

## LoveReading Reader reviews of Solomon Creed by Simon Toyne

**Below are the complete reviews, written by LoveReading members.**

### **Phylippa Smithson**

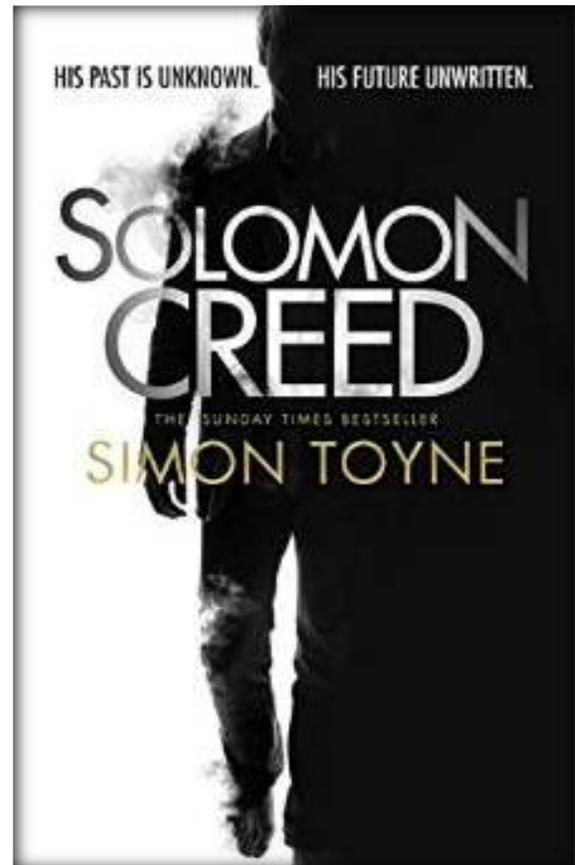
***At last, Jack Reacher has some credible competition. Solomon Creed is that challenger and what an engaging , exciting and ‘full on’ story he makes.***

*I was hooked from the very first page, desperate to understand the reason why the central character (who we subsequently learn may be called Solomon Creed) is running from a furnace of heat with no knowledge of what he was running from, what had occurred to create the explosion nor in fact, who he actually is. His memory is a blank.*

*In parallel to him running away from the incident, we witness the reaction and get to learn of the lives of those from the nearest town (City of Redemption) including the mayor, the local law enforcement, and very many town dwellers .*

*What occurs is the fastest-paced thriller of recent times. There are bad guys in the form of a Mexican war lord, 3 of his minions who were planning to make a connection with the flight (which we learn is the result of a plane crash), and corrupt members of the Redemption community. There is a bereaved widow trying to make sense of the loss of her young and healthy husband in a road crash just days ago. We jump back in time to meet the founder of Redemption. And then there is Solomon Creed. Why is he in Redemption and what is his relationship to the town and it’s past?*

*Wonderful stuff and very good to know it it’s volume 1 – I am hoping very much there will be further volumes in the not too distant future.*



## **Sarah Jones**

*Solomon Creed is a mysterious, charismatic character with a striking albino appearance.*

*He is capable of kindness but there are hints of something darker in his psyche.*

*He has a wealth of knowledge about many things but has no idea of who he is or where he has come from.*

*The only thing he is certain of, is that he is on a mission to save James Coronado.*

*At first **the story hooked me in as an intriguing thriller** with its plane crash, an amnesiac man, a town in Arizona nursing a nest of corruption and a revengeful Mexican drug lord.*

*Slowly, the story developed a supernatural dimension.*

***By the end I really wanted to know who or what had sent Solomon on his mission.***

*I wondered if he was an angel or demon or something else.*

*There were strong themes of love, downfall and redemption running through the story.*

*I enjoyed the description of the Arizona desert. It was a chance to escape mentally to a totally different landscape.*

## **Victoria Goldman**

***Solomon Creed is a modern-day Wild West thriller. It gripped me from the first chapter and captured my attention all the way through. Solomon Creed is certainly a character to remember.***

*Solomon Creed is a modern-day Wild West thriller - a fight between the good guys and the bad guys and a search for buried treasure. As expected after reading reviews of Simon Toyne's Sanctus trilogy, Solomon Creed gripped me from the first chapter and captured my attention all the way through.*

*Solomon Creed walks away from a plane crash. He has no memory of who is he and no idea why he is currently in the small town of Redemption in Arizona. All he knows, after combining the facts with his gut instinct, is that he is there to save one man. Until he discovers that this man is already dead. So who (or*

*what) has Solomon Creed come to save?*

*Redemption is a creepy town filled with corrupt characters and it's difficult to know who can be trusted. Interspersed between the modern-day chapters are the memoirs of Reverend Jack 'King' Cassidy, the founder and first citizen of Redemption. I loved the descriptions of the town and its surrounding desert landscape. I could visualise these, and the events, in my mind, which is always the sign of a well-written book.*

*The story builds up layer by layer, with a few surprises along the way. Solomon Creed is mysterious and intriguing. As the book progresses, it's clear that he has knowledge and skills beyond his own reckoning. He is certainly a character who leaves a lasting impression.*

<http://off-the-shelfbooks.blogspot.co.uk>

### **Carolyn Huckfield**

*Who is Solomon Creed? He doesn't know himself but he does know why he is here. He has to save someone who has just died but how is that possible?*

*This is an amazing read - it just doesn't slow down from the first page to the last line. There is a plane crash near Redemption, a small town in the southern states of America. Who is Solomon Creed, the tall albino who may have been on the plane? He doesn't know himself but he does know why he is here. He has to save someone who has just died - how is that possible? While he works it out there is a drug dealer's turf war going on around him. This is a violent and complex read and only at the epilogue do we get some sense of who Solomon might be. All the way through there is something mystical about him as he manages to survive numerous attempts to either treat him for his injuries or kill him because of his arrival in a town torn apart by the unfolding of events that may all be linked to Solomon.*

***For anyone who likes a modern, intriguing and violent story this is a great read. However it is the underlying mystery that will keep me reading more*** as this is only the first part of a new series. We already know what his next challenge will be as two more marks appear on his skin and a name comes to him. I really want to find out if he is the ancient angel like man that his DNA seems to match. ***Can't wait for the next one!***

## **Celia Cohen**

***An electrifying roller-coaster of a book.***

***Wow. This is a must read. Everything was put on hold, I simply had to finish it. A mixture of Lee Child and Stephen King yes but unique in it's own right.***

## **Joy Bosworth**

***This story is certainly different – it's opening paragraph hooks you in and the descriptions make you feel you are there.***

*The descriptions make you feel you are there - and also that you are blood spattered and nauseated at the smell of burning flesh. This continues through most of the book.*

*As a straightforward small desert town story it is good, or as a history of how the town came into being it is also good. But mainly the ongoing question - who is Solomon Creed is a very urgent one. Interwoven with this are so many scenes of gory death and charred bones and the stench of blood that it loses its shock value.*

*I found the paranormal strand very disappointing. No doubt lovers of violent games will find this good. It is certainly well written, I'm just not sure what category it falls into. At least two threads in isolation I would have enjoyed very much.*

## **Emily Griffiths-Hall**

*If I had more time to read this book I would have read it all however I haven't really had enough time to review the book properly.*

*I am a reader who has to read the first page of a book to see if I can get into it. If the first page bores me or confuses me I would tend to give that book a miss despite it all only being the first page.*

*In this book I have read beyond the first page and I did start to get into the story. **I felt the book is well written and the use of the language is very detailed.***

***However the only thing I had a small problem with is how each chapter begins - there is no clarification as to which character the chapter refers to. If there was a name in bold or something on similar lines I***

would have not felt confused and would instantly have known what character was been referred to.

Despite not being able to finish this book by the review due date I will continue to read it to see if my perceptions change further on.

<http://foreverbound15.blogspot.co.uk/>

### **Sarah Musk**

***This is an absolutely cracking supernatural thriller set in Arizona. It centres around an enigmatic, mysterious stranger called Solomon Creed who has come to save the town of Redemption from disaster.***

*This book has many facets. It is ghostly, thrilling, supernatural, religious, horror, crime, historical - **I have rarely read a book with so many elements contained within it. It is exciting and intriguing from the first page** and continues in this vein. I love the mysterious stranger with the white hair - the man of the book title - who has unexplained powers and has been sent to save the town.*

*There is a lot of violence in the book but it is necessary to the plot. I don't normally like reading about brutality and torture but in this book it didn't make me want to stop reading. I was just so caught up in the story of the town of Redemption, which did originally spring from violent beginnings, that the nastier elements of the story seemed entirely in keeping with the general atmosphere and ambience of this particular day in the history of the town*

*Simon Toyne has written a cracking story here and I think anyone who reads this book will be caught up in the clever plot based both in the nineteenth century Wild West and the present day. There is a strong supernatural element throughout which deepens the story - Solomon Creed is a good man but a very, very mysterious one. I hope we meet him again in another book.*

### **Cathy Small**

***This book has more twists and turns than you would expect and it takes concentration to follow the plot but as they say truth will out **and it all comes together at the end in spectacular style.*****

*Solomon Creed appears to walk out of the wreckage of a burnt plane unharmed with no knowledge of who he is or what he was doing. He walks into the town of Redemption and into the middle of a plot involving drug cartels but all he*

*knows is that he needs to save James Coronado but is he too late? A complex plot as you read through the historic story aswell as the current story but it all links together at the plot comes to an end. The story concludes but we still don't know who Solomon Creed is or was but make sure you read the epilogue as it will give you an implausible answer or is it? A book that will keep you gripped to the end.*

### **Ian Harvey-Brown**

***A great summer's read is to be had from this juggernaut of a thriller that moves relentlessly forward right from page one.***

*One central question runs through this dark and original tale: who is Solomon Creed? It's a question posed on the back cover of the book and is one not even Solomon can answer. One thing is soon clear however, he is no ordinary person. Rather he's someone of exceptional knowledge and ability. Just as well. The townsfolk of Redemption, where he seeks refuge after a terrible accident at the beginning of the story, soon discover that they need Solomon far more than he needs them. The town is harbouring an old secret within its walls, a secret so powerful that it unwittingly draws all manner of miscreants into its heart. The author brilliant weaves into the story extracts from a published memoirs of Jack 'King' Cassidy, the town's founder and first citizen. The extracts provide the reader with a hint of the perils that await the unsuspecting townsfolk and perhaps a glimmer of light in the all-pervading darkness. The pace of the story moves relentlessly forward, never faltering or flagging, never letting up. Not for one moment. A truly great read.*

Twitter: @IanHarveyBrown

### **Sarah Harper**

***An addictive, suspenseful and thoroughly enjoyable read providing just enough information to keep the reader guessing and wanting to know more.***

*'Solomon Creed', a man with no past, is in a whole lot of trouble. He walks away from a plane crash in the middle of the Arizona desert as the lone survivor. With only a book on the history of the local town of Redemption in his pocket, dedicated 'To Solomon Creed, From James Coronado', and the feeling that he was destined to save that man, we are drip fed information about Solomon as he tries to discover who he is. Why is smell such an important sense for him?*

*Where does his detailed knowledge of weapons, medicine and fluency in other languages come from? How does his body know the moves to disarm a man who's pointing a shotgun at him as well as what will kill that man and what won't? Bareback riding, survival skills and many others are instinctive to him. Could he be a killer by trade? The police chief and mayor of Redemption are embroiled in something bad involving Tio, a vindictive and brutal drug lord who's son died in the crash, as well as the 'accidental' death of James Coronado. Solomon works with his widow, Holly, to try to unearth why her husband became so withdrawn prior to his suspicious death and to piece together his own identity but in Redemption there are people who will stop at nothing to prevent this.*

*I can't compare this to any other books as I haven't really read anything of this genre but this is certainly an addictive and suspenseful read. It provides just enough information to keep the reader guessing and wanting to know more and the flashbacks to the Wild West history of Redemption added depth to the story in contrast to the present day events. A thoroughly enjoyable read which would be perfect for translation into a Bourne Identity style film.*

### **Michelle Hodson**

***Fast paced, entertaining plot. Solomon Creed is a hero with a supernatural twist.***

***This book had me hooked from the very start.*** *Where did Solomon Creed come from and why has he arrived in the town of Redemption convinced that he is there to save a man who was just buried that very day.*

*Solomon Creed is a terrific character, a 'Jack Reacher' type hero with a supernatural twist.*

*Entertaining plot and believable characters make this a page turner from the start.*

*Not all your questions will be answered fully by this first instalment in what is to be a trilogy and you will be waiting impatiently for the next book in the series.*

### **Jacki Moorcroft**

***WOW! Great characters and story line. Kept me hooked right to the end.*** *Simon Toyne's 'Solomon Creed' is a must read.*

*Solomon Creed is a man without a memory of his past who makes an explosive entrance into the small town of Redemption. All he knows is that he has been sent there to save someone but that person has just been buried and the town is suddenly the centre of a huge plane crash.*

*Solomon is dragged into the lives of the towners and their secrets and his role appears to be to uncover them and get to the truth.*

*This book is full of twists and turns and the plot thickens the more you get into it. It had me hooked from page one and I was really disappointed to finish as I enjoyed it so much. **A must read for all good story lovers.** I hope there is a sequel in the future as this character is too good to stop with just one story!*

Twitter: @moorcoftj

### **Teresa O'Halloran**

***I loved this book. A cracking read. I was gripped from page one.***

*A mysterious town. A secret, and a complex man on a mission. This is Solomon Creed. Just who is he and where does he come from?*

*This is a fantastic book. The atmosphere positively crackles off the page. Mysterious and creepy. If you love Jack Reacher you will positively love Solomon Creed who if anything is even edgier than Reacher.*

*We don't get all the answers here but thankfully this is just the first book in a trilogy.*

*There is just so much possibility for a character like Solomon Creed, and i'm really excited to find out where Simon Toyne is going to take him next. I just hope I won't have to wait too long!*

### **Janet Gilliard**

***I really enjoyed this novel-at last someone to rival Jack Reacher.Solomon Creed- man with no memory of his past no idea of his future.This is a page Turner that you won't be able to put down. I really enjoyed this book.***

### **Jillian McFrederick**

*Being a big fan of the Sanctus trilogy I was excited to get started on this new novel by Simon Toyne. I was disappointed initially as I found the plot to be weak with mysterious happenings that were never satisfactorily explained. Was Solomon Creed even a real man? He appears in the midst of an airplane crash with no history, no memory and apparently no connection with the plane but with a burning need to save James Coronado who, we discover, has already died. A kidnapping, a drug cartel mixed up with an apparently corrupt mayor and other mysterious events are all added to the pot with the added ingredient of a family tree which holds the secret to a long lost treasure.*

***As the story progressed I did want to find out what happened and the climax was exciting but I found the characters hard to follow and the short chapters meant that the story was chopping and changing from one group to another too quickly.***

*Unfortunately I would not consider this as up to the same standard of Sanctus, but that is a hard act to follow. It is still a good read though, and I suspect that Solomon Creed as a character may reappear in later novels.*