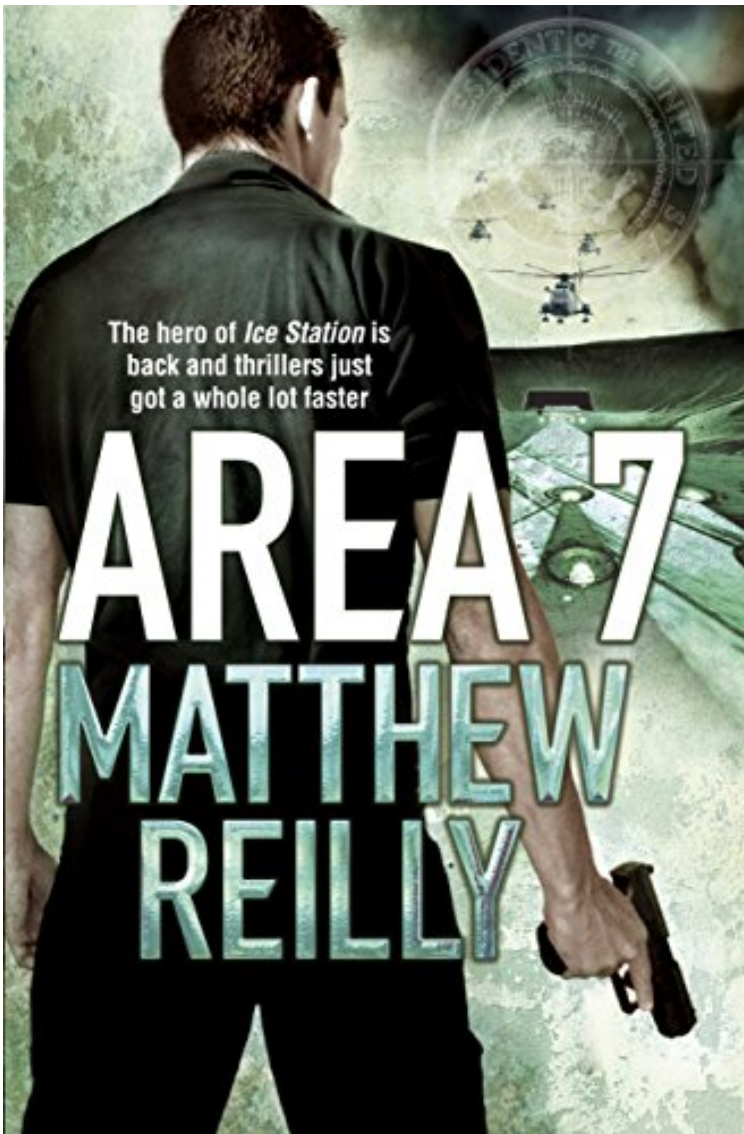


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Description : Description du produitIt is America's most secret base, hidden deep in the Utah desert, an Air Force installation known only as Area 7.And today, it has a visitor - the President of the United States.He has come to inspect Area 7, to examine its secrets for himself.But he's going to get more than he bargained for on this trip.Because hostile forces are waiting inside.Among the President's helicopter crew, however, is a young Marine.He is quiet, enigmatic, and he hides his eyes behind a pair of silver sunglasses.His name is Schofield.Call-sign: Scarecrow.Rumor has it, he's a good man in a storm.Judging by what the President has just walked into, he'd better be...Matthew Reilly dazzled the world with his electrifying thrillers ICE STATION and TEMPLE.And now, Shane "Scarecrow" Schofield returns with his most harrowing and explosive adventure yet.AUTHORBIO: MATTHEW REILLY was born in 1974 and studied law at the University of New South Wales.At 26, he has written three novels, several screenplays, and has had several magazine articles published.In 1999, he sold the film rights to his first novel, the action-packed sci-fi

extravaganza, Contest. He lives in Sydney, Australia.

Presentation de l'auteur It is America's most secret base, hidden deep in the Utah desert, an Air Force installation known only as Area 7. And today it has a visitor: the President of the United States. He has come to inspect Area 7, to examine its secrets for himself. But he's going to get more than he bargained for on this trip. Because hostile forces are waiting inside... Among the President's helicopter crew, however, is a young

Marine. He is quiet, enigmatic, and he hides his eyes behind a pair of silver sunglasses. His name is Schofield. Call-sign: SCARECROW. Rumour has it, he's a good man in a storm. Judging by what the President has just walked into, he'd better be... 'Epic, action-packed adventure...unbelievably pacy' Daily Mirror 'Nonstop thrills...cliffhangers galore' Publishers Weekly.co.uk Matthew Reilly's Area 7 shows an even more concentrated skill at keeping us turning the pages than his previous bestsellers Ice Station and Temple.

He knows just the kind of book he wants to write, and he's repeatedly said that the key agenda behind his kinetic thrillers is to keep the reader's pulse quickened throughout. In Area 7 America's most secret base is the eponymous Area 7, and hidden deep in the Utah desert, this high-tech Air Force installation is visited by very few unauthorised personnel. But when the President of the United States pays a call, he encounters a nasty surprise: a hostile force is waiting inside. And as mayhem erupts, Schofield, a young marine in the President's entourage, finds himself obliged to live up to his reputation: that he's a good man in a storm.

Reilly's speciality is the steady accumulation of cliffhanging situations (as he demonstrated so readily in Temple) and he pulls off the trick with his usual aplomb in this one. If the President here seems considerably brighter than the current real-life incumbent, that's a minor distraction in a thriller that maintains a

Rottweiler-like grip on our attention: The flashlight was the only thing that saved Book II's life. Primarily because it blinded the man on top of the decompression chamber, if only for a moment. That was all the time

Book II needed. His shotgun boomed, blasting their commando's goggles to pieces, sending him flying off the top of the chamber. It was a small victory, for at that exact moment, gunfire erupted around the darkened room as a legion of dark figures emerged... --Barry Forshaw From Publishers Weekly Reilly, the pedal-to-the-

metal action novelist from Australia, returns here with yet another inelegant yet oddly invigorating rip-

snorter about what else world domination. The setting this time is Area 7, a top-secret military outpost in the barren outback of Utah where government scientists are trying to perfect a new vaccine that will protect Americans from the Sinovirus, a deadly disease invented by the Chinese to kill everyone on Earth except themselves. A rogue air force general, the evil Caesar Russell, has other plans, however. During a visit by the president of the United States, Russell and his band of elite mercenaries capture Area 7. Their aim: kill the president, take over the country and use the Sinovirus to poison all but members of the white race. But Marine Capt. Shane Schofield isn't going to let that happen. With his usual mix of unflagging bravery and superhuman strength Schofield starred in Reilly's 1999 American debut Ice Station the relentless Marine and his tight group of highly competent sidekicks battle Russell on land, water and in space. As is Reilly's style, the action moves at a scenery-blurring pace, and his third novel (following last year's Temple) can make for exhausting reading. He employs just about every tactic both clever and crude to keep the suspense afloat.

Character development is nil, and dialogue is at times comic-strip bad. Yet the sheer frenzy of Reilly's approach can inspire awe. How many heroes, after all, can kill an enemy aboard the space shuttle in outer space, then return to earth and dispatch another foe by pushing him into a pool full of meat-eating Komodo dragons all over the course of less than an hour? Speed demons, take note. Author tour. Copyright 2001

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