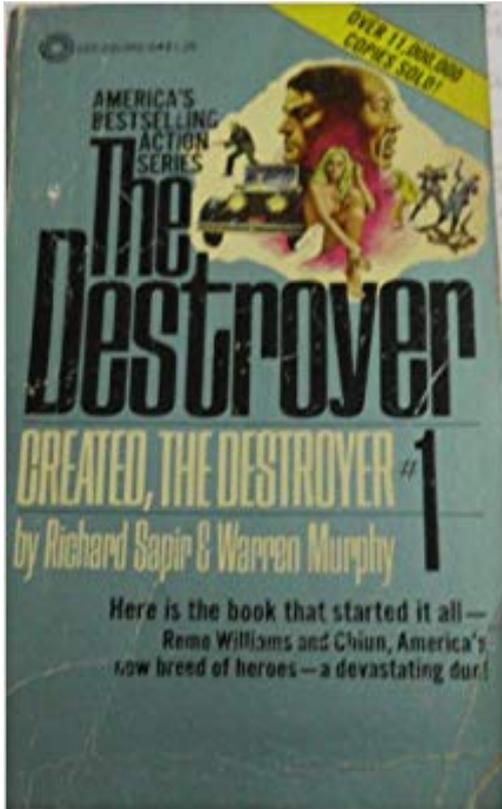


## Created, The Destroyer (The Destroyer, 1) by Richard Sapir



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**Author:** Richard Sapir

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## Reviews of the Created, The Destroyer (The Destroyer, 1) by Richard Sapir

**Inabel**

My first exposure to Remo Williams was the movie starring Fred Ward and Joel Grey. I would soon move on to the comics, and it wouldn't be until the early or mid-nineties that I would actually see a noel from "The Destroyer" series in a bookstore. Earlier books were virtually impossible to find, which has now been remedied by the e-book market.

Naturally, I wanted to go all the way back to the beginning.

I already knew there were differences from the movie, but the comics seemed pretty in tune with the books I had read, so I expected something along those lines.

I was surprised. This is a grittier, less fantastic Remo than I knew. Chiun, however, remains pretty similar, so that's a plus.

Remo Williams is a cop sentenced to death for a crime he didn't commit. A secret agency called CURE offers Remo a chance to live if he will work for them (they set him up in the first place). Had he not, the series would be about ten pages long. Remo is trained to be an assassin by the organisation. His training is cut off early so that he can find out what happened to one of his mentors, and finish the job if necessary.

In this first novel, Remo strikes me as inconsistent. Reckless one moment, careful the next. Cold one moment, plagued by conscience the next. The later books, along with the comics and movie painted Remo as a jerk, but an endearing one. There is little endearing about this protagonist, however. He comes off as a jerk and then some, end of sentence.

However, this novel has some charm in itself. Despite first being published in the early 70s, it has a very eighties mentality. It's ahead of its time in its cynicism, the likes of which I've rarely seen so thoroughly ensconced in other media of the period. Remo is certainly not a hero, but more in lines with Frank Castle of The Punisher (and even Frank wouldn't really hit his stride until the early eighties). Remo stands out from more modern anti-heroes in the sense that he's less glorified in his actions.

In itself, this is a fascinating read. Not necessarily a great one, but it was free as of my purchase on Amazon. As a fan of later Destroyer materials, it's interesting to see where the character came from, but it may confuse or annoy fans of the later franchise.

But hey, what decades-old franchise is exactly like it started?

#### **artman**

I starting reading this series back in the 70's and I loved it. It made me laugh, it was fun and I even learned a few interesting things. I think I got up to #35 in the series and then got interested in other things. I never forgot Remo, Chiun or Sinanju. When the movie came out, I was real excited, but like most movies based on a book, the movie didn't do the story justice.

I was thinking about Remo and Chiun recently and wondered what Mr. Murphy had been up to for the last 30 years. I'm retired now. I downloaded Created The Destroyer on my Kindle and thoroughly enjoyed my re-read. So sorry to discover that both Warren Murphy and Richard Sapir have passed away.

I've been reading reviews and find it funny that some people think this series isn't good enough to be rated above a single star! There are over 50 million people who don't agree with you idiots. Hahaha.

If you're thinking about reading this story, it original, very funny and totally enjoyable. It helps if you like Karate, World Saving, and enjoy the good guys winning all the time. I've loved these characters for about 40 years. Good Luck!

#### **Hulore**

Many years ago, I picked up a book called Midnight Man because I needed a quick read and it sounded like it might be kinda fun. What I got instead was a terrific action romp with elements from science fiction and fantasy tossed in, and excellent characters who were funny and cool. After reading that book, I went and found every Destroyer novel I could. If memory serves, the series was

up to #53 at that time. My college roommate and I devoured the series to the tune of a book a day, and we'd read the funniest bits out loud to each other. One day, I found the first book in the series, and I was excited to read it, but it turned out to be a standard action book. Chiun was merely a karate expert, not the Master of Sinanju. What happened was that the authors, Warren Murphy and Richard Sapir (both of whom wrote excellent books on their own, too) had written this years before the rest of the series, so the first two books read like they'd found files from CURE, but the best bits were redacted. If you're just starting the Destroyer series, jump ahead and start with book three (Chinese Puzzle) because from that point on, you'll be reading The Destroyer. If you're already a fan of the series, you can read this to find out how it all started, but remember this was sold before the authors found the voice of the series.

### **Ericaz**

When I was in middle school I started reading Don Pendleton's Executioner series. I had a love of the Men's Adventure genre. I tried out Able Team and Phoenix Force, even a series about the Vietnam War. I never got around to reading The Destroyer. I'm not the fastest reader in the world, so it was hard to keep up and I just stuck with Mack Bolan. Lo and behold, free 1st book of The Destroyer series on amazon so I dug into it.

It was a fun, quick, light read, as most of them are. The plot is thin, the characters are pretty undeveloped, and the plot moves fast and leaves a lot of detail out. Sort of how Remo suddenly meets the daughter of the guy he has to kill and within a very short time this supposed rabid feminist is agreeing to marry Remo and saying she loves him. There's a lot of undeveloped plot like that. Then again, seeing as it's an ongoing series, you can't expect a lot of character development in the first book. It's not great literature by any stretch of the imagination. More like the mass produced pulp stories of the past.

It's a fun, light read, though. A good intro into the world of Remo Williams.

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