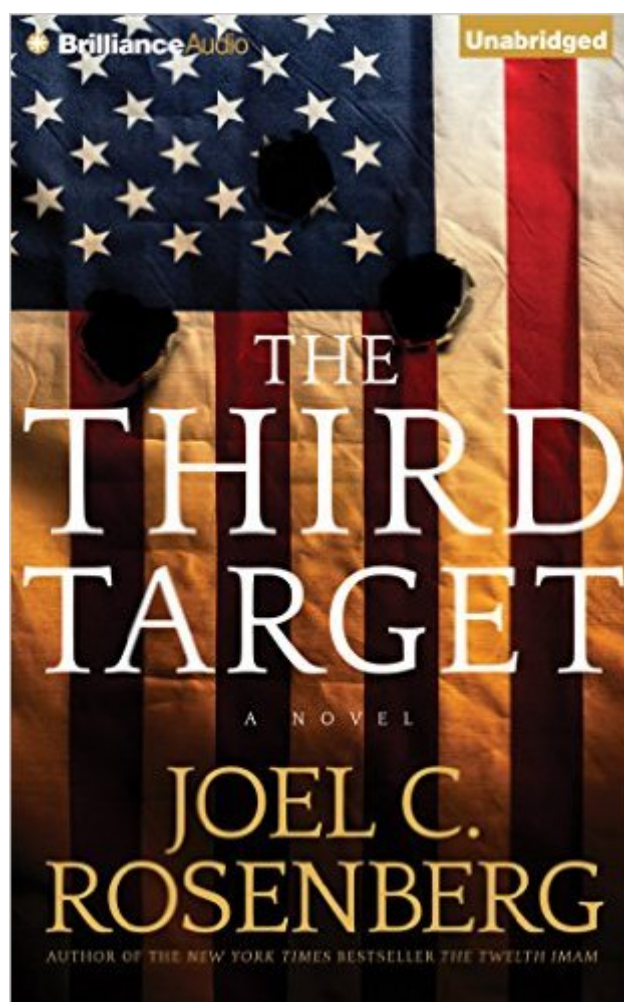


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The Third Target (J. B. Collins)



Synopsis

When New York Times foreign correspondent J. B. Collins hears rumors that an al-Qaeda splinter cell has captured a cache of chemical weapons inside Syria, he knows this is a story he must pursue at all costs. Does the commander of the jihadist faction really have the weapons? If so, who is the intended target? The U.S.? Israel? Or could it be Jordan? With tensions already high, the impending visit of the American president to the region could prove to be the spark that sets off an explosion of horrendous proportions. Knowing that terrorist forces have already toppled two regimes in the region, can Collins uncover the truth before it's too late? Or will the terrorists succeed in setting their sights on the third and final target?

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Joel Rosenberg needs to stop writing. I mean it. Seriously. I don't mean his novels are bad. I mean that everything he writes has a tendency to work its way into reality. Like writing about terrorists hijacking a plane nine months before 9/11 (*The Last Jihad*), or the death of Yasser Arafat thirteen months prior to it becoming reality (*The Last Days*), or the rise of a dictator in Iran who wants to wipe Israel off the map (*The Ezekiel Option*). My point being, Rosenberg has his thumb on the pulse of the Middle East chaos and he's never been too far from wrong. *The Third Target* begins with the premise that ISIS has obtained weapons of mass destruction and plan on using it to further establish their caliphate and destroy Israel. A relevant premise to be sure. ISIS has been all over the news recently as they've marched through Mosul and have expanded their territory and

left unspeakable horrors in their wake. But we've only known about ISIS for about six months now—much, much quicker than the time it takes to research, plot, write, rewrite, edit, format, and publish a novel. And Rosenberg's publishing team at Tyndale even expedited the process. Originally scheduled for a mid-March release date, the explosion of ISIS into the public knowledge drove them to amp up the production schedule and get the novel out in early January. I, myself, managed to read an advance copy in late October. And only time will tell how much of Rosenberg's novel comes true. Now, of course, this is a novel. Rosenberg does not pretend that he's telling the future and, I'm sure, shakes his head at all the pundits that call him a modern-day Nostradamus.

In *THE THIRD TARGET*, the action starts immediately, and quickly grows. The beginning of the story is actually a flashback. The Associated Press reporter, A.B. Collins is suddenly granted an interview with His Royal Highness, the King of Jordan, who will meet him at the Dome of the Rock. Unfortunately for Collins, he is blocked by a mob, who aren't particularly friendly to him. Of course, Collins does what anyone would do—the punches a tough-looking thug and starts a riot. Luckily for Collins, a bunch of Jordanian guards "beat back the crowd with wooden clubs and soon were beating him, too, until they could pull him off me and clamp handcuffs on him." The meeting with the King, however, does not go according to plan. Time now shifts to the present, and we encounter NY Times journalist J.B. Collins—grandson of the journalist we saw in Part I. Like his grandfather many years ago, THIS Collins is off to an interview—not with a king, but with "one of the world's most feared jihadi commanders." The CIA has advised Collins not to go; his NY Times editor has similarly ordered him not to go. Of course, Collins conducts the interview with the ISIS leader. The terrorist denies having any chemical weapons, despite Collins' pushing him to admit having WMD. The reporter gets assurances from Mossad that ISIS has poison gas, and wants to use it. Collins' interview with the ISIS leader is soon published, but things only get more dangerous for Collins (if possible.) During a meeting with a beautiful Mossad agent, he is nearly killed by a car bomb. Barely recovered, he is then "abducted" to the White House to meet with POTUS—the President of the United States, who is anxious to not rock the boat until the Middle East Peace agreement is signed.

Joel Rosenberg begins a new and exciting suspense series, *The Third Target* scheduled for early release January 6 due to rapidly moving events the story reflects. Multiple themes of prophecy, biological and chemical warfare, the rise of ISIS and radical jihadists offers the author's fictionalized view of how real the threat is. "The Third Target" is an intriguing and some might even say a

prophetic read that could be torn from today's headlines. Set in the Middle East, the story centers around New York Times foreign correspondent J. B. Collins, rumors of captured WMD's, a peace treaty, a "Jordanian-born terrorist," a cache of chemical weapons and a beautiful and mysterious Israeli agent named Yael. Collins knew little about the terrorist except his name "Jamal Ramzy," which was only spoken in whispers and that he lived off the grid. So far as Collins knew he had never been "photographed or interviewed by a Western reporter" before. Yet, here he was, in international airspace approaching Lebanon where he would slip across the border into Syria for an unprecedented exclusive interview "without limits or preconditions" with the "world's most feared jihadi commander." The director of Central Intelligence, chief of Jordanian Intelligence, even the Mossad as well as his own editor warned against the interview. He knew they had a compelling argument "Jamal Ramzy was a killer. Thus begins an adrenaline-laced tale of international intrigue, religious fanaticism and End-Time prophecies impossible to put down. The well-developed cast of likeable characters, the subtle sprinkles of romance, family entanglements and edge-of-your-seat suspense that never lets up demand "The Third Target" be read cover-to-cover.

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