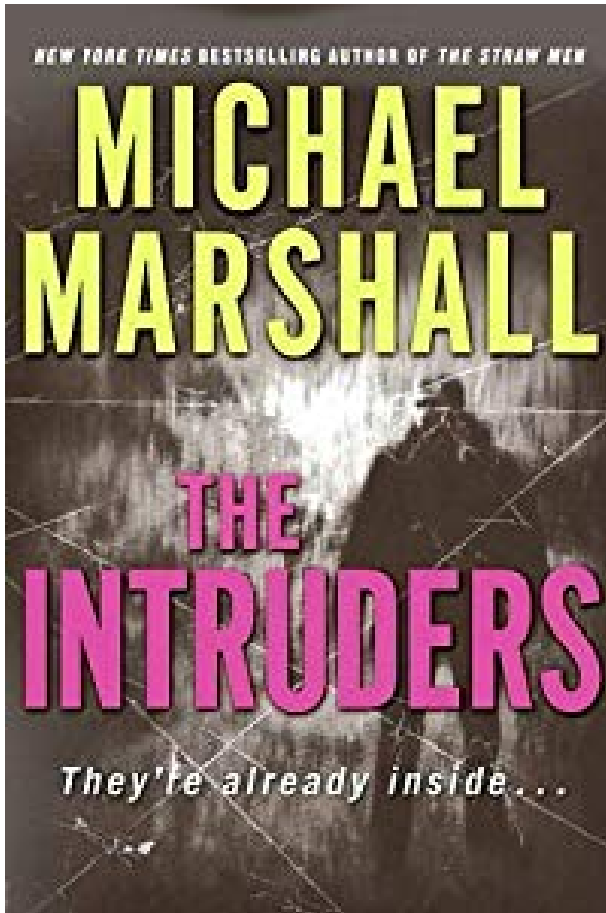


The Intruders



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The bestselling author of *The Straw Men* makes his American hardcover debut with a searing, atmospheric tale that ratchets up the suspense, page by page, until its shocking end. For Jack Whalen, it all starts with a visit from a childhood friend, now a lawyer, who asks for his help on an odd case.

The family members of a scientist have been brutally murdered, and the scientist—who may have had something to hide—is nowhere to be found. But Jack has more pressing matters on his mind. His wife has told him that she's on a routine business trip to Seattle, yet she hasn't checked into her hotel. Calls to her cell phone go unanswered, and when Jack travels to Seattle to investigate, she's vanished. And in Oregon a little girl goes missing.

She's found miles away, but it soon becomes clear that she's not an innocent victim, and is far from defenseless. Unusual events, all leading to the same place. As a former patrol cop who left the force under difficult circumstances, Jack is determined to find some answers. Yet the more he digs, the more the intrigue grows. Searching into the dark secrets of a past that still haunts him, Jack discovers that the truth has roots deeper and more evil than he ever feared.