. The airport failure must have him worried about his life, and he must change clothes before meeting anyone. They take the stairs and pass several people in the hallways en route to Room 325. Loud Oriental music is playing. After quick strategizing, they crash through the hollow door and Webb/Bourne pins the target, who d'Anjou points out is a wrinkled old man with thinning gray hair.

Meanwhile, in the New Territories, Marie, who has been awake since dawn, is panicking by 10 AM, wondering why Staples has failed to show up as promised and is not answering her phone. The consulate receptionist tells her the High Commissioner is hunting for Staples also. When Staples calls, she is evasive about the unnamed man she saw last night but promises things are not as bad as Marie thinks. She must stay calm. Staples will be there in several hours, alone. Marie resents the "diplomat's talk" and believes she deserves better. Staples has risked much protecting her but is acting suspiciously. Marie puts on the clothing Staples purchased before warning her not to leave the flat and risks disobeying because she cannot stand sitting still any longer.



Tuen Mun is a bustling, miniature Hong Kong. She follows an unfinished road down to a beach, hoping to enjoy some peace. Two men run up behind her, screaming, demanding why she has ignored the signs that this beach is restricted and insist she is a spy. One straddles her and begins fondling her. Reliving her rape in Zurich, she fights and screams. She is near losing consciousness when rescuers come. She awakens on a cot in a small room, being watched by a young Chinese woman. A man introduces himself in English as Jitai, a local bank manager. "Rotten apples" in the Di-di Jing Cha (Young People's Auxiliary Police) have attacked her. Marie refuses to press charges with the police, but these repeat offenders will pay a lifelong price. Jitai offers to take Marie back to her flat, and two old women dress her in a kimono and sash.

Back in the flat, Marie removes the exquisite garments and lies down, unable to push the ugly memories from both here and Zurich out of her head. She wishes Panov were here to help her. More than ever, the flat oppresses her; it is like solitary confinement, but the outside world is also not one that she recognizes or that accepts her. Looking out a window, she sees Staples with four Westerners. Three are obviously marines, and the other is McAllister. Certain she has been betrayed, Marie races down the back stairs to the alley, where she encounters a strange Chinese man. She decides to hide until Staples realizes she is missing, then sneak in, grab the silks, and sneak out again. She hears Staples' footsteps and hysterical calls to her, insisting "It's not what you *think!*" Marie rushes a marine and sends him tumbling down the staircase, lurches into the alley, puts on the kimono and sash, and on bloody feet tries to blend into the population. She is too tall, however, and marines come after her. A phalanx of women shoppers block her way, and she turns into a dead-end alley beside a Chinese temple guarded by teens in paramilitary outfits. They let her pass and confront the marines. A woman admits her to a meat locker until the coast is clear and then takes her to a window where she sees Staples and McAllister. Marines are busy fighting Chinese in the streets. Everything stops when a funeral procession comes up the street, headed for the butcher shop. At the head walks Jitai, who knocks and explains this has all been planned. The people of Tuen Mun must redeem their face after the outrages on the beach. They have taken up a collection to help her escape. Checked into the small, mixed-culture Empress Hotel, Marie (as "Mrs. Penelope Austin" [Jitai loves English novels]) gets Conklin's number from the operator. He is amazed to hear from her and horrified that she has not gotten together with her husband yet. She explains what has happened, and he promises to catch the next flight out. He is certain Panov will join him.

In Beijing, d'Anjou orders Delta to let go of the old man's throat. To escape, they must not attract the authorities. The real Wadsworth is a veteran of El Alamein and ready to fight. D'Anjou apologizes to the retired brigadier and claims this is the third room they have invaded, hunting illicit drugs. He gives Wadsworth a cover story to avoid government overreaction. In the hallway, d'Anjou orders Webb/Bourne to smash two more doors and act drunken to establish the story. On the street, they consider: the assassin must change his disguise but is unlikely to change rooms or hotels; the ultimate client cannot risk the secret police seeing them together. They see a van with "Jing Shan Bird Sanctuary" painted on its side, obviously driven by a high-ranking army officer. In a nation where birds are considered delicacies for both the eye and the palate, nature preserves offer wide-open spaces free of electronic surveillance. The





target is dressed as a priest, "exuding love." The Jackal uses this ruse in Paris. The false-priest boards a full bus headed for Tian An Men Square, but a cab driver, generously bribed, gets the pursuers there ahead of it. The vast square is one of mankind's most extraordinary architectural achievements. Monumental buildings stretch as far as the eye can see, but still the illusion is of open space and multitudes of silent people. Webb/Bourne considers how the "pavane" (dance) will proceed, since the killer and the client's representative cannot meet face-to-face. Both will be wary about their safety, and the priest will threaten one or two "armed minions" with a knife or gun to learn the plan, and then spare one to deliver his ultimatum: step into the priest's net. It is Bourne's way.

Bus 7421 arrives, parks and discharges passengers. The hunters spot the "priest" fifty yards ahead and follow him easily. He breaks from the crowd and takes as hostage a Chinese soldier too mature and well tailored to be an enlisted man. His camera is for scanning the crowd. In a moment, the hostage is freed, runs wildly a distance and falls, drawing a crowd. Outside the Chairman Mao Memorial Hall, the priest takes a second soldier hostage and drags him inside. Clearly, the inner circle has gathered and the client must be in the mausoleum, unaware of events outside. From a distance, d'Anjou uses Medusa hand signals to show he understands the strategy; he will remain where he is, watching.

Webb/Bourne pleads in polite Mandarin embarrassment at losing his group and badge. He praises the PRC and builds up the guard, who passes the courteous Westerner. Catching up with the priest and his hostage, Webb/Bourne finds them talking with a civilian and suspects something is wrong. A gigantic statue of Mao stands in the semi-darkness, and at the other end of hall is the only other door, leading to the glass coffin encasing Mao's "waxen corpse." Hiding in the shadows, Webb/Bourne realizes this is a trap for *him*. Frantic, he uses his letter-opener to kill a soldier and claim his gun. Finding the exit is guarded by an agitated soldier talking on a radio, Webb/Bourne dispatches him with a silenced shot, then two honor guards, and, removing the silencer, fires five ringing shots into Mao's bloodless head. Sirens and bells sound, bringing soldiers disguised as tourists. Webb/Bourne slips out among them. D'Anjou is missing, and the bird sanctuary van speeds away.

French tourists surround Webb/Bourne atop the mausoleum stairs. To be inconspicuous, he sidles up to a well-dressed, disdainful-looking man taller than himself. A businessman, the man is upset to have been *assigned* to this waste-of-time tour by a concierge, and Webb/ Bourne, claiming to be in wicker imports, warns him the authorities are questioning foreign gangsters. Since the man is not officially with this tour, his ID badge could cause problems. The man hands it to him, flees, but is quickly detained. Wearing the badge Webb/Bourne convinces a tour guide to write out in Chinese characters the information he needs to gain admittance to his meeting with government officials. Turned away from another bus bound for the Great Red Gate, Webb/ Bourne produces this note, claims it is from a Gen. Liang, and in an arrogant tirade, convinces a young army officer this will cost the Red Army important purchases. The dutiful officer provides a car and driver, and Webb/ Bourne has him sign his name on the note so he can be commended.



In the bustling hotel lobby, Webb/Bourne watches for Jean-Louis Ardisson, the businessman whose name he obtains at the travel desk by claiming to be a tour guide searching for a "confused sheep." A clerk helpfully fills out a temporary ticket for the arrogant Frenchman while complaining about all the rules and regulations that only make China look foolish. There is no answer in Room 1743, so Webb/Bourne settles in to wait. When Ardisson arrives, four Chinese bureaucrats are trying to mollify him. He accepts gifts of alcohol and heads to the elevators. Webb/Bourne times the ascent to the 17th floor, walks to a bank of phones and calls at precisely the moment when the ring will strike maximum terror. Identifying himself as "a countryman who must speak to you," Webb/Bourne warns him not to use the phone or open the door for anyone but him, in precisely eight minutes - again calculated to maximize anxiety.

Seeing Webb/Bourne at his door, Ardisson stares unbelievably and tells his story only after being threatened. After they part, Ardisson says, he runs, because his consortium has millions of francs at stake in negotiations, cannot understand what the Chinese barbarians who arrest him are saying, is abused and the fashion industry insulted. He demands important persons from his list be summoned, and things change fast. Webb/Bourne takes on the persona of a fanatic evangelical, chastising Ardisson for doing business "with the godless." Responsible for shooting up the tomb of the "infamous unbeliever," his people intend to return Christ's love to the world or kill everyone trying. Webb/Bourne demands Ardisson's billfold, trade papers, and the list of negotiators, promising to return them the next day. In the meanwhile, Ardisson should use room service and avoid the phone. Using the documents, Webb/Bourne rents a car in the consortium's name. He also purchases clothing and sundries, forges a military order authorizing turning over an automobile to a foreigner, and locates the Jing Shan Bird Sanctuary on a map.

Limping and wincing, Marie answers the phone, thirty tense hours after talking with Panov. Conklin is with him, and they will come as soon as they get "sterile." Conklin puts off explaining why he needs a description of her clothing when she escapes Staples' flat. At the Kowloon train station, Conklin hands Panov a stuffed panda and a pornographic magazine and stations him on a platform. A tall figure approaches, dressed like Marie's description, takes the panda, orders Panov to disappear in the crowd when "she" starts to run. Several men take chase and tackle a real woman to whom the panda is handed. Back at the escalator, Conklin has vanished behind a pillar, where he uses his artificial leg to threaten an old Saigon colleague, Matthew Richards. The failed tail insists they know only that the operation is cleared high up in the CIA. He does not even know for sure who the "Chinese Paul Bunyan" is, but gossip puts him in MI6. Conklin ties Matt up with neckties, gags him, alerts sweepers to a mess, and tells Panov that the long-gone decoy is an ex-Olympian, who the CIA has used on numerous missions.

Sitting with Conklin and Panov, who examines her sore feet, Marie identifies Lin, as good an intelligence officer as anyone in the KGB and CIA. Conklin objects it is uncharacteristic for London to lend MI6 personnel to a U.S. operation, particularly one run by a diplomat new to black ops. McAllister is a rabbit, in over his head, following a script when he first meets the Webbs. This is so deep it makes Treadstone-71 look



amateurish. Marie recalls Staples talking about a "statesman" flying into Hong Kong, and McAllister hardly fits the description. Staples refuses to give a name or get Marie's hopes up, which Marie appreciates, having experienced dashed hopes during her husband's recovery. They must find Staples, who is certainly under guard. Marie worries about their getting killed, but Conklin assures her the handlers are not good enough. Richards, who reports being mugged by teenaged punks at the station, sits on stakeout outside Staples' apartment with Conklin. Off-the-record, Richards confirms that Havilland is in town and living in Victoria Peak. Conklin abuses himself for not recognizing his distinctive voice on the phone. As Staples drives up and walks toward her door, a black sedan roars up and opens fire, killing her instantly. As it races away, Conklin orders Richards to head for Victoria Peak to confront Havilland, who has been "had."

## Chapters 21-25 Analysis

With Chapter 23 serving as an interlude in which Marie, nearly raped, comes to believe Staples is part of the enemy, these chapters move Webb/Bourne and d'Anjou to Beijing on the trail of false-Bourne, who is called a Judas figure. Their first attempt to take him fails, and they next pick up his trail as he poses convincingly as a priest, a favorite d'Anjou disguise. Everything goes too well, and inside Mao's mausoleum, Webb/Bourne realizes *he* is being ambushed. Fighting his way out, Webb/Bourne finds he has lost his only ally, but effects his escape by a series of tricks. Continuing to con the Frenchman, Webb/Bourne affects religious fanaticism not greatly different from the ruthless abandon of Sheng's taipans. The outraged Frenchman voices racial comments that Webb/Bourne deflects, saying Marxism is barbaric, not the people whom Marxists rule, but Webb/Bourne does not question the Frenchman's perception of the Chinese perceptions of whites as, invariably, "fascist criminals." This section of the novel ends with Conkin and Panov arriving in Hong Kong and meeting with Marie to try to figure out what is going on. Staples unexpectedly murdered suggests to the newly-sober CIA operative that Havilland has been deceived. The truth must wait until Webb/Bourne completes his radically-changed mission deep inside the PRC.





# Chapters 26-27

## Chapters 26-27 Summary

Three-quarters of a mile short of the Jing Shan Sanctuary, Webb/Bourne, fully in "Delta" mode, pulls over his black *Shanghai* sedan, buries his knapsack, and marks the spot so he can find it again. Approaching the well-lit gate, he laments to the lone guard he is late for trade negotiations and unable to reach Minister Wang Xu. Having shaken Delta down for some binoculars in the lost-and-found, the simple guard agrees, should anyone ask, to say a Frenchman is seeking the minister. After Delta departs, an officer whom he has spotted in the woods, emerges, dials a number, and verifies from Wang, that this is an annoying, but harmless, Frenchman, Ardisson. Satisfied he orders the gate opened in anticipation of that car that will pick him up. The guard's relief reminds the officer that he is the son of a Kuomintang warlord.

Delta is camouflaging his sedan when another car passes, a bicycle strapped on top. From the knapsack, he dons black clothing and arms himself for a mission. Reaching the floodlit gate, he studies the long 12-foot high, prison-style green fence enclosing a parking lot. Forcing himself not to think of Marie or d'Anjou (Echo) he listens to men talking about seven vehicles arriving at 9 PM, three minutes apart, with a truck in last position. The civilian guard tells an officer that "in the true China" he is a captain in the Kuomintang, and Delta realizes the mad war of the two Chinas is at hand. At 8:54, Delta goes to work, cutting a hole through the heavy-gauge wire, and slipping through. At 9:08, a Russian *Zia* limo parks in the first space and six occupants march down an ark path. Three minutes later comes the next car bearing three men - including false-Bourne. Six more cars follow, and then a canvas-covered truck from which a string of bound and gagged prisoners are thrown. One struggles: d'Anjou. From thirty feet away, Delta gives a Medusa signal, which Echo acknowledges. As the prisoners are herded down the path, d'Anjou fakes a fall and gathers pebbles to mark the way for Webb/Bourne to follow. Webb/ Bourne slashes tires, reserving the *Zia*, which he pushes to distract the captain, whom he garrotes. Removing his pistol and an ID that shows he is a member in the elite People's Security Forces (PSF), Delta hides the body and slashes the *Zia*'s tires. He answers the phone angering the caller by saying the man he mimics cannot keep a tryst. With a heavy coil of chain and padlock, Delta seals the gates, and with the phone out but spotlights intact to facilitate his escape, heads down the path.

Delta follows Echo's clever trail to a torchlit clearing, where a writhing male prisoner is suspended from a tree and menaced by a swaggering man in a Mao jacket and brandishing a 14th-century ceremonial sword. In a high-pitched voice, the man addresses his audience as much as the prisoner, declaring, "The nights of the great blade *begin!*" He demands the identity of the Occidental who disrupts Tian An Men this afternoon and has been speaking against the true China elsewhere. The prisoner's growing agitation shows he is hearing lies he cannot challenge. The frenzied crowd agrees that the "gift of life" must be taken from this hypocritical, ungrateful traitor.



Unable to make out Echo's signal, Delta discerns the ceremonial words that precede two slashes of the sword, which emasculate and behead the "tormentor of Mother China." His death is meant as a purification and prevention of the spread of his seed. Among the prisoners, only d'Anjou fails to grovel. Delta is sure this is a sign to him.

The executioner's next victim is a defiant woman. Studying the man's smiling face, Delta realizes the fanatic butcher intends to drag Asia into war tonight. With fundamentalist zeal, the man condemns this courier of tipping off the Occidental at the airport. Delta knows the woman will die, more certainly than if she were facing a Moscow kangaroo court. The choir takes up the chant of "whore" and "traitor" as the executioner adds "facts" about her now-murdered journalist lover. In a fury, the woman works loose her gag to scream, "Liar!" and "Killer of *killers*!" Having known nothing, she could betray nothing. The executioner has raped her, claiming it is her duty, and her whoring husband forces her to risk her life carry messages to various cities. The executioner, not she, has betrayed the movement and will enslave people if he gains power. The sword ends her revelations and hacks her remains to pieces. As ominous silence falls over the crowd; the executioner makes excuses and restores support.

Delta has had enough. Instinctively and impulsively, he moves cat-like as a frantic teenage girl is readied next. The tyrant spares her, however, to learn more about her dealings with the British - and, doubtless, to serve other functions - and two brothers, charged with skimming profits, are forced to fight one another to the death. The survivor will restore the stolen treasures. This is a sign to the world that betrayal will not be tolerated and no mercy be given. Rebels have infiltrated everywhere. As the gladiators grow bloody in battle, Delta concentrates on freeing Echo, who stands with the last surviving prisoner, flanked by guards. Having acknowledged Delta's signal, Echo tries to force his captors to kill him so Delta will concentrate on the executioner. Echo knows he is too weak to escape, and Marie must come first. The executioner abruptly ends the battle and summons a surgeon to patch up the survivor. Guards free the last prisoner, who reports he has been able to get nothing out of Echo. Too old and frail to endure torture, the Frenchman should be returned to Kowloon as a show of mercy; there, trusting them, he will provide the information they need. False-Bourne knows they go back too long way and have codes. Harmless d'Anjou is untied, ungagged, and offered his life. So the crowd will understand, Echo uses Chinese to bait the executioner - Sheng - as a "crazy corkscrew" pretending he can change lead into gold and piss into wine and hiding sexual inadequacy behind a big sword. Echo denies any base of operations or plans to meet and, fearlessly, declares that if that killer could hear him, he would order Sheng quickly killed before he drowns Asia in blood. As Echo stalls, Delta lights the fuses on double-rolls of fireworks deep in the woods. Suspicious of Echo's behavior, false-Bourne restrains Sheng until he can no longer endure the taunting. Calling him "General *Dung*" and spitting in his face earns Echo a mercifully swift death.

Fireworks erupt in the woods, creating panic. Delta disarms and subdues false-Bourne while looking to avenge Echo's death. Sheng is too fast, however, using a soldier as a human shield as he flees. Ever more distant fireworks draw the mob away and Delta shoves his prisoner forward, reminding him he has perfected every trick the prisoner knows. Grazed by bullets every time he tries anything, the prisoner screams Delta is a



madman and protests he cannot see or breath. Addressing him as "Major," Delta reveals he knows the full story and *may* keep him alive. In the parking lot, Delta shoots out the floodlights and forces the major toward the opening in the fence. They crawl through, close the mesh, and race down the road as the leading edge of the mob reaches the sealed gates. At the hidden sedan, Delta forces the major to dig up the knapsack and shoots him in the right shoulder to disable him further. The major becomes his chauffeur as Webb/Bourne sits behind him with his gun trained and a map unfolded. At the gate, the false prisoner takes command, organizing search parties until Sheng arrives. Declaring the escapees as trained survivors have climbed out, Sheng orders a man to scale the fence, which electrocutes him. Discovering the slashed tires, Sheng in a fury fires into the coiled chain, injuring the man beside him with the ricochet. He next attacks with his ceremonial sword, breaking the blade.

## Chapters 26-27 Analysis

These chapters show Webb/Bourne fully transformed into Delta, torn by the fates of Marie and d'Anjou, but not allowing himself to be diverted from a mission that he now understands. Ardisson comes in handy, through his list of Chinese contacts and his obnoxious character. Watching Sheng's "night of the great blade" unfold, Delta is reminded of the "star chamber," medieval English courts handling treason cases, and of Stalin's famous kangaroo courts that "leapfrog" facts to reach predetermined verdicts. A fearless woman prisoner debates Sheng, allowing much information about his movement to come out. Delta finally captures his alter ego and makes it clear he is willing to kill the man, but has reasons for keeping him alive.



# Chapter 28

## Chapter 28 Summary

Richards does not want to be seen with Conklin as they approach Victoria Peak and Conklin agrees, provided Richard serves as a covert "inside man." The British are sure to "cover their colonial asses." Conklin gets out down the road and walks to the mansion, where he demands to see Havilland and McAllister, threatening to camp out until he is admitted. They assume Conklin knows whatever Marie does, but that is limited. Conklin has untold resources in Asia to call into play. When they hear he has started a fire that will anger the neighbors, they relent and let him in. Conklin refuses to shake hands, for fear of "rotten joss." He tells them about the ghastly death he has just witnessed, and they are relieved only Staples, not Marie, is the victim. McAllister is frozen with fear, but Havilland orders Conklin to drop the wisecracking. Conklin calls Havilland to account for his treatment of the Webbs, pointedly using the Old English word "fuck" to signify the planting of seeds. Havilland plants rotten seeds that turn good people into puppets, who dance to his scenarios. Havilland looks weary enough to want to die but also coldly furious. He mourns Staples as a first-rate mind, who has understood what they face and reacts to Conklin's suggest that he is more concerned by the fact their operation has been penetrated by reminding him of his own lapses of ethics relative to Webb/Bourne. The men agree to lower the cannons and find out why Staples has been killed. Fearing a mole, Conklin does not want to be briefed as Staples was. Conklin believes Delta can accomplish his mission but wants to be alive to protect Marie if Delta fails. Conklin is willing to fight Havilland "down and dirty" using information gleaned from Marie and Panov, if necessary. Havilland responds, to McAllister's consternation, that in that case, Conklin cannot leave alive. It will be made to look like an alcoholic's suicide.

The phone rings, as Lin belatedly reports Staples' murder. Havilland tells him "one of us" will meet him in several hours. He observes, "They covered themselves quickly." Explaining who the easily-identified Lin is, he passes word that the Olympian has escaped. A "terrorist tong" in Macau has claimed responsibility for Staples' murder, but claims her driver/guard is the true target. McAllister loses control, citing all the death terms thrown casually about and demands, "What kind of people *are* you?" Havilland replies, as he has before, "Men who do what other's won't, or can't, or shouldn't." When one has done it enough, it becomes normal. Conklin says sanctimonious analysts like McAllister are just as guilty. Calmly, Havilland asks McAllister to study his friend Lin's staff and figure out who could have betrayed him. Forced to work together, Havilland and Conklin converse. Conklin says Marie is beside herself with fear but safe with him; until the mole is found, he will not surrender her to Havilland. Havilland responds in desperation that they know from passport checks that Delta is in Beijing. If he gets out with "the merchandise" and cannot talk instantly to his wife, everything is lost. Conklin sees how the scenario is to play out, and Havilland confirms and justifies it. Conklin describes the "reasonable" Sheng he has heard about and learns the terrible truth.



Lin grows angry studying the photographs and resumes of nine members of his thirty-eight-person staff, specially cleared by London and intensively scrutinized locally for "Operation Dragonfly." All have been contacted in their vehicles or off-duty, and only two have not responded. Lin drives to their last-reported locales, one-by-one, sending unscrambled calls to each, whispering desperately, "Sheng! Contact instantly! Sapphire is gone!" Responses are to be routed to him without scrambler. As his agents respond, swiftly, confused as to the cryptic message, Lin says an error has been made and warns the caller to say nothing to anyone. The infiltrator will not risk using his audited home line, but no one uses a public phone. One off-duty man is holed up with his girlfriend too openly to be a double agent, and another, a new father, is too anxious to have an excuse to leave the house to be suspect. The radio operator reports that "Eagle" (McAllister) has called, very disagreeably, about Lin being late for a meeting. Chuckling, Lin has the operator send to the man in the Pagoda Cinema a fake number to respond to, but patches the number secretly to his phone. Staking out the theater, which is showing a pornographic movie, Lin cannot believe that Sheng could have corrupted this man, nearer Lin's own age than the others, respectable, and so loyal that Lin almost makes him a confidant. Lin climbs to the projectionist booth, breaks down the door and demands the projectionist pretend the film breaks and give him thirty while she repairs it. She obeys, raising the expected catcalls. Lin spots his man sitting with a stranger and races down to the closest pay phone, yanks its cord, runs to the next booth, memorizes the number, and goes into hiding. The agent emerges, agitated, and finding one phone out of order, heads for the next. Lin dials that number just in time for him to arrive, whispers the Sapphire message, and hangs up. When Lin's phone does not ring, he knows the agent has called someone else. Lin approaches the man to report the leader's crazy phone call, orders him to hang up, and is too slow to protect himself against a slashing knife blade. He drops the traitor with a bullet, is hit by a shot from the traitor's accomplice, and kills that man. Summoning his last strength, Lin hoists both bodies drags them to his car. Shortly afterwards, while Conklin and McAllister are debating the need to trick Webb/Bourne into cooperating, Lin arrives at the mansion, staggers in with the bodies, announces Dragonfly is cut off from Sheng and collapses.

## Chapter 28 Analysis

Chapter 28 uses the intelligence and diplomatic heavyweights to analyze the situation to date. Their rehashing of the Bourne-hunting-Bourne scenario is inaccurately given the philosophical label "*reduction ad absurdum*." The plan that Lin devises to root out the traitor is worthy of the praise heaped on him by the Americans. It seems very much a case of redeeming his "face."



# Chapters 29-30

## Chapters 29-30 Summary

Delta warns the major not to try crashing the car, and the former Royal Commando understands. Three days of nonstop violence have drained Delta, and he must keep the Webb persona at bay and silent. After the driver, time is Delta's worst enemy. He reminds himself always to do the unexpected and blasts out the right-front window, startling them both, and bringing in a rush of night air. Again, the major calls him "a fucking *lunatic*," an assessment Delta accepts. Consulting the map, Delta orders a stop at the next gas station. Delta has plenty of money, but it would mean staying away 13-15 hours just to reach Shanghai, and there are too many checkpoints for two Westerners to get through. The airport near Jinan is as far as he can last.

With the sedan camouflaged and the major bound by the thumbs, Delta surveys the airport's metal fence at dawn. Donning a Mao outfit, Delta orders the major to press against the fence, ties him to it, cuts around his outline, and gives a push. Man and fencing fall to the ground and Delta steps through. Cutting him free and gagging him, Delta guides the major around the runway to a small building that serves as the terminal and control tower. A barracks and hangar complete the facility. A few propeller planes are scattered about. Thirty yards away from the hangar, Delta binds his prisoner, warning any movement will strangle him, and races in to knock out a sleepy guard. Dragging that man back, he sees the major has not moved, proving he cannot "think geometrically." Delta taunts the major about being loosened and declares they either both get out or both disappear inside China. Whoever the major's client is cannot afford to let either live. Delta will free his hands but tie his ankles loosely enough to run; he will not, of course, get a weapon. Getting a nod of acceptance, Delta starts the process and lets a bloodied captive finish the job and tend his wounds.

They are still chatting adversarially when lights come on and men scramble to assigned posts. Delta orders the major to don the guard's clothes and together they run to the hangar. When Delta again reminds him they must get out together, the major declares Sheng a "fucking lunatic" from whom he wants to get away; Delta is skeptical. A jet lands and receives instructions for refueling at a safe distance from the buildings. Bragging that airport operations are old-hat after more than 20 missions, the major estimates it takes ten minutes to gas a Chinese DC-3. The pilot and flight officer supervise. Delta and the major agree they will rush the hatch when they re-enter. In the meantime, they sabotage a pair of distant fuel trucks to serve as a diversion. Having lit a timed fuse, and using the departing truck to block them from the ground crew's view, they arrive as fire erupts and people scatter. They join the stunned flight crew in the cockpit and Delta orders them first to taxi to safety and then to get airborne, fast. When the major attempts to subdue a distracted Delta, he finds himself lashed to the passenger seats, spread-eagled.





Driven by memories of "Snake Lady," a suicidal landing with Echo into Tam Quan to retrieve Echo's brother, Delta overrides all the pilot's arguments for why he cannot take off, and gives him a heading out over water through the Formosa Strait, where they are twice challenged by radio. Delta skillfully talks them out of trouble. The pilot is worried, flying blind without a flight plan, and points Delta to parachutes and life rafts for important passengers in the rear. En route, Delta exchanged jibes with the major, telling him they are about to bail out. The major is pushed out, lashed between two seats, and Delta follows. They land in a fish hatchery south of Lok Ma Chau in the New Territories, and Delta reels in the rope and begins doling out money to astonished but happy farmers. They walk south until Delta can go no further. Forcing the major, bound, to lie on the pavement, Delta begs the peasants to help his injured companion. He pulls out money, saying every minute counts. The peasants abandon everything and race to help. A woman negotiates a ride for them in the back of a closed van full of ducks. Delta finally relaxes.

In Kowloon, when the phone rings in Marie's hotel room, Panov answers, frowns, and then calms his patient. Conklin, who has *not* been drinking, confirms Staples' murder and Lin's critical wounding. Studying Panov's face, Marie asks if there is a connection. He states Lin's operation had been penetrated, and Marie demands to know what all of this means, but really only wants to know about her husband. Panov relays that Webb/Bourne has been in China, where he is probably safer than in Hong Kong, where everyone is a potential enemy. Marie is frantic. Panov assures her that her husband was, indeed, the superbly honed "Delta," and they believe he will return. Marie wants to know if her husband, *David*, will come back to her. Panov cannot answer that. Changing to the subject of Staples, Panov insists she had tried to protect Marie without making Marie panic. Conklin believes this but has refused to give them Marie's address. Afraid he is being followed, he will not return and wants them ready to move out on a moment's notice. Marie refuses to be mollified because at best, her husband may survive by having become everything he despises. After lashing out, she bursts into tears and apologizes for her cheap shots. The phone rings again, freezing them both.

Meanwhile, entering their room in another Kowloon hotel, Delta assaults the major for making yet another attempt not to "walk gently into that good night smiling at my own firing squad." They talk about the "business," and the major summarizes "The Original's" life, the center of the Frenchman's training regime. Delta believes he is aware of parts of it, such as "Snake Lady." The major has known since childhood that he is both a psycho rapist and murderer and the son of the renowned "Slaughter Allcott," veteran of Tobruk and "England's Patton." The major recalls none of that, just being rejected as a "rotten seed" and "bastard," who he keeps out of Sandhurst. The major puts Delta on notice that he intends to survive and not only knows how to be violent and rotten, but *wallows* in evil and inspiring other antisocial people to do likewise - to become Jason Bournes. Disgusted, Delta declares he will not kill the major but make him wish he were dead. Sobered, Allcott-Price begs not to turn him over for hanging, an intolerable prospect. Knowing psychologically when to "shift gears," Delta informs the major that he is too valuable to turn over to the British in Hong Kong. He intends to hire him out as a bounty hunter.



Delta ties Allcott-Price to a filthy mattress and hoods him for the night, and slips out to dial a memorized number on a payphone. A recording announces a disruption in service. Getting the same recording fifteen minutes later, Delta uses his last coin to call the operator and explain his emergency. A new voice informs him the line is "temporarily in disuse." She cannot divulge the name associated with the unlisted number, but offers to send an ambulance to his address. On the edge of panic, Delta hangs up, wondering why the operator wants to pinpoint his address. McAllister stands beside a visibly shaken woman as she hangs up the phone. She has done an excellent job of keeping Delta on the line. They have traced the building from which he phones. From the hospital where he waits to take Lin's "last statements," Havilland authorizes surrounding the hotel but not moving in, lest Conklin misunderstand and foul them up. It is too late for McAllister to back out of this human chess game. They must have Marie before contact is made with Webb/Bourne. Having watched Havilland leave the emergency room rapidly, Conklin warns Panov to flee to a specified street corner, where Conklin will meet them. Marie is their only bargaining chip. And, in his hotel room, Delta realizes that the operators' courtesy and helpfulness can only mean he has been traced. He unties the major, rushes him down a fire escape, knocks him on the first landing, and descends to the street. Two dark sedans arrive and two "Mafiosi" run toward their "merchandise." Delta disables them, and tortures one into admitting that the fat taipan is with MI6, working with the Americans, and their headquarters is in Victoria Peak. Knocking the case officer unconscious and gagging him, Delta retrieves the major.

## Chapters 29-30 Analysis

Chapter 29 displays many of Delta's tricks-of-the-trade, as he successfully, against all odds, gets false-Bourne out of China. Forced to collaborate, false-Bourne appears far less evil (and two-dimensional) than earlier, when enemies are vilifying him. Conversely, Webb/Bourne is crueler and cockier than one might have believed. Perhaps the "alter ego" of the false Bourne brings out the worst in him. Their collaboration continues in a later chapter. The demonization of Communist China continues, with the author commenting on the roads, the cars and the airlines. Chapter 30 provides an update on Marie, still under wraps, as the time nears for her husband to effect the exchange. Nothing is in place, and the authorities are unaware of his success or escape. As keyed as Delta is, this bodes badly.





# Chapters 31-32

## Chapters 31-32 Summary

Havilland hopes meeting in the hospital corridor will soften Conklin's reaction to news that Delta has made contact. Conklin insists Marie must see her husband alive and well in Hong Kong, but Havilland counters that Delta also has conditions that make this impossible. A "bilateral agreement" exists. Conklin doubts that Delta would allow himself to be traced but agrees that extreme anxiety and lack of options could explain such sloppiness. McAllister expects the calls at five-minute intervals, but twelve have passed. A doctor advises Havilland that Lin may survive. Havilland and Conklin agree that the next time Delta tries the "Snake Lady" number, he will be told the line should be clear in twenty minutes, giving Conklin time to reach the sterile house, take the call, and convince Delta that Marie is safe with Panov. As the tense waiting stretches to over an hour, both men sense something has gone "off the wire." When word comes that Delta and his prisoner have escaped, so does Conklin.

No trace of the Webb persona remains in Delta, who has turned into an avenging predator, operating instinctively, trance-like, and looking to kill. Dragging along his prisoner, he spends lavishly, buying what he needs, including a dilapidated taxi for US\$4,000. Tied in the back seat, the major sees a fundamental change in his captor; he inhabits a "far darker world." Driving through the congested tunnel to Hong Kong, Delta plans his assault, conjures up likely countermeasures, and prepares for the worst. He recalls doing the same in the jungles of Tam Quan, executing a "piece of garbage" at the "beginning of the madness." He gets everyone out alive he is supposed to at that time, and will do it again at Victoria Peak. He drives casually past the high walls, noting where searchlights, barbed wire and Marines are situated. He abandons the taxi. With Marie gone, he has no wish to come back, but yearns for the peace of death, after inflicting death on his manipulators, who must learn a lesson. Freeing the major's legs and blindfold, but not his hands or removing his gag, Delta takes sharp blows to the kidney and ribs, and watches Allcott-Price disappear. Needing the man's firepower, he ignores the pain and pursues him. If Allcott-Price does not want to die instantly, he will follow Delta's instructions precisely. Delta intends to take out anyone he can inside the house and then die.

Back outside the hospital, Conklin talks a young nurse into giving him her taxi because of an emergency. Panov has the eyes of "an angry wildcat" looking for Marie at the rendezvous, but misses her on the first pass, forgetting her hair is now gray. When he spots them, Marie wants information, but Conklin offers only that her husband is in Hong Kong, and the scenario has "gone off the wire." He stuffs Marie and Panov into the taxi and sends them to an address the driver knows. Conklin realizes that he can no longer predict what Delta will do and knows that his enemies are underestimating him badly. Conklin hopes he is wrong.



Allcott-Price resists as Delta shoves him through underbrush toward the high wall. Near the gate, Delta plants a globule of *plastique* with a seven-minute timer embedded and orders the major to safety around the corner. Deploying a speaker there, he uncoils plastic tubing as they retreat to a willow tree that offers concealment. Keeping the major covered, Delta releases his hands and orders him to scale the fence. They straddle it simultaneously. At this point, Conklin arrives and, seeing an out-of-place abandoned taxi, knows he must hurry. A mighty explosion brings down much of the wall and the iron gates, telling Conklin that Delta is here and wants to die. As the wall explodes, Allcott-Price's instincts to kill and to survive come alive, but Delta restrains him. Activating a microphone, Delta broadcasts to the Marines this is not their fight; they should take cover and not let the "garbage" use them as they have used him. He promises not to fire unless they fire upon him. Gunfire takes out the speaker, and Delta responds with a tear gas canister through a bay window. Blinding searchlights come on, and Delta orders his companion to jump.

Explaining that Allcott-Price's maniacal clients hold a "megabomb" over Asia and refusing, with his wife dead, to play their game any longer, Delta arms the major and throws a second *plastique* far over the Marines' heads to distract them. He has not counted on so many young lives being at risk here. At the second explosion, Delta pushes nearer the house and its "Praetorian guard." He expertly aims a firebomb above the French doors to ignite a formal bedroom. Frustrated officers bark orders and counter-orders and bullets fly and cease. Delta throws a third *plastique* toward the sidewall and charges the door, subduing the guard without killing him. He announces the major will soon be on his own. A fourth explosion draws troops away, but emergency vehicles are heard approaching. Delta flings a fifth satchel into a deserted back corner and orders the major to fire a gas grenade through the French doors. Instead, the exultant prisoner holds a pistol on him, demanding better armaments. The fifth explosion distracts him long enough for Delta to subdue him and launch the last tear gas canister and firebomb, which force the Marines to exit the house, helpless. With the chaos complete, Delta intends to penetrate and find his targets, who will be destroying sensitive papers. Sirens grow louder. Delta entrusts the last *plastique*, set for thirty-two seconds, to the major, advising him to use it to both their advantages as a diversion, lest he face the dreaded hangman.

Seeing a limping figure emerge from the burning foyer, Delta knocks out the major. Conklin orders the Marines to hold their fire and begs *David* to believe he does not know what he is doing. Remembering Paris and New York, Delta insists Conklin has come to kill him. Conklin insists that Marie is safe with Panov and can be presented immediately. Delta sees another trick, for he *knows* Marie is dead. He intends to get revenge. Pulling Allcott-Price to his feet, Delta offers Conklin the real "Jason Bourne" to kill, but the major lurches away and, realizing there is nowhere to go, grabs Delta's machine gun and fires a shot from his own gun, grazing Delta's forehead. In a fury, Delta shoots his prisoner. He denies being David and insists he is "*Bourne* spring from *Delta*, spawned by Medusa." He kicks the major towards the Marines and arriving Hong Kong police, declaring *he* is the prize they want. He fires on Conklin and the Marines, and is puzzled that the bullets refuse to hit anyone.



Marie screams David's name and runs to him, pushing Conklin aside. Delta does not recognize this gray-haired old woman and threatens to kill her. It is another trick and, furthermore, his name is *not* David. Marie blocks the Marine's line of fire, begging everyone, "for God's sake," to stop. A Marine refuses to be blown away by "some son of a bitch *terrorist*," but Marie insists that the evil men inside the house have made her husband this way. Conklin assures them that Delta is too good a marksman for them to be still standing if he wanted them dead. Suddenly, Allcott-Price jumps to his feet, steals a Marine's weapon, fires until ammunition runs out, and then blasts away with his machine pistol as he races toward the only possible escape. Conklin frantically orders him stopped but not killed. Youngsters, having seen buddies die, disagree, and the former Royal Commander dies with hatred in his eyes. Delta cannot understand why he cannot kill the annoying woman who calls him David, and she agrees he can call himself anything, but he is her husband. She begs him to recognize her voice and reminds him of how in Paris he had taught her to be a chameleon as he is one. Delta pictures the Parisian scenes. Marie insists she is his wife and does not flinch as a hail of bullets strike at her feet. Again, she calls off the Marines and addresses Delta with resignation: if he wants to throw away his life, she does not want to live without him. As he aims at the gray head, trembling spreads from his index finger throughout his body. Panov pushes through the Marines to face his patient. Delta moans, drops his weapons, and *Webb* falls to his knees, weeping. Panov restrains Marie, insisting her husband must recognize her and come to her. Otherwise, he will never be free. Slowly, cringing, and crying like a child, he runs into Marie's arms.

## Chapters 31-32 Analysis

The novel's climax, spread over two chapters, comes in a dramatic, brilliantly executed assault on the Victorian sterile house, in which false-Bourne cannot cooperate well enough to save his life, and David Bourne, who is present enough to keep Delta from killing innocent Marines, emerges from the dual personality.



# Chapters 33-34

## Chapters 33-34 Summary

Inside the antiseptic communications center within the destroyed sterile house, the players gather around a large table. Victoria Peak neighbors are sure Armageddon has arrived, and their lawyers are contemplating insurance claims. Only *Webb* shows no sign of exhaustion or fear. A summer storm of anger still brews within him. In a whisper, he demands to know who has done this to them. Havilland pleads guilty, but with "extenuating circumstances"—the crisis and Webb himself. Conklin insists on substantial detail. The crisis is real and catastrophe imminent, as a zealot, who no one can risk exposing, is leading a conspiracy that will destroy the Hong Kong Accords and spread chaos and war throughout Asia. All nations will be forced to choose sides. Webb talks about the 40-year-old "China against China" war cry of Kuomintang fanatics, but Havilland insists they are not convinced they cannot lose and are willing to drag the world into the violence. Webb insists he has seen this personally, including the ringleader, who will be publicly hanged in Tian An Men Square, and even opponents of capital punishment will cheer. Such butchers are not taken seriously. Havilland reminds him of Hitler and Khomeini, when Havilland insists people take him very seriously as a statesman. Webb has seen what he has seen and the government does not need him to do anything about it. Taiwan can disown him. Treachery and collusion with Western money make this too late.

As Havilland and McAllister offer an analogy, Webb grows impatient. He does not trust the fish-eyed liar who dupes him in Maine. McAllister defends his decency and his belief in it, but Webb, no longer believing, wants McAllister's contribution, directly. The Asian Mafia, i.e., "criminal brotherhoods," Marie explains are laundering money in the U.S. and Canada, along with the usual crimes. Because all revolutionaries believe their movements are "conceived in purity," the PRC cannot accommodate organized crime, ideologically or practically. With so many people and so many natural resources, the triads would quickly control political and economic infrastructures and wrest power away from the PRC. Beijing is paranoid about "corrupters in high places." Any hint that is taking place in Honk Kong will bring in PRC troops. Marie demands to know how they think this could happen. Havilland says it is already happening, which is why they needed Bourne. Webb insists they begin at the beginning.

Webb sees the truth in Havilland's twenty-seven-minute story about a long-range plot that begins when a brilliant young man is sent from Taiwan to China with a new name, Sheng. The seventy-page official dossier, and a pledge that every question will be answered to Webb's satisfaction, by the president or NSC if necessary, reinforce the story. They have no right to ask, but do sincerely need any information Webb can provide. Webb assumes they need this in order to kill Sheng, and Havilland confirms it but insists no one can suspect U.S. involvement. Sheng has built a reputation as a PRC saint and is surrounded by loyal shock troops. Marie asks if the imposter had been their link to Sheng, and is told Sheng had used him to eliminate competition. McAllister



specifies that seven triad overlords have been killed, and their organizations crippled to prevent a destabilizing gangland war. Havilland continues saying that the new Bourne is ideal, as an unaffiliated and untraceable hired gun. When Webb objects that he tracked false-Bourne to Beijing in a trap laid for Webb, Havilland is surprised that the PRC know about Webb. He and his alter ego see each other face-to-face at the airport, so it is impossible for the PRC not to know about him. Sheng could not risk what he might have figured out and concocted a plot that night. False-Bourne, of course, would not have survived the glen, but did not see that.

Havilland agrees with Webb. Everything they have told him is part true and part lie, the latter intended to recruit Webb. Havilland also accepts his agency were dirty bastards, but Havilland could not picture Webb joining forces - becoming Jason Bourne again - without the lies. Webb agrees; he does not trust Havilland and his cohorts. Thus, their decision is correct; no one else could have pulled off this mission. The cost is horrible but time and the fearful consequences are still against them now as then. Havilland proposes controlling news of today's shoot-out, rather than allowing speculation to run rampant. The Marines have been sequestered and are returning to Hawaii. The press has not seen the bullet-riddled body of the false Bourne. Webb sketches Allcott-Price's story but declines to give detailed information, fearing the major's prophecy of additional Bournes being inspired might come true. Conklin believes they should steer the story away from the truth, making the assassin a psychopathic, white American male. Webb remarks that they are describing *Webb*. McAllister suggests saying this American seeks to kill Webb for helping break up narcotics operations throughout Asia. Beijing probably has a dossier on Webb, who has made enemies in pushing American interests. Havillan can say that is why Washington recalled him years ago. They want to convince Sheng that the dead man is not his assassin, so using McAllister's name will help. Havilland cautions McAllister that this could put him at physical risk, and the undersecretary declares that in his best analysis is that this is necessary.

Webb speaks Bourne words - "so be it" - and apologizes when Marie softly rebukes him. Webb opens the dossier and sees the face of the butcher who has killed innocent men and women, including Echo. The Delta persona takes control and asks if this is the son of the unknown taipan, the revered and untouchable CPR saint. Confirming this, the officials are shocked to hear Delta has faced him. Sheng is a monster, a Savonarola, a preacher-terrorist, and all of the Nazi death camps rolled into one. Havilland confirms that Sheng is all Delta has described and is as capable as Hitler of seizing control. His Armageddon will be far worse. Delta describes the start of the "nights of the great blade" in gruesome detail until Marie cries, "Stop it!" She refuses to let her husband slip back and relive this. Panov believes it is best that he ride it out. Delta continues the story, reaching Echo, describing their earlier missions, and Marie recognizes some of Echo's maxims and weeps. Delta agonizes, describing his failure to make a clean kill, but then insists he *has* to get him and he *can* do it. When Panov asks who is speaking, *Webb* says "Delta" and falls silent. Minutes later, *Webb* comes to and apologizes. Panov says going back like that is psychologically natural and understandable. When Webb asks if it is understandable that he go back physically, Marie objects. *Bourne* insists he must, to avenge Echo. He promises to come back to Marie, who asks how he can do





anything more for these liars. He insists it is for Echo. He asks McAllister to get someone to take a picture of him as a corpse.

Panov reluctantly supervises the grisly photograph. McAllister explains what they will tell the press as soon as possible because they are beginning to smell a cover-up, but are still wary of unexploded ordnance. To Marie's dismay, Delta is anxious to get to Macau before Sheng sees or hears anything from anyone. It is critical that Sheng believe that the assassin he has targeted for death is alive and gets information that will corroborate news stories and make everything else seem insignificant. Havilland demands to know the plan that affects millions of lives and vital U.S. interests. Delta responds snidely that he intends to keep it simple and effective, unlike standard government procedures. Whether they confront Sheng or go over his head, they lose, for lack of proof. Rather than kidnap his wife to make him kill a killer, they should have sent Delta in unofficially as a conspirator to catch a conspirator. It is too late for that now, but they can send in an untraceable, half-senile old man with a message that will paralyze Sheng. He will claim he represents an ally in Hong Kong concerned about losing a fortune if leaks and traitors succeed in ruining Sheng's scheme. Sheng will be forced to follow up and accept a meeting with a wary conspirator whom they invent.

In the fifteen minutes remaining before Delta and McAllister fly to Macau, Havilland and Conklin talk, McAllister and Panov edit the dead killer's profile, and the Webbs sit alone in a bedroom. The first pair debates the mission's chances of forcing a meeting. Havilland believes that they have gained a willing "provocateur" for the second phase, and that even if Delta is captured, American involvement will be covered by his history of mental illness and attempts to get him therapy as restitution for past misuse. Sheng surviving the assassination is the optimum solution because he must give up his plot unofficially. The objective has changed and is "infinitely more vital." Someone besides Delta might be able to do this mission, but he is the best and now insists on doing it. Conklin pleads that Delta is boxed in but does not realize it and that he could provide the information for a professional hit team to kill Sheng, but Havilland ends the debate. Nothing can be left that traces back to the U.S. He hopes Delta succeeds in killing Sheng, in which case Delta is free. He dares not warn Delta because this could weaken the obsession that alone makes success possible. If Delta dies, someone will take his place. McAllister is accompanying him to Macau, where he will learn the sequence codes. Limping toward the door, Conklin declares he will not permit this travesty, but resumes his seat when confronted by an armed Marine.

As they hold one another, Marie knows it is "Paris all over again," with her generous husband trying to reach her, but the desperate hunter orders, "Move!" His only explanation for going is that he can do - has to do - what must be done. When she rejects this, he says he is doing it for them, to remove the recurrent visions that threaten to take her down with him. Only by killing the monster that Echo sacrifices himself to eliminate can Delta be healed. It may partly be survivor's guilt, but mostly it is the conviction that he is best equipped to get Sheng. They do not know it yet, but Delta intends to set it up so McAllister, the "whore," and Havilland, his "pimp," spend millions hiring someone to pull the trigger as he watches. Marie accepts that the Bourne persona must get his "pound of flesh" as a knock comes, signaling Delta's departure.



## Chapters 33-34 Analysis

These chapters gather the principals around a conference table for a critique of Delta's first mission and transition to a second, more critical one. Delta is finally told the truth about why the government has had to trick him into reprising the hated role and refuses to let them off the hook. Shown the dossier on Sheng, he recognizes the executioner at the bird sanctuary and volunteers to return to China to kill him in vengeance for Echo more so than as a service to endangered mankind. Hitler and the Nazi death camps, Mengele, Genghis Khan, and the chain-saw killer are combined to compose Sheng's prototype, and Armageddon, the great last-day battle between good and evil prophesied in Rev. 16.16, is applied not only to the feared China-against-China conflict to emphasize its danger, but also to the skirmish on Victoria Peak, where wealthy neighbors respond by calling their lawyers about damages. The final reference is a commonplace one, to Shakespeare's *The Merchant of Venice*, signifying the gory payment of a debt.



# Chapter 35

## Chapter 35 Summary

The EMS helicopter roars across the harbor, cleared to deliver Rh-negative blood for a Beijing official admitted to Kiang Wu Hospital. Webb/Bourne and McAllister wear paramedic coveralls. The hospital parking lot is cordoned off and lit for their landing, and crowds have gathered to watch, fortuitously guaranteeing confusion. Delta has to admit the McAllister is an able chess player. He has collected the debt long owed by a doctor he catches skimming IMF funds to his own clinic. Tonight comes the payoff as he has two correctly-sized paramedics ready to substitute for the return flight to Hong Kong. The exchange is effected in two minutes, required paperwork included. The Americans are given orange passes to show they are gonorrhea patients, should they be questioned before they escape the hospital. They blend into the crowds watching the helicopter depart and disperse with them.

As they walk, McAllister asks where they are going and why Delta calls him a whore. Delta replies that allowing the "boys in power" to use him in hopes of gaining power and riches, knowing they will throw him away afterwards is the definition of a whore. McAllister is silent a while before asking why they will throw him away. He may not be in their league, but he is bright. He recognizes his shortcomings but does what he thinks is best for his country. Delta objects that there had to be options other than what McAllister had proposed to them in Maine. McAllister says Havilland had determined nothing else would draw Sheng out as speedily or covertly. Saving his beloved wife is sure to motivate Delta. Delta claims he and Conklin smelled a "covert scenario" from the start, which McAllister counters, is not the same as tasting; they lack anything concrete that would point to Washington. Obsessed with a taipan, who is in turn obsessed with a murdering Jason Bourne, Delta is forced to hunt down Sheng without contacting the police or figures from what he can remember of his past. Delta objects that he does contact Conklin and through him others, but McAllister claims the government tells the burned-out case officer just enough to make him believe a black op has gone "off the wire," requiring a radical new scenario to interdict the new players holding Marie.

McAllister takes Delta's elbow and says they must talk, so Delta understands *everything* before proceeding. Havilland's scheme would have succeeded had Marie not escaped on her own. Sheng knows about her and gauges her importance. Staples is killed and Lin wounded because they know too much. Sheng is brilliant, fanatic and paranoid and has people all over Hong Kong. When the story breaks, he will make assumptions that lead to Havilland and thus to Marie, and Sheng will capture her somewhere in the world. Everything starts again, but with results that are more horrible. Delta pictures the glen and sees Marie's only chance is for him to succeed in killing Sheng. McAllister suggests Delta can reach Sheng, but McAllister can draw him out, which is why they have used his name in the press release. They know one another, and Sheng will not meet anyone Sheng does not know. Sheng knows that McAllister is as good as he and will listen to a story about being passed over for prominent positions. McAllister will claim that narrowly





escaping death at the airport has made him want to provide for himself and his family - a pure lie. Furthermore, he will claim to be in Asia following a rumor in Taiwan that someone is forming an economic conspiracy in Beijing, which can only lead to his old trade interlocutor. McAllister does not want to blow the whistle, but to make the rumor go away - for a price. There is nothing in this story to make Sheng shy away from a meeting. There, McAllister is willing to risk death in killing Sheng. His argument is that he can do it better than anyone else, including Delta, whose face Sheng has seen. Delta will, of course, accompany him on a diplomatic passport Delta lifts before leaving the sterile house. Diplomatic papers eliminate the need for visas, speed entry, facilitate transportation and allow Sheng to verify their identities. Delta will deal with the chain of subordinates leading up to Sheng, who McAllister will then handle. He has not cleared this with Havilland, who would have placed him under house arrest because he thinks him inadequate for field operations. McAllister is doing this partly to redeem his honor after mistreating the Webb's, but mostly to have his "moment in the sun." Delta asks what happens if McAllister fails, but the undersecretary doubts he will fail; he has thought it out carefully. He can get Sheng alone with him, which Delta cannot do, and use the weapon Delta provides. Delta worries about an undersecretary of state being caught and learns McAllister has produced a paper trail showing this is a blood feud between himself and Sheng that absolves the U.S. government completely. The PRC Central Committee will focus on Sheng and accept no denials.

Delta pronounces the plan "crazy" but admires McAllister's courage and sense of decency. He wants McAllister to use his contacts to find Delta some killers for hire. Delta will set up a rendezvous in the Guangdong hills, where Sheng used to meet the commando. The message Delta is sending Sheng will bring him there. McAllister will have the goods on Havilland for life and get his moment in the sun - maybe even become Secretary of State. McAllister refuses, even though he knows such people, because hired killers will inevitably compromise the U.S.; look at stories about the Kennedys' attempt to have the Mafia kill Castro. When Delta still will not let McAllister make the kill, the undersecretary reminds Delta that Marie, Conklin and Panov are Havilland's "guests" at Victoria Peak for the duration, and the ambassador is "like Sheng" in his fanaticism. Delta agrees to contact Soo Jiang through a casino. McAllister borrows his command, "Move!"

## Chapter 35 Analysis

In Chapter 35, McAllister emerges as a character of craftiness, courage, and integrity, tired of kowtowing to Havilland, whom he sees as another Sheng. He resents being called a bureaucratic whore, but accepts his limitations and is willing to exploit the reality of his unfairly-constricted career as bait to draw Sheng into a meeting. Marie is again the leverage to get her husband to cooperate with a plan that this time covers every possible failure.



# Chapter 36

## Chapter 36 Summary

The operator of the Guangdong garrison phones Col. Soo Jiang in the middle of the night. He is stunned to be talking to the Frenchman. He asks about the incredible news coming from Beijing and Shenzen. The kidnapper's own people have killed him, reports the Frenchman (Delta) and believe that the imposter Bourne is an innocent hostage. Having been inside the U.S. consulate's secret house, Delta (posing as the imposter Bourne) has much to tell Soo's "leader-one" and no one else. To add credibility, Delta adds details from the glen that only the "assassin" could know. The late kidnapper is the original Bourne, on the run for two years, who the Americans believe had been in the hire of someone in Beijing. Kuomintang secret societies in Taiwan are involved, and the name Sheng keeps coming up. Delta wants a response in three hours and warns against trying anything foolish at the casino. Recalling the earlier riot, Soo pledges no interference and wonders if the original Bourne is as proficient as his successor. "He wasn't," is the reply, followed by a question, "When did you and the others decide I wasn't the original?" At first sight, replies the colonel; age cannot be disguised. Delta gives the code word "crisis" and hangs up.

McAllister tells Delta he has done well, but Delta fears the scenario is too unorthodox and obvious to work. McAllister insists that Sheng *must* respond and resents Delta dismissing his ability as Havilland does. Delta confirms that with all Asia at stake, this is no time for "self-deluding heroics." McAllister calmly repeats that there is no way he can fail, and using a bitter amateur is perfect. They pick through the arsenal at d'Anjou's flat, selecting a lightweight .22 with silencer for McAllister and three machine pistols for Delta. Delta advises McAllister to put three bullets in Sheng's skull. Weapons concealed, they enter Kam Pek casino at 3:35 AM and sit separately at the bar. The bartender remembers his generous customer and ignores McAllister. Delta spots the contact, follows him to the street, evades a kick and signals peace. They exchange mutual compliments about their previous fight, and Delta offers US\$20,000 to hire a good pair of eyes when he re-enters China. They return to the casino together. The bartender happily passes the odd word "crisis" to table 5, returns with a sealed envelope containing a Macau phone number, and allows Delta to use his phone. A woman answers, insisting they meet, but Delta gives her thirty minutes to put her boss on the line when he calls back. The boss has much more to lose, as he is but one client on a growing list.

Delta and McAllister leave five minutes apart. Introductions to his Chinese "eyes" are short, with no names used, but McAllister is immediately impressed. The conduit says only that he runs a "courier service for very important people," and suggests letting this client "sweat" for an hour, as the Frenchman always does. Delta pays homage to the deceased's self-sacrifice to keep him alive, but bemusedly refuses to call him a Christian martyr. They find a restaurant, where McAllister fidgets, wanting to discuss the mission. Delta recalls the Frenchman's claim that food and rest are weapons and his



advice that allowing an enemy's nerves to go on edge is advantageous. When McAllister grumbles that the Frenchman is getting on *his* nerves, Delta warns McAllister against saying that again. They find a phone, and the woman is angry over the delay. Delta replies that he has been lining up jobs, should this one prove a waste of time. She outlines a plan that Delta declares is an obvious trap and gives her one last chance to put the client on the line. McAllister remarks that he would have used a carrot rather than a stick, but Delta says his approach includes both. He asks again if McAllister will be able to pull the trigger. If not, they are both dead. They find a different phone for the next call.

Jade Tower Mountain is in turmoil as aides report the latest news to Sheng and cautiously offer advice. Informants have confirmed the story, but Sheng demands to see the photograph of the dead man personally, because the whole thing is too incredible, too symmetrical and too perfectly timed. Someone must have imposed order, but it cannot be the assassin, who had failed to see that his predecessor was the target, exposed by his mole. The story is tempting but clumsy and unprofessional. Why would the assassin threaten to drop a profitable client? They are dealing with someone inexperienced or as dumb as an ox. The photograph is unmistakable to Sheng, who orders the woman in Macau to give the assassin his number. Meanwhile, outside a hotel across town in Macau, Delta prepares for a good night's sleep before placing his call. McAllister confirms that Sheng speaks excellent French. Because Delta cannot fake a British accent effectively and false-Bourne could not speak Mandarin, this is a good cover.

Sheng's "singsong delivery" is instantly recognizable, even in French. Delta reveals that he knows Sheng's identity and considerable detail from someone who wants to talk to him. It is not a betrayal, as Sheng screams. Delta expects to be well paid for putting them together. McAllister takes the phone and identifies himself to a stunned Sheng. McAllister reveals, off the record, that in retaliation for his driving the original Bourne out of Asia, false-Bourne - Sheng's assassin - wants to kill him, but ends up dead at Victoria Peak. Only McAllister detects the subtle difference in the shattered face. Sheng demands to know why McAllister thinks he and the assassin are connected. Telling him to drop the innocent act, McAllister points to a pattern of Sheng's enemies dying, whispers about a powerful man in Beijing who could only be Sheng, and a file. McAllister next talks about giving twenty years of his life to an ungrateful government. He expects far more for himself and his family than a pension. Sheng agrees that his friend has been wronged but wonders what this has to do with him. McAllister dismisses Sheng's claims that he has nothing to do with the "jackals of the Kuomintang," and says that while few know Sheng's name, he has a file on him, locked in his Washington office with a copy in Hong Kong. It will be released to the NSC, should anything happen to him. McAllister demands a meeting - and lots of American money - in the Guangdong hills tomorrow between 10 PM and midnight. Sheng's incentive is to get the inflammatory gossip discredited and the files shredded before McAllister retires. A man who stands to be "disgraced and decapitated" would surely understand. McAllister specifies that Sheng and a pilot in one helicopter are expected to appear.



## Chapter 36 Analysis

In Macau, Delta and McAllister, still feuding and posturing, set up a meeting with Sheng. Soo, several times mentioned in the story and called a "pig," appears as the lowest-level conduit, and the martial arts expert who Delta bests on his previous trip to Macau, agrees to come along on this mission into China. Delta's earlier grooming of the bartender pays off. Conversations among various characters help clarify what happened during the first mission, where oblique references to characters, without names or with mistaken names, leave room for confusion. The author may sense that redundancy is becoming annoying repetition because he has McAllister complain about non-stop quotations from the late Frenchman, whom the Chinese conduit elevates to sainthood, continuing the theme of religiosity, which runs through the novel.



# Chapters 37-38

## Chapters 37-38 Summary

Dressed as a U.S. Marine, an interloper enters Victoria Peak and charts his way to the safe in Havilland's office, leaving a trail of young bodies in his wake. At the same time, dressed in suit and tie, Delta and McAllister cross the border into China, with their guns in sealed diplomatic attache cases. The Macau conduit, identified as "Wong" for convenience, has "prepared" the crossing guards with a US\$20,000 bribe. One is a cousin for whom he regularly cares. The short, muscular local prefect, whose courtesy belies her hostile eyes, welcomes them. The diplomats decline her hospitality, saying their contact expects them in the cafe shortly. McAllister knows she has instructions to confirm to Sheng that *he* has arrived. He knows Sheng will be cautious, because he does not know that there is only one file. He will arrive with more money than McAllister has ever dreamed of and not risk murdering them. McAllister has been thinking this through for weeks, not expecting Delta to survive his first mission and doubting he will take part in a second. As Delta himself says, the simplest plans are usually the best. McAllister chafes at civilians' righteous crying about "smoking guns" and other things they do not understand. Policy does not revolve around any one person's "embarrassment." Delta advises him to get out of Washington for a couple of weeks to gain perspective, but McAllister says under 46% of Americans bother to cast a ballot to help determine who sets policy. By default, professional bureaucrats do what they must. They enter the cafe to await Wong.

When they emerge again, Wong is fifteen minutes late and the border crossing is deserted. Delta tells McAllister to stroll with him in a way that will not make the "lady wrestler" suspicious. McAllister is incapable of casual small talk. Wong whispers from the bushes that Soo, "The Pig" is following them. McAllister forbids Delta to kill Soo, since Sheng may be relying on Soo for signals by flare or flashlight. Wong offers, for no additional fee, to kill the pig, who for years has been raping the relatives of underlings who cannot risk their jobs by objecting. His relatives have been victims. Previous attempts at revenge have led to reprisals. Here at the border, guards do not surround him. Roadmap in hand, Delta and McAllister head for the rendezvous point, in a field seven kilometers away, a place Delta can never forget. He wishes Wong a "good hunt." Dressed in civilian clothes, the obese colonel smiles, watching the Americans depart. He returns to the immigration complex for some whisky with the unctuous prefect, whom he advises not to concern herself with their top-level business.

Delta points out the light of cigarettes being smoked in the woods ahead. He tells McAllister to walk naturally and recite doggerel if he cannot chat. The spies will not understand. Once they are past, he admits he had wanted to keep the analyst's mind off the danger to prevent panic. Speeding up, Delta leaves McAllister alone for 10-15 minutes, takes a knife, and slipping into the woods, finds the glowing cigarettes. Delta counts six heavily-armed men, oddly wearing the tailored uniforms of senior officers. They speak the Mandarin of Beijing rather than the Cantonese of Guangdong, which



proves they are Sheng's elite forces. Delta recognizes one face, the false-prisoner who tried to trap Echo. The officer radios that the Americans are alone and the landing signal will follow. Delta races back to keep the contingent from spotting McAllister alone. They continue walking in the open, knowing Wong will arrive soon, see what he has seen, and return to Macau to collect his money. Hearing the firepower Sheng has gathered here, McAllister forces himself not to panic. At the end of the field of high grass, they head for the cover of trees. McAllister is to watch for a plane and whistle if he sees one or throw rocks if he cannot whistle. Delta studies the swaying grass for any sign of infiltration and nearly kills Wong when Wong surprises him. He has killed the Pig in Zhuhai Shi at the gate; when Soo left the prefect to relieve himself, Wong slits his throat, removes his genitals, and leaves him in the women's commode. Delta realizes that means this is a strictly-Beijing operation. Wong is ready to serve as Delta's eyes, while Delta moves to the second hill on the right. Suddenly, they hear rocks hitting trees, which is McAllister signaling. Wong should use the same signal. They part, once again complementing one another's fighting.

McAllister stands alone in the descending helicopter's searchlight. Delta is forty yards away, visible in the woods, but not clearly. Sheng emerges, carrying a briefcase. Sheng invites McAllister to inspect the aircraft, who uncharacteristically tells Sheng to toss in a canister that will make anyone inside flee. Only the pilot exits. McAllister is stern, talking about being passed over, and demanding to know if the Kuomintang is, indeed, back in the PRC. Sheng wants to keep this private from Delta, who emerges from the foliage and runs to the helicopter before the pilot can re-board and flee. Delta leaves him lashed to his seat, exits and moves around the aircraft, where he behaves casually, wondering what the two enemies are discussing. Mentally he urges McAllister to make the kill. Time is their enemy. Delta freezes, hearing rocks fall. If Delta shoots Sheng, six deadly men will kill him, thanks to an embittered, bureaucrat who wants his "hour in the sun." Wong slips up beside Delta to report a patrol crawling up the hill. Delta is relieved, since they cannot see much from there. Wong refuses to leave, knowing these people are responsible for the Frenchman's death and the Pig's activities.

Sheng lectures McAllister about how his "ancient and cultured empire" ought not be ruled by discredited egalitarians and refuses any longer to compromise with Marxist and other liars. He pulls from his briefcase the file stolen from Victoria Peak and confronts McAllister with it. The contents would, indeed, inflame Asia and bring about the invasion of Hong Kong. Sheng knows Havilland would never authorize transmitting such an "Ultra Maximum Security" document, so the Washington copy is a ruse. Sheng's people receive all transmissions at the Chinese consulate, so McAllister has not sent it there. McAllister declares Sheng insane, wanting to start a war, but Sheng is proud it will be a *just* war and every country will have to take sides for "freedom or tyranny." McAllister summarizes Sheng's full plan and pulls his gun, denying Sheng cannot be stopped. Sheng fires a shot into McAllister's shoulder before he can pull the trigger, and instinctively rolls, as Delta shouts to him, firing a burst from his machine pistol. Sheng recognizes Delta, which distracts the aim of his kill shots. Screaming, "For Echo!" and citing all the innocents who perished at the glen, Delta fires on Sheng - but the pistol jams. Sheng aims carefully and fires, but Delta dodges and plunges his knife into the fanatic's chest.





The Chinese patrol emerges from the woods, firing. Wong returns fire, pinning the survivors down. Delta cannot afford to let them radio for help. He races into the woods, overtakes the fake-prisoner preparing to report the incident and slits his throat. Expropriating his ammunition, Delta races back to McAllister. Wong still has the elite forces pinned down, but a truck is coming down the road, shining its spotlight. An explosive from Delta kills the remaining officers. He and Wong load McAllister and the dossier into the helicopter and Delta plants on Sheng's body a bankbook from a confidential account in the Cayman Islands. The accounts are scissored out, but will give Beijing pause to think. Freeing the pilot, Delta discovers he need not threaten him; the man is eager to defect. The helicopter is heavily armored, so they are in no danger.

McAllister limps in on crutches and tosses Sheng's file onto Havilland's desk. Delta credits him for the kill, but a defiant undersecretary says he had been out of his element. McAllister demands how the file got into Sheng's hands and agrees the deadly break-in is inexcusable. Havilland then demands how McAllister could take matters into his inexperienced hands, violate his oaths, and threaten the whole world with war. McAllister replies he has done what he was able to; he has learned that from "our Jason Bourne." He resigns, effectively immediately. Havilland says that is ridiculous; the president wants him to chair the NSC. McAllister will have his own limo "and all kinds of other crap." It is those who can truly *think* who wield real power, not those who merely talk. The mind is a "marvelous thing" and ought not to be underestimated. Doctors say Lin will recover but his left arm is impaired. Havilland says London will respect any recommendation McAllister gives his friend. The Webbs are in Hawaii with Panov and Conklin. They depart, thinking rather badly about Havilland. McAllister is beginning to understand how the ambassador does as he must, and Havilland says he hopes McAllister's God has compassion on the likes of them. Forgiveness coming from a God who unleashes bloodthirsty mankind on the world would be hypocritical. McAllister insists that God is perfect and humans imperfect, but Havilland wonders how a good God could amuse himself watching his creations blow one another up. McAllister insists they are human-made explosives and humans have free will. Havilland objects; the scriptures say everything is God's will. When McAllister admits this is a "gray area," Havilland declares McAllister will make a great Secretary of State some day. In the meantime, they must push "the hour of Armageddon" back day-by-day.

Marie has auburn hair once again as she presses against her smiling husband. They are profoundly grateful to share this moment. As he recalls the last 24 hours, he smiles more broadly. He and Panov drink too much on the flight, while Conklin remains reformed. Marie rejects her husband's advances until they are locked in their Hawaiian hotel, and they spend the kind of night adolescents dream of, washing away the terrors of their nightmare. Conklin has flown back to Washington to break heads and demand accountability. Panov is next door with a hangover. When Panov knocks, they both scramble to cover themselves. He is headed home, to attend to patients. He declares Marie has been hurt but can handle it. David needs no more "chicken-soup crap" to deal with his trauma. Jason Bourne is gone and cannot return. The Webbs must concentrate on their life together. He hopes to hear from them because he loves them both. At sundown on the beach, Marie tells her husband to accept that everyone has a dark



side. His is the legendary Bourne. David loathes him, but Marie reminds him he brought him back to her.

## Chapters 37-38 Analysis

The final chapters, which see Sheng brought down, include considerable political commentary and a long, but shallow, debate about theodicy, i.e., the reconciling of evil with a benevolent God between pious McAllister and skeptical Havilland. McAllister is finally getting his just reward, and the Webbs are free to build their life together.





# Characters

## Jason Bourne (a.k.a. David Webb)

Gradually, throughout the novel, the protagonist's complex "pre-history" is clarified. Webb/ Bourne is an amnesiac, who show signs of "dissociative identity disorder" (DID). As Webb, he is a Foreign Service officer specializing in Far Eastern affairs. Stationed in Cambodia during the Vietnam War, he watches his Thai wife and two children killed by what he is sure is a North Vietnamese aircraft. Webb goes berserk and joins a special, top secret organization called "Medusa," and adopts the codename "Delta." The death squad operates throughout the region. On one mission, Delta executes Jason Bourne, a convicted murderer and traitor, in Tam Quan. With nothing to do after the war, Delta joins "Treadstone-71," a black operation under the CIA, and assumes the Bourne identity and becomes a world-famous gun-for-hire. His new codename is "Cain," and his primary target is the infamous Carlos the Jackal. Cain is shot and left for dead but is rescued and recovers, but has lost his memory. He marries a Canadian economist, Marie St. Jacques, who strives to convince him that he is not a killer. They settle in Maine, where Webb teaches Asian studies in a small university. Flashes of memory continue to haunt him.

*The Bourne Supremacy* opens with a brazen murder in Kowloon that appears to be a Bourne killing, years after Bourne had disappeared from Asia. The State Department and CIA trace this murder and several disappearances high in the Communist Chinese hierarchy to Sheng Chou Yang, who appears determined to get the PRC to invade Hong Kong, provoking economic chaos throughout Asia and perhaps inciting a world war. Knowing Webb/Bourne distrusts the government, a cabal opts not to appeal rationally to Webb/Bourne's Asian expertise, but to force him to become Delta once again. They kidnap Marie, taking her to Hong Kong, and convince Webb/Bourne that a Hong Kong taipan, whose wife the false Bourne murdered, is responsible for Marie's disappearance. Webb/Bourne contacts his psychiatrist, Morris Panov, and the CIA operative who bring him into Medusa and Treadstone-71, Alex Conklin, and comes up with a plan to rescue his wife. He must find and bring back to the taipan. The risky mission takes Delta (who assumes this persona for most of the novel) to Macau and the PRC, and ultimately to Beijing, pursuing the assassin, false-Bourne, while being, in fact, the object of a trap. Delta gets his man and brings him back, only to lose him at the U.S. consulate. He is, nevertheless, reunited with Marie. Against Marie's will, Delta returns to China to avenge the death of his old Medusa teammate, Philippe ("Echo") d'Anjou, slain before his eyes by Sheng. Working with milquetoast Edward McAllister, the State Department official who first approaches him in Maine, Delta kills the monster, and is reunited - for good - with his loving wife.



## Marie St. Jacques Webb

An accomplished economist, the beautiful, auburn-haired Canadian marries David Webb, who she meets in Switzerland. A head wound has left him suffering amnesia, and as terrifying, sporadic memories return, she works to convince him that he is not the mythical assassin, Jason Bourne. They have just moved to a small town in Maine, where David teaches Oriental studies. Marie adores her husband's psychiatrist, Morris Panov, the only other person Webb believes. An Oriental specialist from the State Department, Edward McAllister, visits them at home, gradually revealing a situation in Asia that threatens world peace and requires the mythic Bourne to resolve. Neither of the Webbs trusts McAllister. Days later, Marie is kidnapped, and her husband is told to fly to Hong Kong. Over the phone, Marie says she has not been harmed and begs her husband to be strong - that is, to react like the *Bourne* persona. Webb/Bourne and his erstwhile friend and later sworn enemy, Alex Conklin, put together a plot to confuse the kidnapers. They claim Marie has escaped during a refueling in San Francisco and is at large somewhere; Webb is flying to meet her. In fact, members of a covert Anglo-American operation fronted as Yao Ming are holding her under tight security in a hospital in Kowloon. Marie plays off a nurse and young guard to arrange her escape, recalling various Bourne maxims, and disappears into the teeming city. Marie contacts an old acquaintance at the Canadian consulate in Hong Kong, and Catherine Staples does her best to shelter Marie and determine what is going on. Seeing Staples with McAllister, Marie jumps to the conclusion that Staples has been won over by the Americans and flees again. Phoning Conklin in Washington, she gains his and Panov's protection as her husband is escaping China, his prisoner in custody. Convinced Marie is dead, Delta storms the U.S. consulate house, vowing to avenge her. Marie prevents the Marines from shooting her husband, even though he cannot recognize her with her dyed hair and calling him "David." He finally recognizes her, only to volunteer for a second mission to kill Sheng. Marie accepts the decision because she has no other option. In the end, she is reunited with her husband for good.

## Sheng Chou Yang

Sheng is the People's Republic of China (PRC) Minister of State, a graduate of the London School of Economics, who the world views as a Marxist with "a healthy respect for capitalistic profits." Sheng is the architect of the PRC's new trade policies that earn a lot of money. Short, slender, gaunt and prematurely gray, the minister, similar to fellow top PRC officials, lives in splendor behind Gate Number 6 of Jade Tower Mountain. U.S. Undersecretary of State Edward McAllister studied Sheng years ago while preparing for trade talks in which they are interlocutors. During the crisis following Marie St. Jacques Webb's kidnapping, McAllister is shocked to learn that the trade talks are a ruse. Sheng is actually a Nationalist zealot preparing a "hidden economic blitzkrieg" against Hong Kong before the British turn the colony over to Beijing in 1997. Sheng's father has deep roots in the corrupt world of the Kuomintang. The U.S. learns about the plot from a Nationalist cabinet member, who is then assassinated as a traitor. The U.S. would look the other way, except that it knows Beijing will blame the US and Taiwan and seek



vengeance. Years of progress will be destroyed, famine will surely spread and a world war could follow. The PRC's vice-premier murdered in Kowloon, ostensibly by Bourne, is an outspoken opponent of Sheng. When Webb/ Bourne (Delta) and Philippe d'Anjou (Echo) thwart the assassination of the Crown governor, Sheng is infuriated and determined not to be stopped from taking back the Motherland.

Sheng summons false Bourne to Beijing immediately, and Delta and Echo follow but fail to apprehend false Bourne. Echo is abducted and Delta proceeds to where a conference is to be held. There he sees Sheng behaving as a maniac, torturing and killing followers who he believes betrayed him, causing the assassination at the Hong Kong airport to fail. Dressed in a Mao jacket and brandishing a 14th-century ceremonial sword, Sheng declares, "The nights of the great blade begin!" He repeats traditional ceremonial words that precede two slashes of the sword, which emasculate and behead the "tormentor of Mother China." To gain time for Delta to plan a trap, Echo taunts Sheng and finally insults him so badly that the angry general grants him a swift death. Delta opens fire, but Sheng grabs a soldier to use as a human shield and, thus, survives. Back in Hong Kong and returned to his senses, Webb/Bourne sees Sheng's picture in a top-security file and volunteers to return to Beijing and kill him to avenge Echo. McAllister, who accompanies Webb/Bourne, convinces Sheng that he wants to get even with the U.S. government for long overlooking his abilities and wants a lot of money to destroy evidence of the Kuomintang conspiracy. Sheng has obtained a copy of McAllister's dossier, which he shows a surprised McAllister. Sheng wounds McAllister before he can shoot and fires at Delta, whose gun jams, but who plunges a knife into Sheng's throat, ending the Hitler-like threat he poses to Asia and the world.

## Catherine Staples

A senior officer in the Canadian foreign office serving in Hong Kong, Staples is an old acquaintance of Marie Webb, to whom Marie turns for help after escaping from kidnapping and hospitalization. Staples' ex husband, Owen, has acquired four banks in Toronto since the divorce, which she initiates because their ambitions are incompatible. She cannot understand why Owen has not remarried, and his explanation when last they meet for drinks - "You taught me that" - still fills her with guilt. She nearly comes to tears when Owen regrets not having a baby with her (he has two by other women, despite his pious demeanor). Much of her success in helping Canadian tourists and several attachys, who fall victim to extortionists, comes through her no-strings-attached relationship with a 67-year-old English widower, Ian Ballantyne, who serves as chief of Crown Colonial Affairs. Ian has just revealed to Staples that McAllister's cover story about Marie is a lie in all its details. After rescuing Marie from the clutches of Lin Wenzu and MI6 outside the Hong Kong Botanical Gardens and across the street from her flat, Staples enlists the Mandarin Hotel's head concierge, Lee Teng, to arrange alternate transportation. Staples does not realize that Lee is in love with her until Marie points it out.

As they leave the hotel, Staples says that she is in a "'fuck 'em'" mood. With Marie safely hid in her flat, Staples enlists John Nelson, one of the attachys she has helped, to



learn what McAllister and the other Americans have planned. Havilland orders that her car be watched all night, if necessary, knowing Staples has a meeting next morning she cannot miss. Staples arrives at the Victoria Peak mansion livid and declares that Havilland has gone too far, while he charges her with compromising a member of the American legation and engaging in extortion. Nelson has confessed everything. Staples says the "damn fool" is blameless, unlike Havilland and the "unprincipled lackey," McAllister. She asks who gives them the right to play God with two peoples' lives, declares she intends to put Marie under full Canadian protection and expose the Americans, who behave more barbarically than the KGB. The "American juggernaut of covert operations" is suffering a setback in this case, and the world is sick of them. Havilland demands Staples hear him out before having her country declare war on his because he is trying to save millions of lives. If Havilland fails, Staples must live with the consequences. Havilland reveals the full truth to Staples as MI6 mobilizes at the airport to prevent an assassination. Staples and Havilland make peace, but Marie becomes estranged from Staples when the latter sees Staples and McAllister talking outside her safe house. Marie flees, assuming they are in collusion against her. Because Staples knows too much or is getting too near the truth, Sheng orders Staples assassinated outside her flat.

## Major Allcott-Price

The psychopathic son of "Slaughter Allcott," a hero at Tobruk in World War II, Allcott-Price is Philippe d'Anjou's new "Delta," a resurrected Jason Bourne. The novel opens with Allcott-Price in the guise of a Chinese priest murdering the PRC Vice-Premier, the act of which threatens to start a massive Asian war, if not properly handled. Only halfway through the novel is it revealed that this ex-Royal Commando is being hunted for seven murders he committed after escaping a psychiatric hospital. He has been trained in the ways of Medusa. The Major resembles Webb/Bourne in physique, and his nose and chin were easily modified. He is a "man without a name but not without a macabre story." Subhuman, but highly intelligent, he is as good as, if not better, than the original Delta, but has no conscience. He always seeks the "final solution." D'Anjou created this new Bourne similarly to the way the U.S. created the original, and like the original, the copy goes mad and turns on him. He becomes "Frankenstein's monster with none of that creature's torment." Allcott-Price now negotiates dangerous assignments on his own, but Echo has discovered he is using his original conduit through the Kam Pak casino. Medusan instinct tells Echo to kill his monster before he can bring disaster to Hong Kong. Webb/Bourne, now functioning as Delta, and d'Anjou are reunited, chasing Allcott-Price in a variety of disguises including a Catholic priest, but lose him every time. Allcott-Price reappears in a bird sanctuary outside Beijing, where Echo is one of the people butchered by Sheng Chou Yang, the fanatic who has hired Allcott-Price. Delta captures Allcott-Price and with necessary brutality drags him back to Hong Kong. In a climactic battle outside the U.S. consulate, Allcott-Price is killed by U.S. Marines. The original Bourne then takes this copy's place to return to China and exact revenge for Echo.



## Philippe d'Anjou

Codenamed "Echo" to Webb/Bourne's "Delta" during their time of terror in Vietnam and later Paris, hunting Carlos the Jackal, d'Anjou is as often referred to in the novel as "The Frenchman." He returns to Asia after Webb/Bourne is wounded and suffers amnesia, and there d'Anjou resurrects the Bourne legend, using a psychopathic, look-alike British commando, Major Allcott-Price. D'Anjou seeks to guarantee a comfortable old age. While hunting this false-Bourne, Webb/ Bourne captures his old friend inside China and learns how his imitator had come into being. An opportunist and supreme pragmatist, now living in Macau in ever-changing addresses, Echo agrees to help Delta capture his creation and reluctantly accompanies Delta to Beijing. Waiting outside Mao's mausoleum, d'Anjou is kidnapped and whisked away to a bird sanctuary, which Delta finds and penetrates. Beaten badly, Echo knows he cannot survive a breakout, so signals to Delta to kill his oppressor, Sheng Chou Yang. Echo berates the tyrant to give Delta time to rig a diversion and then insults Sheng sufficiently to assure himself a swift death. Delta gets out of China but returns to hunt down Delta to avenge his friend's death.

## Jean-Louis Ardisson

An arrogant French businessman, whose consortium is doing millions of francs worth of business with the PRC, Ardisson meets Webb/Bourne in Tian an Men Square, where he gratefully hands over his identity badge to avoid problems with the police. Arrested and interrogated at length, Ardisson returns to his hotel only to face Webb/Bourne again, who this time pretends to be with the government and confiscates his documents and papers. Webb/Bourne uses these documents to concoct a plan to get out of China once he has captured false-Bourne. Webb/Bourne behaves as obnoxiously as possible at a gate and says he is an important French businessman. When contacted for verification, a Chinese official on Ardisson's list of contacts remembers the annoying but harmless man, and asks only that he not interrupt a dinner party.

## Cactus

A silver-haired, black man, who has forged documents for Treadstone-71, Cactus befriends Webb/Bourne in the hospital and gives him new documents as he sets out on his rescue mission in Asia. Cactus' grandson, a law student in Washington, DC, assumes the risk of driving Webb back to his apartment, because of his admiration for his grandfather. The State Department knows about Cactus but overlooks his illegal activities.

## Carlos the Jackal

An historical figure treated in *The Bourne Supremacy* in a mixture of fact and fiction, the Jackal is a preeminent, international terrorist, who has tried to kill Webb/Bourne





("Delta") and Philippe d'Anjou ("Echo") in Paris and whose reputation keeps both at bay for years. Webb/Bourne wrongly assumes the Jackal is still after him when wife Marie is kidnapped to Hong Kong.

## Alexander ("Alex") Conklin

David Webb's friend in Cambodia, who, after Webb's family's murder, arranges a place for him in Medusa. Conklin is now an alcoholic living in Washington, DC, waiting to retire or to die. During "Medusa," Conklin loses a leg to a landmine and cannot adjust to desk work. During "Treadstone-71," a bitter Conklin tries to kill Webb/Bourne, earning Webb/Bourne's eternal hatred. When the truth comes out about Webb/Bourne, Conklin is remorseful, but Webb/Bourne refused to see him at the hospital and threatened to kill him if he enters the room. When Marie is kidnapped, a desperate Webb/Bourne turns to Conklin for help in concocting a rescue plan. Conklin sobers up, appreciating that his wisdom and expertise are valued by someone, and cleans himself up to march into the State Department and confront the Chief of Internal Security with the Webbs' situation. Contacted from Hong Kong by an escaped Marie, Conklin joins Webb/Bourne's psychiatrist, Morris Panov, in flying to Asia to protect Marie and deal with American officials to get the couple safely reunited. Conklin remains sober at the novel's end and heads back to "break heads" and demand accountability in Washington.

## Raymond Havilland

A well-bred, austere, gray-haired, impeccably-dressed, seventy-something year old U.S. ambassador-without-portfolio, Havilland is chiefly responsible for recruiting the State Department's Edward McAllister to convince Jason Burke (a.k.a. David Webb, a.k.a. Delta One) to foil a Nationalist Chinese attempt to take over the People's Republic. Havilland is an unapologetic pragmatist and well known in Asia. When diplomats learn he has come to Hong Kong for a vacation, suspicion flies, for it is equally well known he never stops working. Havilland sets himself up in a supposedly secure mansion on Victoria Peak in Hong Kong. He doubts the brilliant McAllister will ever live up to his potential because of McAllister's piety. He would have put the undersecretary under house arrest had he known what McAllister has in mind when he accompanies Webb/Bourne to Macau on the latter's second mission into China. When they return victorious, Havilland has to congratulate the new NSC Director, i.e., McAllister, on his appointment. McAllister believes Havilland is as dangerous as Sheng Chou Yang.

## Mr. Liang

The assistant manager of the Kowloon Regent Hotel, Liang is a former member of the corrupt Kuomintang, and is recruited to put Webb/Bourne in the bugged Suite 690, where he can be monitored. Liang cannot prevent the wily American from moving to a smaller, unbugged room and panics when he cannot get in contact with Webb/Bourne again. Webb tails Liang through heavy traffic to a dead end on the waterfront, where a



hail of bullets erupts as Liang uses a pay phone. Webb subdues the uninjured Liang but threatens to kill him if he does not explain everything. Liang claims to be married with three children, holding a degree from Fudan University and previously owning his own hotel in Shanghai. He worries that when the crazies in Beijing take over Hong Kong, he and his family will be killed. When Webb challenges him to name his daughters rapidly, he cannot. Webb is disgusted and advises him to avoid the Kuomintang.

## Lin Wenzu (a.k.a. Yao Ming)

An enormous Chinese major working for British Intelligence (MI6), Lin is responsible for the staged assassination attempt on Liang. Lin is first encountered in the novel sitting in a white suit and distinctive gold jewelry, portraying the outraged taipan who has captured Webb/Bourne's wife to draw the Bourne persona to Asia. A fellow Chameleon, Lin Wenzu confirms that Yao Ming is one of his aliases and admits he knows that Webb/Bourne has not killed his wife. He holds Marie in order to have the leverage to force Bourne to find and capture a *new* Bourne who is causing him grief. Lin wants Webb/Bourne to turn the false Bourne over to be tortured and killed, and therefore win Marie Webb's freedom. The deal struck, Lin drives to the U.S. headquarters of this covert action and, quite pleased with his performance, talks about releasing Bourne's lethal abilities and scaring him into avoiding Macau. Unfortunately, he must also report to McAllister that Marie's health is declining rapidly. Lin is an outstanding intelligence officer and has assembled an elite team. The attempted assassination at the Hong Kong airport proves that someone on the team is working for Sheng Chou Yang, however, and in investigating the matter, Lin is critically wounded by the traitor. He brings in the dead culprit before crumbling. After a long period in critical condition, Lin pulls through, having lost the use of his left arm.

## Edward Newington McAllister

Slender, middle-aged, of medium height, meticulously groomed, McAllister serves as an Undersecretary of State. McAllister holds a Harvard doctorate in Far Eastern Studies and has served well, but in his own view, not exceptionally, during a twenty-year career, including many years in Asia. He plays a pivotal role in Sino-American trade conferences, negotiating with Sheng Chou Yang, and is trusted by British Intelligence (MI6). McAllister signs a non-disclosure agreement, insisting it include his right to confront accusers should he be tried for breaking it. Meeting the Webbs in their home in Maine, McAllister is sympathetic to all they have gone through, but unapologetic about the government's role. By the time Marie is kidnapped, the Webbs distrust the fish-eyed secretary, and Webb hates him when McAllister disappears during the kidnapping. McAllister reappears in Kowloon, heading the covert Anglo-American operation, still upset about involving innocent people. The Ambassador, Raymond Havilland, a more brutal and practical man, who appreciates McAllister's intellect but disparages his piety and unwillingness to get his hands dirty, arrives and takes command of the crisis away from McAllister. McAllister, who is content to hand over the operation to Havilland, is now free to figure out what is really going on and to concoct a plan to kill Sheng.





Without Havilland's permission or knowledge, McAllister goes to China with Delta to meet and kill Sheng. Wounded, he does not achieve this goal, but when Delta shoots Sheng, Asia's great crisis is resolved and the president rewards McAllister by naming him Director of the NSC. He has his "day in the sun" after all.

## John Nelson

A nervous thirty-two-year-old American attachy in Hong Kong, Nelson owes his career to the actions of Canadian diplomat Catherine Staples, who obtains and destroys rigged photographs of him consorting sexually with a minor. Staples uses this leverage to get Nelson to help her rescue runaway Marie St. Jacques-Webb. Nelson handles a phone call from Edward McAllister by turning all his questions diplomatically back on himself, convincing Havilland that some one is coaching him and doing something - perhaps blackmail - to make him cooperate. Nelson arranges to meet Staples at a restaurant, where they are observed by MI6. Pulling out the old child porno story, a desperate Staples forces Nelson to finger McAllister. Before she is murdered, Staples atones by convincing her superiors to clear Nelson's record and keep him in Hong Kong.

## Pak-fei

Webb/Bourne's tired, middle-aged chauffeur, Pak-fei is married and has two grown children. He knows the ins-and-outs of Hong Kong and Kowloon and helps Webb survive the threatening streets. He brings him to the warehouse of arms middleman, Wu Song, survives an assault by Wu's guards, and reluctantly ties up Webb's three prisoners. Fearful for his life for this act, and for introducing Wu to this wild man (Webb/Bourne), who explodes the warehouse, Pak-fei takes Webb's word that he and his family are safe and agrees to fabricate a cover story for the day's travels. Webb pays him \$400 for his services and disappears.

## Morris ("Mo") Panov

The psychiatrist, whose comments to a government agent about a hypothetical assassin nearly results in the death of Webb/Bourne, Panov forces the government to grant the security clearance he needs to treat the man's amnesia and split personality. He recommends that Webb/Bourne exercise vigorously whenever frightening memories appear to overwhelm him. When Marie, who adores Panov, is kidnapped, Panov calms her husband and checks his story with the State Department. There is a strong paper trail showing Webb/Bourne is acting erratically. Webb/ Bourne's erstwhile friend and current enemy, Alex Conklin, whom Panov is treating for alcoholism, helps Webb/Bourne concoct a plan to rescue Marie, and Webb/Bourne flies to Hong Kong. Panov joins Conklin in flying over to protect Marie after her escape from captivity. Panov tries to talk his patient, Webb/Bourne, down when he confronts U.S. Marines and believes Marie is a fake. Following Delta's second mission to China, Panov believes



both Webbs will heal and heads home to Washington to offer "chicken-soup crap" to other patients.

## John Reilly

A red-haired, freckled agent of the National Security Council (NSC), cold-eyed Reilly looks out over steel-rimmed glasses to make sure Raymond Havilland does not reveal too much to Edward McAllister in their first meeting, insisting McAllister must sign a non-disclosure agreement before being given specific details. Reilly reminds McAllister that there are many ways of torturing or tricking people who are far more experienced than McAllister into revealing secrets. Reilly is consistently apologetic about U.S. covert actions, explaining they are not official but rather the work of unauthorized rogue elements.

## Matthew ("Matt") Richards

A veteran CIA case officer nearing retirement with whom Alex Conklin worked long ago in Saigon, Richards is flattened by Conklin while on surveillance in Kowloon and made to tell the little he knows about the Webbs' case. Recovered from his humiliating manhandling, which he blames on gangs, Richards stakes out Staples' apartment and agrees to be Conklin's undercover man in the sterile house on Victoria Peak.

## Soo Jang

The obese head of Macau Intelligence, Soo is also false-Bourne's conduit to Sheng. Many underlings hate Soo for raping their wives and daughters and holding their jobs as hostage. Assassination attempts are harshly punished. A free agent code named "Gamma" by d'Anjou and otherwise known as Wong, kills Soo Jang for no additional fee after leading Delta and McAllister into China, leaving "The Pig" face down in a women's toilet, minus his genitals.

## Wu Song

The owner of a one-story warehouse in Kowloon that offers for sale every weapon in the terrorist arsenal, Wu Song is a 1973, graduate of Columbia University, majoring in marketing, Wu sees his consignment go up in smoke as Webb/Bourne arms himself to find and rescue Marie.



## Objects/Places

### British Secret Intelligence Service ("MI6")

The foreign intelligence branch of the British government, MI6 is the equivalent of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA). MI6's operations in Asia are particularly important at a time when the Crown colony of Hong Kong is set to revert by treaty to the People's Republic of China (PRC) in 1997. Following standard colonial policy, MI6 has prepared an intelligent, Chinese officer, Lin Wenzu, to head operations. He is greatly respected and has gathered a staff of able Chinese officers around him. The British Prime Minister orders MI6 to participate in a covert operation to capture the "new" Bourne and answer to U.S. Undersecretary of State, Edward McAllister, who has flown to the Crown colony. Lin's greatest disadvantage is his enormous girth, which makes it impossible not to identify him, but helps him fill the role of Yao Ming, a powerful taipan, who wants to capture his wife's murderer. Lin supervises MI6 efforts to prevent a terrorist attack on the Crown governor that turns out to be an attempt instead on two political opponents of the powerful Sheng Chou Yang. Lin discovers proof that Sheng has infiltrated his MI6 team and is severely wounded by the traitor when confronting him.

### Hong Kong

The teeming British crown colony scheduled in 1997, to be returned to Chinese sovereignty (about a decade after the novel is set). "Hong Kong" is a broad term for Hong Kong Island itself, numerous surrounding islands, and the city of Kowloon on the peninsula across crowded Victoria Harbor. Together they constitute China's "New Territories." The border remains fortified but is porous, particularly for a price. The People's Republic of China (PRC) uses Hong Kong as a conduit for lucrative trade with the West. The novel opens in Kowloon's gaudy "Golden Mile" (*Tsim Sha Tsui*), which caters to wealthy tourists. In the back offices of a cabaret, a killer-priest assassinates the Vice-Chairman of the PRC and leaves behind a "calling card" that proclaims the resurrection of Jason Bourne. Action returns to Kowloon beginning in Chapter 8, with Webb/Bourne flying into Kai-tak Airport and taking up residency in the posh Regency Hotel. Readers follows Webb/Bourne through dangerous areas of the city, such as Chater Square, the waterfront, and the Walled City, where police do not dare enter. It also looks at stately Victoria Peak, where the covert Anglo-American operation to get Webb/Bourne to capture his copy rents a mansion to establish a "sterile house," and Repulse Bay, where massive Chinese gods stand in the water to mesmerize tourists in the local hotel. The airport is also the scene of an assassination attempt against the Crown governor, which the protagonist narrowly averts. Behind this action stands (secretly) powerful PRC minister Sheng Chou Yang, an economist, who is determined to force the Red Army to invade Hong Kong, thereby destabilizing Asia, and requiring every nation to take sides. This will allow the Kuomintang, ousted by the Communists decades earlier, to return to power.



## Jade Tower Mountain

The sprawling, exceedingly non-proletarian compound in the northern suburbs of Beijing, Jade Tower Mountain is rarely spoken of inside China. It is a place of great secrecy and security, built so no villa can overlook another. Since Mao's time, the great men of the PRC have lived here. Currently the most powerful resident is Sheng Chou Yang, son of a Kuomintang nationalist, who is secretly plotting to force the Red Army into occupying Hong Kong in order to spark war and allow Sheng to seize power in a destabilized situation. When a plot to kill his enemies in Hong Kong is foiled, Sheng kills the messenger who informs him and then concocts a plot to lure the failed assassin to Beijing. In fact, Sheng is seeking the man trailing the assassin, the real Webb/Bourne.

## Jing Shan Bird Sanctuary

A nature preserve on the northwest edge of Beijing, Jing Shan Bird Sanctuary provides a setting for Sheng Chou Yang's inauguration of "the nights of the great blade." In a land of close government supervision, where birds are considered delicacies for both the eye and the palate, nature preserves offer wide-open spaces free of electronic surveillance. Webb/Bourne first sees a closed van identified calligraphically as belonging to the Chutang Bird Sanctuary in Shenzhen, when he chases and loses the false-Bourne for the first time. In Beijing, Webb/Bourne is surprised to see a similar van labeled Jing Shan Bird Sanctuary and does not believe it is a coincidence. His friend, Philippe ("Echo") d'Anjou, is kidnapped on Tian An Men Square and bundled away in the van. Webb/Bourne, taken over by the persona of Delta, finds Jing Shan, where a high-level meeting is supposed to occur. The fences around the bird sanctuary are stronger than some prisons. Delta observes a series of cars arrive, one bearing the "assassin" he is chasing, and then a cloth-covered truck. From it a row of prisoners is dumped, including Echo. They are herded down a series of dark trails, to a glen, which is lit by torches. There, Delta watches a savage, little man dressed in a Mao jacket torture and kill most of the prisoners, including Echo. Delta fails to kill Sheng, but captures false-Bourne and leads a wild-goose-chase escape through the woods getting him out.

## Kuomintang

The anti-communist political party that rules Taiwan, the Kuomintang was responsible decades ago for overthrowing the Chinese monarchy but then losing the struggle to control the mainland to the Mao Zedung's Communists. The party, and its long-time leader, Chiang Kai-shek, are symbols of corruption in this novel. Mr. Liang, assistant manager of the Kowloon Regent Hotel, is a former member, recruited to put protagonist Webb/Bourne in the bugged Suite 690, as the first step in their plan to destabilize the PRC. The completely secret leader of the Kuomintang sends his eldest son, under the name Sheng Chou Yang, to England to be educated and then to rise through the ranks to the highest levels of the Communist Party. As a minister, Sheng introduces reforms that help the PRC's economy blossom, largely by using Hong Kong as a conduit to the capitalist west. Sheng is, however, believed to be a model Marxist. He is, in fact,



infiltrating Kuomintang people into every facet of the governments in the PRC and Hong Kong, waiting for the right moment to inaugurate "the nights of the great blade" and reclaim the Chinese Motherland for the Kuomintang.

## Macau

Like Hong Kong, Macau is a "special administrative region" of the People's Republic of China (PRC), still administered at the time this novel is set by Portugal (as Hong Kong is by Great Britain). Macau (spelled Macao throughout the book) is a land of Chinese people and institutions overlaid with a Portuguese colonial facade world-heritage relics. The novel shows professional gamblers and boisterous, drunken tourists arriving by hydrofoil. Webb/Bourne is among them. Webb/Bourne must be careful because agents of Yao Ming (the MI6's Maj. Lin Wenzu in disguise as a rich and vindictive taipan) are watching, should he disobey orders, which would risk Marie's life. Lin knows that if Webb/Bourne comes to Macau, he will find facts that point to the truth. Outside the terminal, Webb/Bourne enters garish streets that resemble Hong Kong on a smaller scale. He takes a taxi to the dark, dank Kam Pek casino, which caters to Asians; Europeans patronize the fancier Lisboa casino. In Macau, Webb/Bourne does, indeed, find out he has been lied to. He meets an old friend, Philippe ("Echo") d'Anjou, and with him makes the first of two trips into China, chasing false-Bourne. Webb/Bourne and U.S. Undersecretary of State Edward McAllister come to Macau to make connections with Sheng Chou Yang, Echo's killer, in the final drive to avert a world war starting in Asia.

## Tian An Men Square

Usually spelled "Tiananmen," Tian An Men Square is described in the novel as a place of "sheer vastness" at the heart of Beijing and one of mankind's most extraordinary architectural achievements. In Chinese, it means "Gate of Heavenly Peace," as a taxi driver explains to Webb/ Bourne. Beyond the gate lies the "Forbidden City," which, of course does not figure in the novel beyond being named. Monumental buildings stretch as far as the eye can see around the Square, but an illusion of open space is preserved, despite multitudes of silent people. The premier site for orthodox Marxist and foreign tourists alike is the massive Chairman Mao Memorial Hall, containing two cavernous rooms, an outer sanctum containing an enormous statue of Mao and an inner one, housing his crystal sarcophagus and waxen body. When Webb/Bourne realizes he has been drawn into a deadly trap, he desecrates the leader's corpse with a spray of bullets and flees in the ensuing chaos. Mingling with French tourists on the steps, he cons a haughty businessmen out of his ID to escape the square completely. The novel is written and set before the square becomes infamous in the West as the site of the 1989, protests against Communism, in which tanks are deployed with lethal results.



## Treadstone-71

The U.S. government black operation that recruits, trains and manages the missions of Jason Bourne (a.k.a. David Webb, a.k.a. Delta One) hunting Carlos the Jackal. Treadstone-71 has had its records carefully buried. As the novel begins, the State Department and CIA need Webb/ Bourne to find and capture another murderer for hire, who has subsumed Bourne's identity. The project name is derived from the New York City house that serves as its command post.

## Tuen Mun

The town in the New Territories where Catherine Staples houses Marie St. Jacques Webb in a friend's unused house. Tuen Mun is a miniature Hong Kong. On a restricted beach there, Marie is attacked by hoodlums in the Di-di Jing Cha (Young People's Auxiliary Police) but is rescued by a local bank manager, Jitai, who provisions Marie to return to Kowloon undercover.

## Victoria Park

An elite neighborhood in Hong Kong where the U.S. consulate rents a large Victorian mansion to serve as the "sterile house" for the Anglo-American operation that manipulates Webb/Bourne into killing a PRC leader who is bent on bringing Asia to war. Undersecretary of State Edward McAllister is in charge until Marie St. Jacques Webb escapes from a hospital, threatening the black operation. Ruthless Ambassador Raymond Havilland then steps in to pick up the pieces. British Intelligence (MI6) reports to the U.S. bosses by agreement between president and prime minister. A contingent of U.S. Marines is flown in from Hawaii to guard the property. When Webb/Bourne returns from Beijing dragging his alter ego, Major Allcott-Price, the Delta persona is convinced Marie is dead and conducts a mini-war of retribution. Grenades destroy most of the surrounding walls and main gate, and firebombs incinerate the entire front section inside. Neighbors call the police and their lawyers, ready to file claims for collateral damage to their own properties.





# Themes

## Identity

*The Bourne Supremacy* is very much about protagonist Webb/Bourne's identity (the title of Robert Ludlum's previous novel, *The Bourne Identity*, about this character). Throughout *The Bourne Supremacy*, the complexity of this identity is developed. Webb/Bourne suffers ongoing amnesia as a result of a head wound and experiences flashes of memory from a violent past. As the novel begins, he is living as a professor of Oriental studies in a small university in Maine. His wife, Marie, and psychiatrist, Dr. Morris Panov, have been helping him cope. Marie denies her husband has ever been a killer and urges him to accept that he is not a killer, no matter what flashbacks he experiences. Panov helps him deal with whatever he perceives and to exercise vigorously whenever the partial past causes him to panic.

Webb/Bourne displays symptoms of "dissociative identity disorder" (DID), which is distinct from schizophrenia - so-called "split personality," which is classically displayed in Robert Louis Stevenson's *The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*. In that story, the protagonist is able to separate his good and evil natures, which results in his toggling between separate personalities. Webb/Bourne's conscious *ego* and *super ego* (conscience) are David Webb, but when circumstances force him into survival mode, his unconscious *id*, the legendary killer Jason Bourne, takes control. At these times, the protagonist functions as "Delta." The Webb persona remains present and worries about Marie, mourns Echo, feels sorry about fellow human beings he must slay, but Webb/Bourne has to remind himself not to heed these feelings. They will slow his reflexes and get him and Marie killed.

Complicating this is the presence of another professional assassin claiming to be Jason Bourne. He is a former British commando, Major Allcott-Price, trained by Webb/Bourne's colleague in Operation Medusa, Philippe d'Anjou (code named "Echo" to Webb/Bourne's "Delta"). Philippe d'Anjou trains Allcott-Price, a true psychopath, to think and act like Webb/Bourne. The authentic Bourne and Allcott-Price are of similar heights and body types, and d'Anjou has Allcott-Price's nose and chin altered to resemble the original. The impersonation is so effective that the first several times Webb/Bourne sees his alter ego face-to-face, he freezes in amazement. Webb/Bourne likens d'Anjou's creation of false-Bourne to Pygmalion and Galatea, in Ovid's *Metamorphoses*, where the protagonist falls in love with a statue he has made and the goddess Aphrodite brings to life (as Galatea) for him to marry. D'Anjou later shifts the imagery to that of Mary Shelly's novel *Frankenstein*, where the monster at least has some redeeming qualities. False-Bourne is a conscienceless, killing machine. This distinguishes him from the original, who never loses completely the goodness of David Webb.

In the opinion of his psychiatrist, the completion of Webb/Bourne's final mission to save Asia and the world from chaos and war removes the need for the Bourne persona to assert himself, and the Webbs head home to enjoy a normal, loving life. To a lesser





extent, Edward McAllister suffers a torn identity, wanting to be a true Christian but having to make decisions that result in hands-on operatives performing very unchristian acts. In Webb/Bourne's final battle, McAllister comes to grips with this reality and volunteers to kill the common enemy, Sheng Chou Yang. Sheng is another Jekyll-and-Hyde character, born into the upper crust of the reactionary Kuomintang on Taiwan but renamed and sent into the PRC to ascend through the ranks to the top of the Communist hierarchy, where he can do the Kuomintang bidding and tear up Asia, so they can move in and reclaim their former rule. Sheng is not internally torn by the disjunction, but those who think they know him, particularly McAllister, are shocked to learn who he actually is.

## Race

Race and ethnicity fill *The Bourne Supremacy*, as one would expect in a novel set at the end of colonial rule in Asia. Great Britain still administers its Crown Colony in Hong Kong and Portugal less directly administers Macau. The opening scene sets the stage: crowds of Chinese part to allow a tall Chinese priest and his bodyguard pass as they head from the docks to the "Golden Mile," the district of "discos and topless cafys" that caters to tasteless tourists. It is a ruse; the priest is a contract killer. He removes his caftan and make-up and emerges as a "well-dressed Occidental" walking along a "strip of Oriental pleasures." Throughout the novel, Westerners, a tiny minority, attract instant attention. In Macau, casinos are segregated between natives and foreigners. In the Mongkok district of Hong Kong, the world's most densely populated area and exclusively Asian, protagonist Webb/Bourne sits locked alone in a limousine for a matter of minutes before his white face draws an angry crowd.

Webb/Bourne is a gifted linguist, however, fluent in both Mandarin and Cantonese so he can affect the speaking style appropriate to the socio-economic status of his interlocutors. The Chinese are inevitably surprised by his fluency and go out of their way to do as he wishes. Few Westerners - including diplomats posted in China and Hong Kong - bother to learn even the rudiments of any of the Oriental languages, so the efforts of the minority are appreciated even more, for doing so honors the ancient culture.

Great Britain is shown in an extraordinarily positive light. Anticipating Hong Kong's security needs after the Crown Colony is returned to Chinese control in 1997, MI6 (Intelligence) has taken the initiative to train Maj. Lin Wenzu to head the department and allow him to enlist and train a cadre of Chinese officers. Only rarely in the novel do the British refer to Asians as "slants" and other epithets that other works show are a common feature of colonial life. There is no indication in the novel that the Americans manifest any of the racial discrimination towards Asians that has long been a disturbing part of the national psyche. A French businessman plays the stereotypical role of "ugly American," denouncing everything Chinese, but much of the sting is removed by the fact that the deficiencies are also blamed on Marxism, a Western import.



The most overly-racial comment in the novel, and one of the tenderest moments, comes when Marie points out to Canadian diplomat Catherine Staples that the Chinese hotel concierge Lee Teng is in love with her. Only when the obvious is pointed out does the Westerner understand the words Lee Teng has spoken, too subtly, lamenting that interracial relationships are taboo.

## Religion

Religiosity rarely comes to the foreground in *The Bourne Supremacy*, but it pervades the background. "Joss," a central concept in Chinese culture, is treated in the Western sense of luck, good or bad. The deeper meaning is never considered, even by Chinese characters, many of whom in pious pidgin phrases show they have been at least superficially missionized by foreign Christians. Just as superficial are the prayer-thoughts, "please God," "thank God," etc., that both Bournes' mouths under stress and then wish they were capable of true prayer.

The only authentically-Christian character, Edward McAllister, is troubled by his role in tricking Webb/ Bourne into hunting down his newly-resurrected alter ego. McAllister cannot accept that "the ends justify the means," an idea that Thomism officially rejects, but is all too often practiced throughout church history. Ambassador Havilland rarely misses an opportunity to impugn McAllister's pious attitudes and admits to fellow diplomat, the Canadian Catherine Staples, that his religious beliefs will prevent McAllister from attaining the high positions for which his talents and intellect easily qualify him.

It is in the scenes set in China that religion comes to the fore. False-Bourne dons clerical clothing in Beijing and perfectly mimics a godly priest as he heads to a dangerous meeting. He learns this disguise from his teacher, Philippe d'Anjou, who realizes how people go out of their way to accommodate men of the cloth. Carlos the Jackal used the same type of disguise successfully years earlier in Paris. Webb/Bourne makes a professional observation: the stark black of Roman Catholicism is too easily picked out in a crowd; therefore, adopt Anglican gray, as psychologically effective, but subtler. Chairman Mao's sarcophagus is an excellent example of "secular religion," and Webb/Bourne's violent escape requires an act of desecration. After conning a Frenchman out of his papers, Webb/Bourne refers to the incident by claiming true Christians are determined to wipe out anyone who deals with the godless. They will return Christ's love to the world even if they have to wipe out every human in it. Satan cannot be accommodated. Why Webb/Bourne chooses this ruse is not explained, but it is effective.

At the bird sanctuary, Webb/Bourne watches Sheng Chou Yang use semi-religious 14th-century incantations before wielding a ceremonial sword to emasculate and behead a "tormentor of Mother China." The victim's death is meant to purify Mother China and prevent the spread of the heretic's seed. As Sheng confronts his next victim, he appears as "a fundamentalist minister, preaching the gospel of love while his eye is on the work of the devil."

# Style

## Point of View

*The Bourne Supremacy* by Robert Ludlum is written in the third-person, past tense by an observer who is privy to all the characters' inner thought processes. The narrator is deeply sympathetic to the plight of the protagonist, David Webb (a.k.a. Jason Bourne, a.k.a. Delta-One), and his kidnapped wife, Marie St. Jacques-Webb. Webb/Bourne, a Jekyll-and-Hyde victim of amnesia and dissociative identity disorder (DID), is forced to again become something he hates and has tried to escape: a ruthless killer. The narrator is more sympathetic to the Webb persona but understands the need for the Bourne/Delta persona to take control in order to carry out the mission that will gain innocent Marie's freedom. An intelligent, idealistic Canadian diplomat is also treated sympathetically but allowed to be killed off, perhaps to show even a good deed can not always guarantee safety in this world. An upright and incorrupt Chinese policeman is likewise wounded uncovering a plot, and a Chinese banker and Chinese concierge altruistically help the heroine, Marie Webb, out of danger.

In contrast, the narrator implicitly, and various characters explicitly in words and deed, are highly antagonistic toward everything Big Government and Big Business do. The only U.S. official who tries to act ethically is maligned by other officials as too pious for his own good and who, when pushed, falls in line with the "ends justify the means" party line. As it has years earlier, the U.S. government (CIA and State Department) rolls over the Webbs' civil rights, claiming their web of lies, violence, threats is necessary because the agencies cannot be certain the Webbs would cooperate if they knew the truth. U.S. amorality is not the only target in the novel. Communism is depicted as not only an evil system, but incredibly inefficient, with dozens of little details sprinkled throughout the novel to prove this. The Communists are, however, little more corrupt than the Nationalist (Kuomintang) regime in Taiwan, which seeks to force its way back into the mainland by creating a crisis over Hong Kong. The British colonial authorities are barely competent as they prepare for the return of the Crown Colony to Chinese rule in a few years. In the end, the novel shows all of humanity living by chicanery and violence.

## Setting

Only a few scenes in *The Bourne Supremacy* by Robert Ludlum take place outside of East Asia. The novel opens in teeming Hong Kong/Kowloon, shifts briefly to a secure U.S. government facility in Colorado, then to a small college town in Maine, and finally to Washington, DC, before returning to the Far East. Considerable portions of the novel are given over to word pictures of the various locales, rich and poor, in Hong Kong, Macau, and the People's Republic of China (PRC). The timing is shortly before the People's Republic of China (PRC) is to scheduled to regain sovereignty over Hong Kong in 1997. Note that the Soviet Union has not disintegrated, and there is a thinly veiled allusion to George H. W. Bush as the current president of the United States.



When his wife is kidnapped, the protagonist, David Webb (a.k.a. Jason Bourne, a.k.a. Delta-One), a Jekyll-and-Hyde victim of amnesia and dissociative identity disorder (DID), flies to the British Crown Colony. There, he is instructed to find and capture a false-Bourne, who has killed a rich taipan's wife. He is forbidden to enter the Portuguese colony of Macau. Webb/Bourne, naturally, is forced to visit Macau, and from there, twice ventures across the PRC border at Lo Wu. The first time, the trail leads to Beijing and a dramatic scene at Chairman Mao's Mausoleum on Tian An Min Square. A bird sanctuary is the setting for terrible executions, which help clarify the true story for Webb/Bourne and inspire his second return to China. The two finales occur first in Victoria Peak, the affluent Hong Kong neighborhood where the U.S. consulate rents a "sterile house," where Webb/Bourne leaves a smoking hull and second in grassy fields inside the PRC, where Webb/Bourne and the milquetoast diplomat McAllister kill the Hitleresque antagonist.

## Language and Meaning

*The Bourne Supremacy* by Robert Ludlum is narrated in smooth, fast-paced standard American English. Clipped conversation and streams of conscience (italicized) are frequently used. An uncomfortable amount of Chinese, left untranslated and at best clarified in context is included, with Ludlum noting whether it is Guangdong, Mandarin, or Cantonese and the cultural level of the speaker(s). Several characters are French, but Ludlum restrains the use to a few easily-recognized phrases before rendering conversations in English. He is even more guarded with Portuguese, the second language of Macau. He renders an Australian's speech phonetically and attempts high-crust British dialect. Most of the characters, however, are educated Americans, almost all disgruntled about something, so the bulk of the book takes place in this "key." The protagonist, handily, is an accomplished linguist, able to operate fluently in all these situations.

Much of the novel deals with the morality of government intelligence operations, where the characters think about, discuss, and act upon their beliefs. Purple passages, which moralize about freedom of will, inescapable duty, cruelty, theosophy, etc. recur throughout the novel but are always brief and do not interrupt the flow of the story. In order to hold off the final revelation of what the antagonist has suffered, Ludlum repeats the basic facts nearly *ad nauseum*, to the point one character comments on the fact and is sharply silenced. There is considerable jargon from the fields of diplomacy, bureaucracy, and particularly the military, but usually at least one character is confused by the jargon, so an adept explains it to him/her, and the grateful reader. The most objectionable thing in the novel is that almost everything happens "suddenly," and not only in the action sequences.

## Structure

*The Bourne Supremacy* by Robert Ludlum consists of thirty-eight numbered chapters, which have no titles. Some story lines seem artificially broken up into multiple chapters,



while some chapters incorporate multiple story lines back-to-back with little transition. The novel generally follows chronological order, although events such as the airport assassination attempt are covered from several perspectives in separate chapters. In addition, there are continual flashbacks to the mysterious earlier life of the amnesiac protagonist, David Webb/Jason Bourne, and his long-suffering Canadian wife, Marie St. Jacques-Webb. Although *The Bourne Supremacy* is Ludlum's second novel about these characters, it does not presume the reader has read *The Bourne Identity*.

The opening scene shows Jason Bourne reclaiming his role as a ruthless hired killer, and the truth that this "Jason Bourne" is, in reality, a copy-cat assassin modeled after the original myth created by the U.S. CIA and State Departments in Asia and Europe. The copycat killer was created by the Frenchman, Philippe d'Anjou, who had recruited the original Webb/Bourne into black ops after the Vietnam War. This information is doled out with tantalizing slowness, well into the last quarter of the novel. Names, ascriptions (such as "assassin"), and relationships remain murky until all the facts are in place. There are a few false "ah-ha" moments in the first half of the novel.

After the opening assassination scene in Kowloon, action bounces to a secure U.S. facility in Colorado, to the Webbs' home in Maine, where the couple is reluctant to be drawn into another government black op, and where Marie is kidnapped, to Washington, DC, where Webb/Bourne enlists the help of an alcoholic CIA agent on his way out of the agency to come up with a plan. Webb/Bourne then flies to Hong Kong, where he meets with the vengeful taipan whose wife the false Bourne has supposedly murdered. The taipan instructs Webb/Bourne to find and capture the killer in order to free Marie. The taipan turns out to be the chief of MI6 in Hong Kong. Webb/ Bourne, forbidden to enter Macau, naturally goes there, where he meets an old friend from his Delta black ops days. This is where the full story about Webb/Bourne's background emerges. Together the two former friends and co-operatives follow the assassin into the People's Republic of China, all the way to Beijing. Webb/Bourne alone survives to leave the PRC, after discovering that he, not the assassin (false Bourne), is a high-ranking PRC official's target.

Meanwhile, Marie escapes captivity and is taken in by a senior official in the Canadian consulate. Their efforts to avoid the Anglo-American authorities behind Webb/Bourne's operation are interwoven with Webb/Bourne's actions. They all come together in a cataclysmic battle in aristocratic Victoria Peak. Webb/ Bourne and the milquetoast diplomat McAllister, who originally recruited him in Maine, then ally to enter the PRC clandestinely kill Sheng, the renegade PRC official, thereby saving Asia and the world from economic and political chaos, and possibly World War III.



## Quotes

"The killer surveyed his work. Satisfied, he knelt down by a large, stagnant pool of blood and moved his index finger through it. He then pulled out a square of dark cloth from his left sleeve and spread it over his handiwork. He rose to his feet and rushed out of the room, unbuttoning the white caftan as he ran down the dim hallway; the robe was open by the time he reached the door to the cabaret." Chapter 1, pg. 8.

"Was there any pattern to his victims?" "None. They were random, across the board. Two bankers here, three attachys there - meaning CIA; a minister of state from Delhi, an industrialist from Singapore, and numerous - far too numerous - politicians, generally decent men. their cars were bombed in the streets, their flats blown up. Then there were unfaithful husbands and wives and lovers of various persuasions in various scandals; he offered final solutions for bruised egos. There was no one he wouldn't kill, no method too brutal or demeaning for him. ... No, there wasn't a pattern, just money. The highest bidder. He was a monster - *is* a monster, if he's still alive." Chapter 2, pgs. 18-19.

"Webb broke the yoke of his egg on the toast. 'Do you know how easy it would be for someone - someone who looked young enough to be a student - to walk by me on a path and shoot an air dart into me? He could cover the sound with a cough, or a laugh, and I'd have a hundred c.c.'s of strychnine in my blood.' "You know far more about that sort of thing than I do.' "Of course. Because that's the way I'd do it.' "No. That's the way Jason Bourne might do it. Not *you*." Chapter 4, pg. 51.

"David Webb was out of the question. Jason Bourne had to assume control. Jesus! It was *crazy!* Mo Panov had told him to walk on the beach - as Webb - and now he had to sit there as Bourne, thinking things out as Bourne would think them out - he had to deny one part of himself and accept the opposite. "Strangely, it was not impossible, nor even intolerable, for Marie was out there. His love, his only love - *Don't think that way*. Jason Bourne spoke: She is a valuable possession taken from you! Get her *back*. David Webb spoke: *No*, not a possession, my life! "Jason Bourne: *The break all the rules! Find her! Bring her back to you!* "David Webb: *I don't know how. Help me!*

"*Use me! Use what you've learned from me. You've got the tools, you've had them for years. You were the best in Medusa. Above all, there was control. You preached that, you lived that. And you stayed alive.*" Chapter 6, pgs. 74-75.

"Use the complete truth first,' interrupted Webb, speaking rapidly. 'I broke in here threatening to kill you. I made accusations based on everything that's happened - from McAllister's scenario to Babcock's statement that they'd send out an execution team to find me ... to that Anglicized voice of dry ice who told me to cease and desist with Medusa or they'd call be insane and put me back in a mental stockade. None of it can be denied. It *did* happen and I'm threatening to expose everything, including Medusa.' "Then we spiral off into the big lie,' said Conklin, pouring more coffee. 'A breakaway so out of sight that it throws everything and everybody into a corkscrew turn.'" Chapter 7, pg. 94.





"And then it happened, slowly, subtly, no heralding trumpets, an entrance devoid of drama. A second figure appeared; he walked casually out of the shadows, parting the final branches of the forest as he came into view. And, without warning, bolts of lightning streaked down from the night sky, burning, searing into David Webb's head, numbing the mind of Jason Bourne. "For as the man came into the light of the fire, Bourne gasped, gripping the barrel of the gun to keep from screaming - or from killing. He was looking at a ghost of himself, a haunting apparition from years ago come back to stalk him, no matter who was the hunter now. The face was at once his face yet not his face." Chapter 16, pgs. 238-239.

"Suddenly Lin appeared. He was retracing his steps, obviously angered by the men who were supposed to be tracing *his* steps. He was about to cross the open garage; he would see Catherine! " '*Carlos!*' screamed Marie, assuming the worst, knowing it would tell her everything. '*Delta!*' "The major spun around, his eyes wide in shock." Chapter 18, pg. 274.

"Then after an hour in the back room of a beauty shop she understood why such a costume had been chosen. The women fussed over her; her hair was washed and blown dry, and when the process was over she had looked in the mirror, barely breathing as she did so. Her face - drawn, pale and tired - was framed by a shell of hair no longer a striking auburn but mouse-gray with subtle tinges of white. She had aged more than a decade; it was an extension of what she had attempted after escaping from the hospital but far bolder, far more complete. She was the Chinese image of the upper-middle-class, serious, no-nonsense, tourist." Chapter 22, pg. 362.

"D'Anjou collapsed again, this time struggling to his feet before the guard could touch him. As he rose he mobbed his thin shoulders back and forth. And breathing deeply, Bourne closed his eyes in the only brief moment of grief he could permit himself. The message was clear. Echo was taking himself out, telling Delta to go after the assassin - and while doing so, to kill the evangelical butcher." Chapter 27, pg. 443.

" 'So be it,' said Webb, suddenly closing his eyes, hearing the words Jason Bourne had spoken so often. " 'David -' Marie touched his face. " 'Sorry.' Web fingered the file folder in front of him, then opened it. On the first page was a photograph with a name printed underneath. It was identified as the face of Sheng Chou Yang, but it was far more than that it was *the face*. It was the face of the *butcher!* The madman who hacked women and men to death with his jeweled ceremonial sword, who forced brothers to fight with razor-sharp knives until one killed the other, who took a brave, tortured Echo's life with a slash to the head." Chapter 33, pgs. 563-564.

"But it took something over two hours, the process of selection being the most time-consuming as Jason put gun after gun in McAllister's hand, with Jason watching the analyst's grip and the expression on his face. The weapon finally chosen was the smallest, lowest calibrated pistol in d'Anjou's arsenal, a Charter Arms .22 with a silencer.

" 'Aim for the head, at least three bullets in the skull. Anything else would be a beesting.' "McAllister swallowed, staring at the gun, as Jason studied the weapons, deciding which





had the greatest fire-power in the smallest package. He chose for himself three Interdynamic KG-9 machine pistols that used outsided clips holding thirty rounds of ammunition." Chapter 36, pg. 602.

"Sundown, the brilliant orange circle settling on top of the western horizon, slowly disappearing into the Pacific. They walked along the beach, their hands gripped fiercely, their bodies touching - so natural, so right. "'What do you do when there's a part of you that you hate?' said Webb. "'Accept it,' answered Marie. "We all have a dark side, David. We wish we could deny it, but we can't. It's there. Perhaps we can't exist without it. Yours is a legend called Jason Bourne, but that's all it is.' "'I loath him.' "'He brought you back to me. That's all that matters.'" Chapter 38, pg. 646.



## Topics for Discussion

How does Marie's farm-girl background contribute to her actions in this novel?

Is the shooting up of Chairman Mao's sarcophagus gratuitous violence or does it serve a greater purpose in the novel?

Is Catherine Staples' murder gratuitous violence, or does it serve a greater purpose in the novel?

Why is Webb/Bourne forbidden to visit Macau - and why does he disobey?

Should people of conscience such as McAllister be held back professionally for their convictions?

What role does Carlos the Jackal play in this novel?

How does Paris figure in the novel?

Does the end justify the means in this novel? Is this philosophy a justifiable rationalization for the actions of such agencies as the CIA and M16?