

THE MORTAL MAZE

"It is refreshing to read a novel in which the news media is not painted as amoral morons who will do anything for a story. The Mortal Maze weaves an intricate tale of terrorism and intrigue into the frontline reporting of the BBC in a fictional Arab country in the Middle East. And it has the ring of truth to it because it is told by a former BBC journalist and producer who knows from inside out how news and those reporting it work and deal with the everyday issues and quandaries they face. The main character in The Mortal Maze is a flawed hero indeed but he faces his demons and gets the job done in the end. The climax is unexpected and somewhat brutal but the fast prose keeps the reader turning the page." – email review, G. Henderson, Markwood, Victoria, Australia.

"I really enjoyed The Mortal Maze, a vivid and compelling read. The settings and characters were powerfully evoked, and the narrative gripped me as it moved towards its climax. It was great to follow both the working and the personal lives of the characters. I was particularly entertained by the scenes in the BBC team's office, and by the interplay between the folk in the field and those at headquarters. I look forward to further adventures with Jackson Dunbar!" - Email from Steve Cockayne, UK

"A labyrinthine tale with a blinder of an ending. Heart stopping stuff. I am glad you didn't tell me how it ended before I began reviewing it." - Jan Woolf, [editor, London](#).

"Ian Richardson has written a page-turning thriller that screams to be turned into a blockbuster film. It has all the ingredients and characters to make a box office success. A flawed foreign correspondent, troubled by a gambling addiction, a penchant for exotic escort girls and drinking whiskey from the bottle; his old, avenging school chum, who becomes the world's most wanted terrorist, and a duplicitous, immoral spymaster who manipulates the reporter with devastating consequences. Their personal epiphanies come far too late. To say any more would spoil the plot." - [Amazon review](#) by Malcolm Brabant.

"Oh how I enjoyed it! I could just see it all happening. I could hear the chaos. I could smell the horror. I cried for Felicity and the children. It's been my New Year's reading pleasure. I will read it again." - Christine Bett, Ballarat, Australia.

"A well-plotted novel packed with incident and featuring sharply drawn relationships between some convincing characters, this lively and topical thriller fairly zips along from the start, gathering pace until the dramatic finale. The author makes the most of his journalistic background without overdoing the use of an insider's knowledge of technical detail and jargon." - T. Luard, [Amazon review](#).

"Excellent thriller: rattling good yarn. Works on several levels; critique of hypocritical foreign policy, skewering of BBC bureaucracy, portrait of Middle Eastern country, deft characterisation." - [Amazon review](#) by Stephen Jessel, Paris.

"A terrific fast-paced read! I was well and truly hooked from the start. I loved the feisty characters and loved loathing one or two of the BBC high-ups. A great insight into what goes on behind the news in dangerous territory. I recommend." - Carole Bentley, [Amazon review](#).