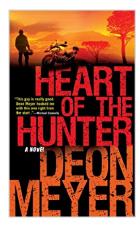
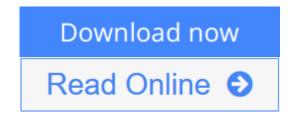
Heart of the Hunter



By Deon Meyer



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Six-foot five-inch Thobela "Tiny" Mpayipheli was once a feared assassin and freedom fighter, trained by the Stasi and KGB. In post-apartheid South Africa, he's happily working in a garage. But Tiny's quiet domestic life is interrupted by a desperate plea from the daughter of a trusted old friend: he's being held hostage after taking an incriminating hard drive and needs help. Tiny's old training kicks in, and as he races across the South African landscape on a stolen BMW motorcycle to the rendezvous point, he is pursued by several interested and hostile forces, including South Africa's Presidential Intelligence Unit. None of them have a clue what they're up against.

With his books published in twenty languages, the critically acclaimed Deon Meyer has won a reputation as one of the best thriller writers in the world. *Heart of the Hunter* is an epic adventure across the landscape and history of a remarkable country.

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

A hulking black motorcycle-shop janitor named Tiny is the unlikely hero of this frantic, intelligent thriller by a South African crime writer. Tiny (aka Thobela Mpayipheli aka Umzingeli, the Hunter) is a former KGB-trained assassin who plied his trade in service of the struggle against apartheid. He is now a peace-loving family man, but when a plea for help comes from the daughter of an old friend, he is forced to race across the country on a motorcycle to deliver a coveted disk, chased by a homicidal special forces commander. His fear of revisiting the violence of his past feels real—the sincere hesitation of a dark-skinned man in a country where violent acts multiply like viruses, especially where black blood is involved. "His hands so terribly ready to kill, his brain clattering out the knowledge of the vital points on the soldier's body like machine gun fire, despairing, don't, don't..." In other ways, this is a standard thriller complete with CIA involvement, an appearance by Muslim extremists and a loose, rat-a-tat prose that keeps pages turning. The central plot twist is predictable and too few of the many story lines are resolved, but the freshness of the context and the emotional complexity of the hero's journey are ample compensation for readers who want a more thought-provoking spy story.

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From **Booklist**

Starred Review Thobela Mpayipheli has settled into a sedate but rewarding life with the woman he loves. He works as a gofer at a South African motorcycle shop and readies his partner's young son for life on a farm--until an ex-boss asks him to perform a dangerous favor. His Xhosa warrior's heart racing, Thobela soon finds himself driving hard toward Nigeria with a hard drive full of secrets the unified government wishes to file away for good. Thrillingly competent at evading the police, intelligence services, and even a crack paramilitary team, Thobela struggles with the novel's core question--Can people change their essential nature?--while the authorities uncover his deadly past as a weapon of the antiapartheid movement on loan to the Soviet bloc. Like John le Carre's *The Tailor of Panama*, this novel examines the rippling horrors too often caused by so-called intelligence agents working for foreign masters in backwater nations. With simmering racial tensions, a bounty of natural resources, and a government whose members worked both sides of the cold-war fence, South Africa should prove fertile ground for many fine spy thrillers to come. Don't be surprised if quite a few of them are written by Meyer. *Frank Sennett Copyright* © *American Library Association. All rights reserved*

Review

"*Heart of the Hunter* is the dark, explosive side of Alexander McCall Smith's Botswana books, as full of love for the vast beauty of the country but also riddled by the anger of South Africa's recent racial and political struggles."

-Chicago Tribune

"A stellar performance. . . . Deon Meyer's well-turned story and Vance's top-notch narration make this a compelling listen."

—AudioFile

"[Vance's] performance feels spontaneous, off the cuff, and fresh. The gripping story . . . is a mesmerizing listen, thanks to Vance's precise reading."

-Booklist

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Matthew Lyons:

Now a day those who Living in the era everywhere everything reachable by interact with the internet and the resources within it can be true or not require people to be aware of each information they get. How many people to be smart in obtaining any information nowadays? Of course the answer then is reading a book. Studying a book can help individuals out of this uncertainty Information specially this Heart of the Hunter book because this book offers you rich data and knowledge. Of course the info in this book hundred per-cent guarantees there is no doubt in it as you know.

John Solorio:

The experience that you get from Heart of the Hunter will be the more deep you digging the information that hide inside words the more you get serious about reading it. It doesn't mean that this book is hard to know but Heart of the Hunter giving you thrill feeling of reading. The article writer conveys their point in particular way that can be understood by anyone who read the item because the author of this reserve is well-known enough. This kind of book also makes your current vocabulary increase well. So it is easy to understand then can go to you, both in printed or e-book style are available. We highly recommend you for having this kind of Heart of the Hunter instantly.

Nicholas Williams:

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