Geoff Reeve, Esq.
1 April 1987

Dear Geoff,

Here is the revised first draft, and I apologise for delivering it on April Fool's Day!

The largest change is that I have rewritten more than half of Jane's lines, making her tougher and less emotional. The same emotions still have to be displayed, of course, but no doubt this is better left to the actress to portray. The lines I have not changed are mostly unemotional, practical ones like "How far away is that?"

I have also tried to deal with most of the other points in your notes, with only four exceptions.

1. I can't agree about the birth sequence. Jane's having a baby makes her plight much more poignant. Without Chantal she is just a tough woman who can look after herself perfectly well. The baby softens her without diminishing her toughness.

2. I sympathise with the misgivings about Jane's overhearing the Russian oath. It <u>is</u> contrived but I see no way around it. Geoff, there is something contrived in every thriller and as long as it is stylish and reasonably original the audience accepts it.

/over

3. I don't agree that the ambush needs dialogue. I was at some pains to minimise the explanatory verbiage and I think I did right!

4. I feel most strongly that Jane should not detonate the explosion and kill the young soldiers. If she were to do that she would have learned nothing from her experiences in Afghanistan, and we would have a different heroine and a different story.

Apart from these four points I have made changes in response to all of the notes and I look forward to eharing what you think.

Best regards,

Yours,