



## Never Look Back

*Ridley Pearson*

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The cardinal rule of espionage: Never look back.

KGB agent "Dragonfly" knows it. A master of disguise, he's the ultimate terrorist, leaving headlines in his bloody path. Andrew Clayton forgot it. For eighteen inactive months, the hardnosed Security Intelligence agent has blamed himself for his brother's death at Dragonfly's hands. But now Dragonfly has surfaced in Canada, and Clayton knows he's got one last shot at revenge. What Clayton doesn't know is that Dragonfly is armed with the supreme biological weapon, set to release its toxic devastation should his mission be compromised. Stopping Dragonfly without triggering a major disaster will be deadly-if not impossible. But for Andrew Clayton, it's something that must be done...

## Never Look Back Details

Date : Published January 15th 1993 by St. Martin's Paperbacks (first published January 1st 1985)

ISBN : 9780312929756

Author : Ridley Pearson

Format : Paperback 310 pages

Genre : Thriller, Mystery, Fiction

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## From Reader Review Never Look Back for online ebook

### Patricia Gummel says

Not my style

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### aPriL does feral sometimes says

Heavy on cinematic action with spy-on-spy thrills as established by late 1960's conventions. A great summer read, especially for guys looking for something light.

Andrew Clayton is hurting because his fellow spy and twin brother has apparently died on a job that Andy should have taken. While cooling his heels writing a lengthy report, an important secret lab working on germ warfare is attacked by a famous Soviet spy, Leonid Borikowski, code name Dragonfly. Andy is released from his purgatory to find Dragonfly and regain the deadly bacteria before Borikowski returns to Moscow with his deadly cargo.

Ooooops. It appears the vial containing the germ has a crack. Suddenly, while the spies are racing across Canada to Vancouver Island where a Soviet ship awaits, Borikowski's nose begins to bleed. And it won't stop.

Ok. This is a silly book, but most men-oriented adventure thrillers are. Clive Cussler fans, for instance, will like this. Having read Cussler, I can barely stand this genre, usually. The women are all big chested beauties and the men are all James Bond or WWE bad guys. Characters are movie stock cartoons, emotional development is either lame or non-existent, fist fights and explosions which would wipe out a Tyrannosaurus rex seem to only motivate protagonists into superhuman feats of derringdo.

This is my third Ridley Pearson read. Whether he is writing a police detective procedural or a spy adventure, he is a fantastic action scene guy. Everything else sucks, especially in the emotional motivation of his characters. While emo emoting is comically pronounced (familiar to Sylvester Stallone/Arnold Schwarzenegger fans, I'm sure), the whys and hows of all that emotion leave me scratching my head in confusion. Characters feel loyalty where none is due, reverence for traditions are unexplained, honor must be defended for nonesensical reasons, traumatic responsibility is agonizingly sustained over hangnails or accidents. Pearson is only one more typical writer in this type of male-oriented thriller genre where motivations strike me as tone deaf and plotting is all about chases, crashes, explosions, three-story falls and monumental fist fights while scuba diving, airplane flying, boat racing and firing off a lot of bullets from big guns while big-chested girls cower nearby.

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### Bob says

An early Ridley Pearson thriller involving Security Intellegence Agent Andrew Clayton in a cross country chase to track down a KGB Agent and stop his attempt to steal a secret biological creation that has potential to solve the fuel crisis, but in its current state is a dire threat if it gets released. Plenty of action as they chase across the US and Canada.

ISBN - 9780312929756, Suspense, Pages - 310, Print Size - R, Rating - 4  
All books reviewed are from the library or purchased by the reviewer.

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### **Jeff Dickson says**

Early (1985) and not top drawer Pearson. This is just an average espionage tale dealing with the kidnapping of a scientist and his lethal biological weapon. Agent Andrew Clayton investigates. Ending is top drawer but it takes a long time to get to that point.

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### **Ed says**

Thriller - Agent Andy Clayton is dispatched to track down Bulgarian Leonid Borikowski seen entering Canada en route to the US. Borokowski is on an unusual mission to impersonate a US scientist and steal a virus from a secret laboratory. Borokowski murdered Andy's twin brother 18 months earlier and Andy tracks down the killer with personal and professional motivation.

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### **Fred says**

1993

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### **Ricardo says**

3 1/2 stars. This was a re-read for me. I thought it was a very entertaining read, with an interesting plot, good characters, and lots of action

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### **Ron Judenberg says**

to-read

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