

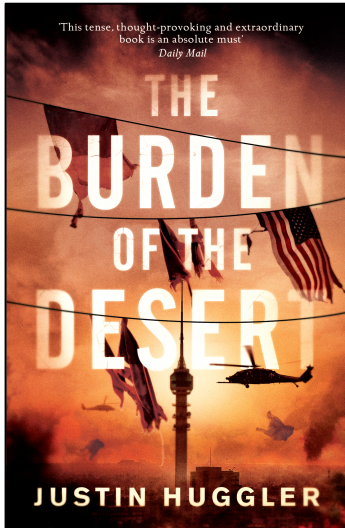
THE BURDEN OF THE DESERT

BY JUSTIN HUGGLER

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Published by Short Books 27<sup>th</sup> February 2014, Paperback Original £7.99

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*'This tense, thought-provoking and extraordinary book is an absolute must' Daily Mail*

**Zoe Temple, a young British journalist who dreams of being a war correspondent, US officer Lt Rick Benes who is trying to get his platoon home alive Adel, an Iraqi, who wants revenge for the death of his father, Mahmoud, an Iraqi driver, in a secret love affair with a Christian woman Nouri, an innocent man tortured in Abu Ghraib...**

In occupied Baghdad, their lives will come together – in a world of violence and mistrust, where every decision can be fatal, and love is found in unexpected quarters. And when a shocking incident at an American checkpoint leaves three people dead, it sets in motion a series of events that will have far-reaching consequences for them all.

*The Burden of the Desert* is fast-paced and gripping, and asks questions that will linger long after the last page is turned. Via the lives of a fascinating group of characters, former war correspondent Justin Huggler memorably evokes the atmosphere of a military occupation whose aftershocks are still being felt today.

*'Justin Huggler manages to make you feel as if you are there, among the dirt and chaos... This book epitomises the side of war not visible on our TV screens... 9/10.'* *Press Association*

**Justin Huggler** was born in the Channel Island of Jersey. A former foreign correspondent for the Independent newspaper, he covered the occupation of Iraq from 2003 to 2004. He has also covered the 2001 war in Afghanistan, the second Palestinian Intifada, the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami, the overthrow of Slobodan Milosevic, and the Nepalese revolution. He lives in London.

*'Rarely is something this informative also this exciting...so mesmerised that I couldn't help but read it all in one late, late sitting'* *The Bookbag*

*'Exciting and terrifying, wondrous and sobering, and there is action and adventure aplenty to keep fans of this genre turning the pages late into the night.'* *ForeWord Reviews*

*'The author has an uncanny ability to stimulate readers' senses with his vivid depictions...at times, readers will feel as if they are right there alongside the soldiers.'* *Kirkus*

**FOR REVIEW COPIES OR TO ARRANGE AN INTERVIEW WITH THE AUTHOR PLEASE  
CONTACT: ROSAMUND HUTCHISON: 07886618301 / [Rosamund@prcollective.co.uk](mailto:Rosamund@prcollective.co.uk)  
[WWW.SHORTBOOKS.CO.UK](http://WWW.SHORTBOOKS.CO.UK)**