

PROLOGUE

24 Hours is a story of the Israeli Mossad, thrown into an unanticipated chase after Nimrod, a traitorous Mossad agent, who betrays his country in order to get his hands on the secrets contained inside the Blackdoor 6 safe. Nimrod pressures Bernie Smith, a British safe engineer, and blackmails him into sabotaging the security mechanisms of the Mossad's most sophisticated safe, the one that was purchased to hold Israel's most highly classified information.



Nimrod has one and only one goal: money.

When the world's most secure safe arrives at the Mossad building, Nimrod executes his carefully planned heist. The theft leaves the Mossad completely stunned! They have no idea how, but the safe is now empty and the disk drive containing all of Israel's nuclear secrets is gone.



After recovering from the initial shock, Mossad agents begin to investigate, but the process is complicated by the fact that the theft took place during an international convention for intelligence experts. Interrogating foreign agents could potentially cause an international uproar and drag Israel into a diplomatic mess.



Nimrod uses the opportunity to escape from the building, and more time passes before the Mossad discovers the identity of the treacherous agent who robbed the safe.

Nimrod employs a number of ingenious tactics. He incriminates a Turkish intelligence agent who is at the convention and heads in the direction of the Jordanian border. At the last minute, right before the Mossad agents track him down, Nimrod crosses the border into Jordan and from there to Syria.

CHARACTERS



A wily and cunning Mossad agent who turns out to be a low-down traitor, prepared to sell himself, his people, and his country for the right price.



An engineer from London who specializes in designing safes. He is the one who programmed the protection mechanism on the Blackdoor 6. He is blackmailed into cooperating with Nimrod.



A God-fearing ben Torah who is also a Mossad agent. He works hard to bring others closer to Torah and mitzvos. He plays a central role in later volumes of *24 Hours*.



Nimrod's direct superior in the Mossad. He is tricked into trusting Nimrod without reservation.



One of the most venerated figures in Israel's security forces, the Mossad Chief is responsible for all of Israel's intelligence and espionage activities outside the country.



A senior Mossad official who joins the Chief on his trip to England to study the Blackdoor 6 system up close.



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One of the visitors at the international convention for intelligence agents held in Israel. In order to buy time, Nimrod accuses him of robbing the Blackdoor.



The identity that Nimrod assumes when he disguises himself as an Israeli Arab and escapes from Israel to Jordan via the Sheikh Hussein Border Crossing.

Nimrod heads east at breakneck speed.



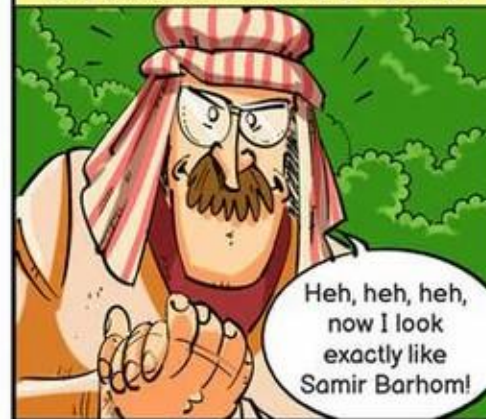
Nimrod parks his car inside a thick clump of trees and bushes.



Here are the clothes and passport. I prepared it all ahead of time.



Nimrod changes his identity. He wears a jalabiya, puts a keffiyeh on his head, and affixes a moustache to his face.



Nimrod enters the nearest Arab village.



