

Eleanor Roosevelt Middle School  
Dubuque, Iowa

Dear Mr. Tom Clancy,

Your book, Red Rabbit, has affected and changed my life in many ways by reading it. Your book has increased my knowledge of Russian culture, history, and way of life. Your book has increased my knowledge of Russia and how it was when it had a communist government. I have looked at and read more books on the Russian/communist subject than I would have, had I not picked up and read your book.

The book has made me more conscious of what goes on in other countries besides the United States. The book has reflected upon Jack Ryan's strengths and weaknesses and I can see myself in him. I tend to make judgments without thinking it through or having enough information to make a good judgment. Also, similar to Jack I too try and do the best job that I can on the task assigned to me. The book has increased my knowledge of what the Vatican and what Budapest looks like from the descriptive words that you wrote. Your book has increased my knowledge of what world leaders do for protection, like the pope, who has Papal guards. It has also taught me where historical places are in Red Square, such as Kremlin and GUM. The assassination attempts on Pope John Paul II life were things caught my attention and with my love of history this again made me want to further expand my knowledge of this past and also made me realize how dangerous the world can be and how safe I am here in the United States today.

The book also talked about the way the Russians filled in their Politburo positions, to me it was a part of the way the Russians struggled to become a world power and what a struggle it is for them today to stay powerful. The unexpected twists and suspenseful times that book mentions makes me think of my life as a young person today, the twists and turns of life are a daily happening. Like something that you think has gone right, but turns wrong suddenly. Jack Ryan is tested throughout the book and I can certainly relate to that, as I am challenged and tested each day whether it is through my mental abilities or physical, but both of us always seem to come thru unscathed.

Mr. Tom Clancy, your book changed and made me think of my life in many different ways thru knowledge, behavior, and my way of thinking about the world and its past. Thank you for opening my eyes to the world.

Hunter Schmitt