

## Explosive, Page-Turning Adventures: James Rollins Novels

James Rollins began his writing career in 1999 and has brought readers at least one book a year since his first thriller was published. His novels have been deemed perfect summer reads by reviewers in publications as diverse as *People*, *USA Today*, and *Publishers Weekly*.

### ***The Bestselling Sigma Force Series***

A division of DARPA (Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency), Sigma Force is a covert organization of highly skilled Special Forces operatives with expertise in two or more scientific fields. Each novel stands alone, yet all share a cast of recurring characters – and some unexpected appearances by characters from Jim's previous thrillers.

In *Sandstorm*, the search for a lost city buried beneath the Arabian desert brings together a former U.S. Navy SEAL, an international adventurer, and a researcher of antiquities who holds the key to this dangerous, intrigue-filled mystery. Lincoln Child noted that "Rollins is one of the most inventive storytellers writing today." *Sandstorm* was selected as one of the best Mystery/Thrillers of 2004 by [Readers Read](#).

*Map of Bones* was named by *Publishers Weekly* as the successor to *The Da Vinci Code*. It reveals an ancient conspiracy to create a new world order out of the ashes of modern civilization. Gray Pierce, Monk Kokkalis and the Sigma team race to put an end to the threat once and for all. "This pulse-pounding thriller moves at Mach speed," writes *The Venetian Betrayal* author Steve Berry. "James Rollins is clearly at the top of his game."

In *Black Order*, Sigma Force learns that the nightmare of Nazi research did not end with World War II. Gray Pierce and the Sigma team race to expose a century-old plot that threatens to destroy the current world order and alter the destiny of humankind. This exhilarating and controversial novel was named one of the summer's "hottest reads" by *People*.

*The Judas Strain* is an ancient menace reborn to plague the modern world, and it is merely a harbinger of the doom that is to come. Unraveling its origins and searching for a cure, the Sigma team follows the trail of the most fabled explorer in history, Marco Polo. *The Judas Strain* never lets up its relentless, high-octane pace. "Rollins invests *The Judas Strain* with his characteristic command of detail, along with a creeping dread," writes the *Charleston Post and Courier*.

The last Oracle at Delphi died two thousand years ago. Or maybe she didn't. *The Last Oracle* combines historical and religious intrigue with edge-of-your-seat adventure as a fragmented Sigma team works at opposite ends of the world against a bioengineered threat that could bring about the extinction of humankind.

Reviewers hailed the sixth Sigma Force thriller, *The Doomsday Key*, as Rollins' best to date. In a starred review, *Library Journal* said, "Rollins's prose explodes off the page in a twisty and compelling thriller...Swashbuckling adventure, elite team effort, and religious symbology all add up to another gripping and terrifying read....An amazing and brilliant technothriller."

Three bizarre murders — a Druidic cross burned into the flesh of each victim — thrust Commander Gray Pierce and Sigma Force into a race against time to solve the riddle of the ancient artifact known as the Doomsday Key. Aided by his former and current lovers, Pierce uncovers a horrifying secret that threatens America and the world. But the revelations come at a high cost, and to save the future, Gray may have to sacrifice one of the women at his side. The race is on, from the Roman Coliseum to the icy peaks of Norway to the lost tombs of Celtic kings, as the future of mankind hangs in the balance.

### ***Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull***

When thriller author Tess Gerritsen described *Amazonia* as a nonstop thrill-a-minute ride which was “just the book for Indiana Jones fans,” she predicted the future. Lucasfilm felt the logical choice to convert the fourth Indiana Jones blockbuster into novel form was James Rollins. Shortly after accepting the assignment, Jim found himself sequestered with David Koepp's fast-paced screenplay of the George Lucas/Jeff Nathanson original story, creating the book-length tale of everyone's favorite globe-trotting, treasure-hunting, wisecracking archaeologist.

### ***Independent Adventure-Thrillers***

Jim's first thriller, *Subterranean*, features a team of specialists embarking on an exploration toward the center of the earth. Here new discoveries uncover mysteries older than time and revelations that could change the world. Author John Saul wrote that *Subterranean* kept him “turning the pages well into the night.”

*Excavation* took readers out of *Subterranean*'s deep caves and up to the peaks of the Andes, only to plunge once again below the earth's surface to finish the arc of discovery begun centuries earlier. Seeking answers, the modern-day explorers find something wondrous – and terrifying – is seeking them. Douglas Preston called it “a compulsive read.”

With *Deep Fathom*, readers barely had enough time above the earth to catch their breaths before submerging below the sea on a desperate mission to save the world on the brink of a nuclear apocalypse.

*Amazonia* takes readers to yet another exotic landscape, this one the jungles of the Amazon, where a team of scientists and U.S. Army Rangers discover a reality that science can barely explain and an ancient, unspoken terror that can forever alter the world. Lincoln Child noted that “*Amazonia* grabs you by the throat from page one and refuses to let go until the very last page is turned. Rollins is one of the most inventive storytellers writing today.... Don't you dare miss this one!”

If *Amazonia* made readers sweat, Jim makes them shiver in *Ice Hunt*, set at the top of the world in an abandoned Soviet ice station full of classified secrets and experiments gone terribly wrong. As American researchers and soldiers face off with submarine-borne Russians determined to bury their chilling past, they are drawn into a horror none of them could ever imagine.

### ***Adventures for Kids and Adults***

Jim's first adventure for kids and adults, *Jake Ransom and the Skull King's Shadow*, was published in April 2009. As the novel opens, Jake receives a package in the mail. There is no return address and no sign where it came from. Inside are logbooks from his parents, both archaeologists, who disappeared three years earlier while on a dig in Mexico. Jake and his sister embark on a search that takes them across time and mysterious lands to discover the true fate of their parents.

### **Short Fiction**

On request from editors, Jim has written works of short fiction for anthologies. His latest, "The Pit," appeared in *Warriors*, a cross-genre collection of short fiction edited by George R. R. Martin and Gardner Dozois. Side-by-side with pieces from top-name authors such as Diana Gabaldon, Tony Hillerman, and Neil Gaiman, Jim's heart-rending, gritty story features a complex, tragic, four-footed warrior fighting for survival and redemption in a world few people know or understand.

A James Rollins chapter appeared in the *7 Days* serialized novel in Glenn Beck's *Fusion Magazine*. Each issue features a different bestselling author writing a new chapter of the serial thriller. Glenn Beck's talk show is syndicated to more than 200 radio stations.

An earlier piece, "Kowalski's in Love," for James Patterson's anthology *Thriller (2006)*, featured a hard-boiled, indomitable seaman who reappears years – and books – later in the most unexpected place: *The Last Oracle*.