

the coincidence engine by sam leith.  
Bloomsbury Publishing plc., 2011.

This is a truly original novel whose plot, while immensely engaging, is very hard to describe!

A secret organisation called The Directorate of the Extremely Improbable sends operatives on the trail of an English doctoral student who has gone to America to propose to his girlfriend. The head of the DEI, Red Queen, believes him to be carrying secrets, which, in the wrong hands, could become a devastating weapon. Throw in a mad professor and two clumsy ex-soldiers and you have a story that engages the reader through to the very end.

Among much else, there is the best and funniest car chase I have ever read as well as plentiful satire that is a perfect rejoinder to the greater absurdities of the Bushite 'war on terror'.

Give this novel a try...you will be glad you did!

Rabbi Dr Charles H Middleburgh