SOFTWARE & TECH

Mitch Rapp Series In Order

PUBLISHED
November 25, 2026

REFERENCE
#1795582633904317

Your Ultimate Guide to the Mitch Rapp Series In Order

If you are a fan of high-stakes political thrillers, relentless action, and a hero who operates in the shadows, then you have almost certainly heard of Mitch Rapp. Created by the late, great Vince Flynn, Mitch Rapp is the kind of character who defines the modern espionage genre. He is a counterterrorism operative who answers to no one but his conscience, and he gets results when the official channels fail. For anyone looking to dive into this explosive world, understanding the **Mitch Rapp series in order**is essential. The series spans over two decades of storytelling, evolving through the hands of two incredible authors, and offers a rich, chronological narrative that rewards readers who start from the beginning. Whether you are a newcomer or a seasoned fan looking for a refresher, this guide will walk you through every installment, from the origin stories to the most recent missions.

Reading the **Mitch Rapp series in order**is not just about following a timeline; it is about witnessing the growth of a complex character. Rapp begins as a young, grieving patriot and transforms into a hardened, world-weary veteran. The political landscape around him shifts, his relationships deepen and fracture, and the nature of the threat evolves from the Cold War's aftermath to the modern era of asymmetric warfare. This guide is designed to be your definitive roadmap through that journey, providing context, publication details, and a glimpse into what makes each book unique. We will cover both the Vince Flynn originals and the continuation novels by Kyle Mills, ensuring you never miss a beat in the life of America's most dangerous weapon.

The Vince Flynn Era: The Foundation of the Series

The first half of the series, penned by Vince Flynn, lays the bedrock for Mitch Rapp's world. These novels are gritty, fast-paced, and deeply rooted in the post-9/11 geopolitical reality. Flynn's writing is sharp, his dialogue is crisp, and his understanding of intelligence operations gives the stories an air of authenticity that is hard to match. When considering the **Mitch Rapp series in order**, it is important to note that while Flynn wrote the books in a certain sequence, the internal chronology is slightly different, with the prequel novels coming later in publication but taking place before the events of the first book.

1. Transfer of Power (1999)

This is where it all began for most readers. **Transfer of Power** introduces us to Mitch Rapp as he is tasked with a seemingly impossible mission: rescuing hostages from the White House after a terrorist takeover. The book wastes no time establishing Rapp as a ruthless, efficient, and morally complex operative. He works under the radar for the CIA's counterterrorism center, and his methods are controversial even among his allies. This novel sets the tone for the entire series: high tension, political intrigue, and a hero who is willing to do the dirty work that others shy away from. If you are looking to start the **Mitch Rapp series in order**by publication, this is the first book you will encounter.

2. The Third Option (2001)

Picking up shortly after the events of **Transfer of Power**, **The Third Option** dives deeper into the bureaucratic battles that Rapp faces. The title refers to the option between diplomacy and war: targeted assassination. When a covert mission in Germany goes wrong, Rapp finds himself not only hunting terrorists but also fighting for his life against enemies within his own government. This book is a masterclass in the political thriller, showing that the most dangerous threats often come from within the halls of power. It solidifies Rapp's reputation as a man who cannot be controlled.

3. Separation of Power (2001)

Released just months after **The Third Option**, **Separation of Power** is a relentless thriller that sees Rapp navigating the treacherous waters of Middle Eastern politics. The plot involves a power struggle in Iraq and a shadowy conspiracy that could lead to a new world war. This novel is particularly notable for the development of Rapp's personal life and his relationship with Dr. Irene Kennedy, the CIA director who becomes his most trusted ally. The action is non-stop, and the stakes have never been higher.

4. Executive Power (2003)

The series takes a more global turn in **Executive Power**. Rapp is now a seasoned veteran, but he is facing a new kind of enemy: a multinational terrorist network with connections to the highest levels of government. The book explores themes of loyalty, betrayal, and the moral compromises required for national security. It is a tense, intelligent thriller that keeps the reader guessing until the very last page.

5. Memorial Day (2004)

In **Memorial Day**, Rapp confronts a terrifying new threat: a nuclear device smuggled into the United States. The clock is ticking, and Rapp must work with a new president who is skeptical of his methods. This novel is widely considered one of the best in the series, combining a race-against-time plot with deep character development. It is a harrowing look at the "what if" scenarios that keep intelligence professionals awake at night.

6. Consent to Kill (2005)

This is arguably the most personal book in the entire series. **Consent to Kill** sees Rapp pushed to his absolute limit. After a devastating attack on his family, Rapp goes rogue, abandoning his CIA duties to hunt down those responsible. The emotional core of this novel is incredibly powerful, and it forces Rapp to confront the cost of his life's work. It is a dark, brutal, and unforgettable entry in the **Mitch Rapp series in order**.

7. Act of Treason (2006)

Returning to the political intrigue that defined the early books, **Act of Treason** sees Rapp drawn into a conspiracy that threatens the very fabric of American democracy. The book is a fast-paced ride through the worlds of politics, media, and espionage. Rapp must use all his skills to uncover the truth before it is too late. This novel reaffirms Rapp's role as the ultimate outsider who operates by his own code.

8. Protect and Defend (2007)

A direct sequel to **Act of Treason**, **Protect and Defend** finds Rapp dealing with the fallout of the previous book's events. With a new president in office, Rapp must navigate a shifting political landscape while confronting a new Iranian threat. The book is a masterful blend of action and strategy, showcasing Rapp's evolution from a blunt instrument to a strategic thinker. It also deepens the supporting cast, particularly the character of Scott Coleman, a former SEAL who becomes a key ally.

9. Extreme Measures (2008)

In **Extreme Measures**, Rapp faces one of his most cunning adversaries yet. The book involves a plot to destabilize the Middle East and a shadowy figure who seems to be always one step ahead. This novel is a

tense, cerebral thriller that emphasizes Rapp's intelligence as much as his combat skills. It is a fitting penultimate entry in Flynn's original run, raising the stakes for the finale.

10. Pursuit of Honor (2009)

This novel serves as a direct continuation of **Extreme Measures**. **Pursuit of Honor**follows Rapp as he deals with the aftermath of a devastating terrorist attack on Washington, D.C. The book is a raw, emotional exploration of grief and revenge. Rapp is determined to bring the perpetrators to justice, but he must also deal with a political system that seems more interested in covering up its own failures. It is a powerful, thought-provoking novel.

11. American Assassin (2010) - A Prequel

This is where the **Mitch Rapp series in order** gets interesting in terms of chronology. **American Assassin** is a prequel that tells the origin story of Mitch Rapp. We see him as a young, idealistic college athlete whose life is shattered by the Lockerbie bombing. This tragedy sets him on a path to become the CIA's most lethal weapon. The novel introduces key characters like Irene Kennedy and Stan Hurley, the grizzled veteran who trains Rapp. For newcomers, some argue that reading **American Assassin** first is the best way to experience the series, as it provides crucial backstory that enriches every subsequent book. However, if you are sticking strictly to publication order, it comes after **Pursuit of Honor**.

12. Kill Shot (2012) - Prequel Continued

Kill Shot picks up immediately after the events of **American Assassin**. Rapp is now a fully trained operative, but he is still learning the ropes. This book sees him on his first solo mission, and everything that can go wrong does go wrong. It is a tense, gripping thriller that shows Rapp's early struggles and his rapid transformation into the ruthless agent he is destined to become. It is essential reading for understanding the full arc of the character.

13. The Last Man (2013)

Returning to the main timeline, **The Last Man** follows the events of **Pursuit of Honor**. The series continues with Rapp investigating the disappearance of a CIA station chief in Afghanistan. This novel is a return to the classic formula of geopolitics and covert action, and it reaffirms Rapp's place as the man who gets the impossible job done. It was the last novel fully completed by Vince Flynn before his untimely death in 2013.

The Kyle Mills Era: Continuing the Legacy

After Vince Flynn passed away, the future of the series was uncertain. However, acclaimed thriller author Kyle Mills was chosen to continue the saga. Mills did an exceptional job of capturing the voice and spirit of the character while adding his own stylistic touches. The **Mitch Rapp series in order**under Mills's tenure has been highly praised by fans and critics alike, breathing new life into the franchise and taking the story in bold new directions. Mills completed one final work from Flynn's notes before launching his own story arcs.

14. The Survivor (2015)

The Survivoris a unique entry in the series. Kyle Mills completed this novel based on a detailed outline left by Vince Flynn. The plot sees Rapp on the trail of a former CIA operative who has turned traitor and possesses a list of every covert asset in the Middle East. It is a tense, globe-spanning thriller that feels perfectly in line with Flynn's original vision. This book bridges the gap between the two authors and sets the stage for Mills's original stories.

15. Order to Kill (2016)

With **Order to Kill**, Kyle Mills truly makes the series his own. Rapp is pitted against a Russian intelligence operation and a nuclear threat. The book introduces a new dynamic, with Rapp working with a young, ambitious

CIA analyst. The action is crisp, the plot is relevant, and the characterization is spot-on. This novel proves that the series is in safe hands and that Mitch Rapp's story is far from over.

16. Enemy of the State (2017)

In this explosive novel, Rapp finds himself a fugitive. **Enemy of the State**sees the CIA turning against Rapp after a false flag operation implicates him in a horrific act of terrorism. On the run with his trusted team, Rapp must uncover the conspiracy and clear his name while staying one step ahead of the world's most powerful intelligence agencies. This is a high-octane thriller that pushes Rapp to his absolute limits, both physically and mentally.

17. Red War (2018)

Red Waris a direct sequel that sees Rapp using his unique skills to destabilize a hostile regime. The book is a masterclass in asymmetrical warfare, showing how a single, determined operative can change the course of history. The plot is tight, the pacing is perfect, and the action sequences are some of the best in the entire series. Mills has fully settled into the role of steward for this iconic character.

18. Lethal Agent (2019)

In **Lethal Agent**, Rapp faces a bioterrorism threat unlike any other. The book involves a plot to unleash a deadly virus on American soil, and Rapp must work with an unlikely ally to stop it. This novel is particularly relevant to the modern world, dealing with themes of biological warfare and the ease with which such weapons can be deployed. It is a chilling, timely, and gripping read.

19. Total Power (2020)

Total Power takes a different approach, focusing on a cyberattack

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