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One Year After (One Second After)



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Synopsis

[Read by Bronson Pinchot] The thrilling follow-up to the New York Times bestselling novel One Second After. Months before publication, One Second After was cited on the floor of Congress as a book all Americans should read, a book discussed in the corridors of the Pentagon as a truly realistic look at the dangers of EMPs. An EMP is a weapon with the power to destroy the entire United States in a single act of terrorism, in a single second; indeed, it is a weapon that the Wall Street Journal warns could shatter America. One Second After was a dire warning of what might be our future . . . and our end. One Year After returns to the small town of Black Mountain and the man who struggled to rebuild it in the wake of devastation: John Matherson. It is a thrilling follow-up and should delight fans in every way.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Ã¢â ¬Å“A fine postapocalyptic thriller, with richly drawn characters and the kind of story that we can easily imagine happening.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â ¢Booklist Ã¢â ¬Å“Forstchen is the prophet of a new Dark Age. The wise will listen.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â ¢Stephen Coonts, New York Times bestselling author of The Art of WarÃ¢â ¬Å“The people were so real that I felt as if I had known them for a very long time after just the first few pages. And that, in my book, is true story telling that only the rarest of writers ever master. . . . Bill has perfected his talent.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â ¢David Hagberg, New York Times bestselling author of The Fourth Horseman --This text refers to the Mass Market Paperback edition.

William R. Forstchen has a PhD from Purdue University with specializations in military history and the history of technology. A faculty fellow and professor of history at Montreat College, he has authored over forty books, including the award-winning young adult novel We Look like Men of War. Forstchen coauthored the New York Times bestselling Gettysburg and has written numerous short stories and articles about military history and military technology. He resides near Asheville, North Carolina, with his daughter and their dogs.

IÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢ll confess to a bias up front before getting into the review. I live in Black Mountain, North Carolina, the village where Forstchen has set his story about a community struggling to survive after an EMP attack devastates the United States. Forstchen truly captured the feel of our town, the people, the way they would react, the way they think and talk, and how a small Southern town could indeed band together to help each other get through a crisis. He did his research well on that.This book is definitely another five star job by Forstchen. The sequel, One Second After deals with the first year after an EMP attack and focuses on how the total destruction of our electrical infrastructure would forever change our lives, and the reality of how so many experts predict that at least 4 out 5 Americans would die in the months after our nation is destroyed by the detonation of just several small nuclear weapons about the atmosphere that then wipes out our electrical infrastructure. One Year After picks the story up, literally, a year after the end of his first novel. The author explores ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“what happens next,ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• a question nearly all fans of his first book have asked. It is one thing to survive that first terrible year, but Forstchen now takes us to the next level. . .we survived but now what in hell do we do? Do we continue to let our nation slide into a final decline and oblivion? Do we hand off to our children and grandchildren a society left in wreckage, the way the descendants of what had been the Roman empire gazed at the ruins about them as they lived in squalor? Or do we band together and start to try and rebuild?The fascinating question Forstchen presents is exactly how do we rebuild? Do we sit back and wait for FEMA to one day show up and rescue us (it is obvious that Forstchen must have been thinking about Katrina and Sandy when dealing with this question) or do we roll up our sleeves and get to work? One plot detail I will give away, which is not a spoiler, is that the main character, John Matherson, is suffering from an infected tooth when the story opens. Anyone who harbors some crazed nostalgia that life must have been simpler and thus happier back in the ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“good ole daysÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• should read this book while suffering from a tooth ache and contemplate how such things were dealt with! That alone leads Forstchen, who has a Ph.D. in history with a specialization in the history of

technology, into an interesting subplot asking if enough local knowledge is out there to make anesthesia, pain killers, and the antibiotics we take for granted.It is but one of many questions Forstchen presents to us to ponder on, and shows yet again how we take the wonders of modern technology for granted. The book also moves more into political questions of how to rebuild rather than the harsher issues of brutal day to day survival he wrote about in book one, but that I see as a strength as he opens up the next chapter of the story about the town of Black Mountain and can it survive.A final political observation, a reality check here. Read the novels, then read the news. Is our country really going to turn a blind eye to the nuclear ambitions of Iran? An EMP hit is a first strike weapon. The results of its use, literally thousands of times worse than what we endured on 9/11. Our leaders, (who would be safe in their bunkers if we were ever attacked) actually tell us not to worry about the deal with Iran? Does anyone recall twenty years ago when the leadership then said not to worry about North KoreaÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s nuclear ambitions? I am writing this review on Sept. 16th, and just this morning I read where North Korea announced it is building yet more bombs and will soon demonstrate its ICBM capacity. ICBM plus a nuclear warhead equals EMP, which equals the nightmare Forstchen is trying to warn us about. Read and take heed.

Since I read "One Second After", I've been hoping for a sequel. I really wanted to find out how the characters fared as time went by, as well as the evolution of the local politics. It was exciting to be taken back to Black Mountain, NC to continue the adventure. As usual, Forstchen kept me riveted to the book and introduces new and interesting characters. Old enemies become new friends. New conflicts. New battles. I enjoyed the strife between our heroes and the "Big City" of Ashville. The locals are faced with possible anarchy or fascist rule. Stcik together or perish fighting among themselves. Overall, this book was an enjoyable experience. I will mention that, inevitably, "One Year After" does not have the same level of impact on current society as "One Second After". The naration of the actual effects of an EMP attack on modern day North Carolina was very powerful. But the continuation of the story allows us to follow characters that we already know and love. Or hate. Forstchen has a gift for bringing characters to life and creating realistic interpersonal adversities. His battle scenes always keep me on the edge of my seat. I always feel like I'm part of his stories. If you haven't read "One Second After" yet, by all means do. If you have then you will want to follow up with "One Year After".

I really enjoy this author!It blows my mind that to date our government, and even "The Donald", has not seriously addressed hardening the US power grid against an EMP attack! Like an asteroid hit,

the probability of such an event depends largely on the timeline one is willing to consider. An event unlikely in five years, may be probable and even unavoidable in fifty!And the tech needed to prosecute an EMP Attack is not all that elusive to many Third World Powers--especially today!Clearly, most US Representatives put their careers first and foremost, as they realize that their relevance to us will vanish as quickly as the grid collapses. So, why bother?This story is the anticipated sequel to the ground breaking "One Second After".Yes, I checked "Predictable

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