



Bloodline (Sigma Force)

By James Rollins

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Bloodline (Sigma Force) By James Rollins

In a thrilling masterwork that will make you rethink your perceptions of life and death, New York Times bestselling author James Rollins takes you to the edge of medicine, genetics, and technology, revealing the next evolutionary leap forward: immortality.

Galilee, 1025. Infiltrating an ancient citadel, a Templar knight uncovers a holy treasure long hidden within the fortress's labyrinth: the Bachal Isu -- the staff of Jesus Christ -- a priceless icon that holds a mysterious and terrifying power that promises to change humankind forever.

A millennium later, Somali pirates hijack a yacht off the coast of the Horn of Africa, kidnapping a young pregnant American woman. Commander Gray Pierce is enlisted for a covert rescue mission into the African jungle. The woman is no rich tourist: she's Amanda Gant-Bennett, daughter of the U.S. president.

Suspicious that the kidnapping masks a far more nefarious plot, Gray must confront a shadowy cabal which has been manipulating events throughout history...and now challenges the current presidency.

For this unique mission, SIGMA is aided by a pair of special operatives with unique talents: former Army Ranger Captain Tucker Wayne and his military war dog, Kane. But what should be a straightforward rescue turns into a fiery ambush and a deadly act of betrayal, as Gray and his team discover that the hostage is a pawn in a shattering act of terrorism with dark repercussions. And the danger is only beginning...

Halfway around the world, a firebombing at a fertility clinic in South Carolina exposes a conspiracy that goes back centuries...a scheme that lies within our genetic code. With time against them, SIGMA must race to save an innocent unborn baby whose very existence raises questions about the nature of humanity, asking:

Could you live forever?

Would you live forever?

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

Amazon Exclusive: Q & A with James Rollins

Q: In *Bloodline*, you introduce two new characters, Tucker and Kane, a pair unlike any your readers have seen before. Tell us about them, and why you decided to write about them?



James Rollins: First of all, I wanted to honor these unique American heroes. Tucker Wayne is a former captain with the Army Rangers. After two tours of duty in Afghanistan, he leaves the service disillusioned after a bloody battle. Aided by members of his own unit, Tucker steals his war dog, Kane.

What I liked best about exploring this pair's unique relationship is a phrase commonly used by military war dog handlers--*It runs down the lead*--describing how the emotions of the pair became shared over time, binding them together as firmly as any leash. And it's that bond and ability for the two to operate as one that I wanted to explore in this novel.

Q: Can you tell us about your research into military dogs?

JR: About a year and half ago, I was lucky enough to participate in a USO tour of authors to military bases in Iraq and Kuwait. There, I saw several of these war dogs in action. I was also able to meet and talk to a veterinary school classmate of mine who works with the veterinary corps out in Iraq. After that encounter, it got me thinking about writing this book, of honoring these unique war heroes on the page.

Q: Women play a large role in *Bloodline*. How are you able to write from the point of view of women so well?

JR: I have three sisters who make sure I get those details correct, but also during my USO tour to Iraq and Kuwait, I got a chance to talk at length to women in the field--to hear what it's like to be a female in the armed services. And that's something I tried to capture accurately.

Q: Your novels always delve into the cutting edge of science. What is the scientific basis behind *Bloodline*?

JR: The root of this book came from a recent article in *Time* magazine. The cover declared: *2045, the Year Man Becomes Immortal*. I read that and wondered how that could become true. Could immortality be achievable in our lifetime? It sent me into a yearlong and chilling investigation into the frontiers of life extension.

Q: What are some of these new discoveries involving immortality?

JR: I've learned that there are actually two competing schools of study when it comes to the search for immortality. On one side, scientists are looking at moving man into machines, moving our consciousness into a synthetic arena. Scientists in Switzerland right now are working with IBM to create the first *virtual* human brain and say they are about a decade off from achieving this goal.

On the other side of the scientific fence, researchers are also looking at moving machines into us: basically replacing our failing parts with artificial organs. We already have synthetic pancreases and mechanical hearts, and these scientific advancements continue to accelerate, especially with the explosive growth of nanotechnology, which involves engineering at the atomic level.

Q: Now to the last and most pressing question: How close are we to achieving immortality?

JR: That's a good question--and the answer is the most startling revelation I discovered while researching this story, something I share within the pages of this book. In *Bloodline*, readers will learn a shocking scientific truth about the nature of mankind: That immortal beings already walk among us today.

If you want to know who they are, if you want to learn how to live forever--read *Bloodline*.

Review

"James Rollins is a master of international action and intrigue." (Richmond Times-Dispatch)

"Rollins combines real-world science with high-octane action to create rousing stories of adventure that are as exciting as any movie." (Chicago Sun-Times)

"From the hidden Indian treasure, to the Fort Knox secrets, to the conspiracy at the beginning of the United States *The Devil Colony* gives you every reason why you'll want to be a member of Sigma Force." (Brad Meltzer, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Inner Circle* on *The Devil Colony*)

"Terrible secrets, the sweep of history, an epic canvas, breathless action...nobody—and I mean nobody—does this stuff better than Rollins." (Lee Child on *The Devil Colony*)

"Riveting....Rollins gets better with each book, and his position at the top of this particular subgenre remains unshaken." (*Publishers Weekly* on *The Devil Colony*)

From the Author

About James Rollins

JAMES ROLLINS is a #1 New York Times bestselling author of international thrillers that have been translated into more than forty languages. Known for unveiling unseen worlds, scientific breakthroughs, and historical secrets, Rollins' knack for breakneck pacing and stunning originality has been hailed by critics and embraced by scores of millions of readers around the world.

The Critics Rave

The New York Times says that his "roguish charm comes from his efforts to persuade readers the story is credible [through] real-life sources for his novel's science, history and geography." Rollins' rare blend of action, suspense, and knowledge was also mentioned by the Huffington Post, which stated that "After Crichton passed away in 2008 he clearly passed the baton to James Rollins, who like Crichton, is a renaissance man."

NPR calls his work "adventurous and enormously engrossing..." and the New York Journal of Books had this to say: "If you're a fan of smart, entertaining adventure fiction, this is your summer beach read writ large....All the science, all the history, and all the locations are masterfully intertwined. The characters are multi-dimensional. And the story is, well, a corker."

The Story Teller's Story

As a boy immersed in the scientific adventures of Doc Savage, the wonders of Jules Verne and H.G. Wells, and pulps such as *The Shadow*, *The Spider*, and *The Avenger*, James Rollins decided he wanted to be a writer. He honed his storytelling skills early, spinning elaborate tales that were often at the heart of pranks played on his brothers and sisters.

Before he would set heroes and villains on harrowing adventures, Rollins embarked on a career in veterinary medicine, graduating from the University of Missouri and establishing a successful veterinary practice. This hands-on knowledge of medicine and science helps shape the research and scientific speculation that set James Rollins books apart.

Explosive Page-Turning Adventures

The exotic locales of James Rollins novels have emerged as a hybrid between imagination, research, and his extensive travels throughout the United States and Europe, as well as New Zealand, the South Pacific, China, Southeast Asia, Africa, Australia, and South America. Recent jaunts include book tours and stops across the country and several European nations to give talks, seminars, and media interviews. In recent years, much of James' travel has involved meeting readers in small and large groups, at writing and fan conferences, and even aboard seagoing "seminars." James' mentoring and coaching skills have made him a sought after writing instructor and guest speaker for workshops, symposia, conventions, and other forums throughout the country.

James Rollins is the author of nine thrillers in the bestselling Sigma Force series (*Sandstorm*, *Map of Bones*, *Black Order*, *The Judas Strain*, *The Last Oracle*, *The Doomsday Key*, *The Devil Colony*, *Bloodline*, and *The Eye of God*); six individual adventure thrillers; and the Jake Ransom middle grade series (*Jake Ransom and the Skull King's Shadow*, *Jake Ransom and the Howling Sphinx*.)

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Ruth Beasley:

The book *Bloodline* (Sigma Force) make one feel enjoy for your spare time. You should use to make your capable much more increase. Book can to become your best friend when you getting pressure or having big problem together with your subject. If you can make looking at a book *Bloodline* (Sigma Force) to become your habit, you can get more advantages, like add your own capable, increase your knowledge about a number of or all subjects. You may know everything if you like available and read a reserve *Bloodline*

(Sigma Force). Kinds of book are several. It means that, science guide or encyclopedia or other individuals. So , how do you think about this guide?

Jeffrey Paolucci:

People live in this new day of lifestyle always attempt to and must have the free time or they will get large amount of stress from both day to day life and work. So , once we ask do people have spare time, we will say absolutely sure. People is human not only a robot. Then we inquire again, what kind of activity are you experiencing when the spare time coming to you of course your answer will unlimited right. Then ever try this one, reading books. It can be your alternative in spending your spare time, typically the book you have read will be Bloodline (Sigma Force).

Kimberly Wood:

Playing with family in a park, coming to see the coastal world or hanging out with buddies is thing that usually you might have done when you have spare time, after that why you don't try issue that really opposite from that. 1 activity that make you not experience tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you already been ride on and with addition details. Even you love Bloodline (Sigma Force), you can enjoy both. It is very good combination right, you still wish to miss it? What kind of hang type is it? Oh can occur its mind hangout guys. What? Still don't get it, oh come on its named reading friends.

Marissa Wegener:

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