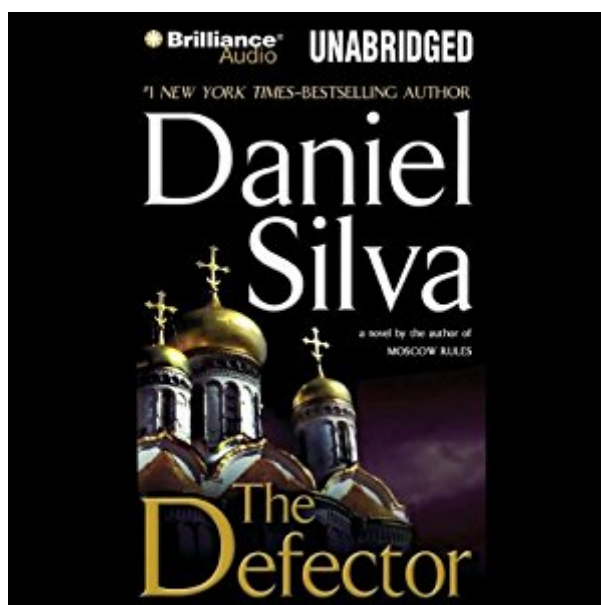


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# The Defector



## Synopsis

Six months after the dramatic conclusion of *Moscow Rules*, Gabriel has returned to the tan hills of Umbria to resume his honeymoon with his new wife, Chiara, and restore a seventeenth-century altarpiece for the Vatican. But his idyllic world is once again thrown into turmoil with shocking news from London. The defector and former Russian intelligence officer Grigori Bulganov, who saved Gabriel's life in Moscow, has vanished without a trace. British intelligence is sure he was a double agent all along, but Gabriel knows better. He also knows he made a promise. Do you know what we do with traitors, Gabriel? Many things have changed in Russia since the fall of Communism. But the punishment for betrayal remains the same. Promise me one thing, Gabriel. Promise me I won't end up in an unmarked grave. In the days to come, Gabriel and his team of operatives will find themselves in a deadly duel of nerve and wits with one of the world's most ruthless men: the murderous Russian oligarch and arms dealer Ivan Kharkov. It will take Gabriel from a quiet mews in London, to the shores of Lake Como, to the glittering streets of Geneva and Zurich, and, finally, to a heart-stopping climax in the snowbound birch forests of Russia. Faced with the prospect of losing the one thing he holds most dear, Gabriel will be tested in ways he never imagined possible. And his life will never be the same. --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

## Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

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#572 in Books > Mystery, Thriller & Suspense > Thrillers & Suspense > Spies & Politics > Espionage  
#4128 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Fiction & Literature

## Customer Reviews

I am hardly impartial. I love Silva's books and have read every one. He writes very well and I always

learn something from each book. This may not be his best, but it is worth reading and he ties up all loose ends beautifully. I am a Gabriel Allon fan and I think he is my favorite literary hero in the mystery/intrigue genre. If you have never read an Allon novel, start with an earlier one. The characters become like family and I would prefer you meet them sooner than in this book.

Characters are well developed. A suspenseful drama. A drama that bespeaks of what recent and current events may suggest. Characterization of Russia would seem to be more accurate than not. A very interesting read.

Some Twists but basically predictable. Partly, because I am reading this novel out of order so know what happens after the climax. A basic problem with a series of books on the same person when read out of order--and even in order there is a lot of duplication of character description. In spite of it, I enjoy the Gabriel Allon Series and hope Daniel Silva will continue to write more. In a larger context, his writing reflects how a number of people in a defined ethnic/religious group of people feel under stress, even mortal survival, and want to give moral justification for committing murderous acts. I would like to know how the new Pope Francis would react to Gabriel Allon's need for cultural and personal vengeance. I suspect, not as understanding or approving as Silva's fictional pope. It would be very interesting for Gabriel Allon to find a Muslim Imam how would be as understanding and provide moral support for Gabriel's means to maintain Israel's Survival.

Even though Daniel Silva claims that this book is mostly a figment of his imagination, one can imagine that so much of what he portrays would be possible in Russia today. I fear I will be sad when I finish the last Gabriel Allon book!

This is one of the best books that Daniel Silva has written in my opinion. I find all of this book's well written and easy to read but this one was particularly good. There are those that you can't put down and when you get to the end you're sorry it's over. Great book!

Thoroughly enjoy the entire Gabriel Allon series by Daniel Silva and the Defector did not disappoint. Hopscotching around Europe and Russia, the team from the Office in Israel continues to confound their adversaries with planning, courage, teamwork and razor thin margins separating them from success and defeat, all under the haunted eye of master assassin and spy, Gabriel Allon.

For such a great writer Mr. Silva seems to have created a compilation of previous books and added a short story, enjoyable as it was passing a short story off as a new book is dishonest.

I am a big fan having read all of Daniel Silva's books for more than a decade now - and rate all of his books 5-stars! That he has kept his characters fresh and his storyline intelligent, creative, and imaginative in book after book is a marvel in itself. By now, I know his characters well. I am invested in them. I care to know what happens to them and what role they will be playing in Daniel's latest book. They may be predictable to some, but they are like family to me. This is one advantage of a continuing cast of characters- especially if they have been well thought out and established from the beginning. It is also obvious that the author respects and loves his characters so much so that he makes them come alive with each and every story. I look forward to the next book year after year.. "The Heist" will be coming out in July - and I can't wait!

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