



Max

James Patterson

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James Patterson's bestselling Maximum Ride series is back, with Max and the gang as The Protectors. Someone--or *something*--is decimating ships and sea life off Hawaii's coast, and Max and her flock find themselves sucked into the Navy's top-secret investigation of the catastrophe. Their objective: Rescue Max's activist mom from a wicked subterranean enemy. The hitch: They must dive deep into dark waters, where gruesome evil dwells... and for high-flying Maximum Ride, could there be *anything* more terrifying than being trapped in the great abyss? This soaring new adventure takes Maximum Ride and the Flock into terrifying new territory--fans, hold your breath!

Max Details

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From Reader Review Max for online ebook

Muse says

To be frank, this book was a pile of dog poop.

Yes.

Dog. Poop.

Please. Don't hate on me. I really did love Max.

Well... until the third book.

GAH. FAAAAANG! *wails*

gets a serious look

Oookay, I'm going to be serious now. It's been what, one, two years since I read this book, so stuff are gonna be fuzzy.

Soooo... Starting off.

This series should've ended on the third book. Really. Final Warning was god-awful. I almost puked. YES. PUKED.

(Oh my, I'll bet the Max fans are puking now.)

Hahaha. Wasn't that just a hilarious joke?

Yes. THERE ARE PEOPLE OUT THERE IN THE WORLD THAT HATE THE *NEW FANG*.

Oh yeah. And then their new super powers. WTF?! O_O That was just So. MESSED. UP. They don't *need* that many super powers. There are things in this world called FLAWS.

Learn to use it.

Jenny says

it was awesome! i hope he will write another, but it did leave it with a somewhat satisfying ending. however, she didn't finish saving the world, and what is up with Angel and all her independence streak? that was just annoying because she learned in the last book that she shouldn't get into situations where she needs to be saved, and then goes and Max has to go try to save her, even when she doesn't feel like she needs to be saved. ugh.

one of the things that really bothered me was that the author was so contradictory. in the 4th book, it said Brigid was blond, and in this one, she was a redhead. and the second (i think) it said Max had "Blond-streaked" hair and said she had brown in this. make up your mind already!

it also had a weird feel to it, compared to the other books.

however, i loved it and wished it was two or three times longer.

Kristen says

Oh no...the Maximum Ride books have officially turned "eco-friendly". What happened to all the crazy mad scientist stuff? "Millions of fish are dying off the coast of Hawaii and someone--or something--is destroying hundreds of ships. Unable to discover the cause, the government..." I read that in the description of this book on some website...Hmm, first it goes global warming—save the polar bears! Now...its saving fish.....Anyone else miss the Erasers? I want the whole flock-running-for-their-lives-from-crazy-people-involved-in-Itex stuff back... ohhhhh greaaaaattt...I'd rather not have to get the urge of burning this book but from the looks of it...err, I think I'll stop there...okay one more thing...at least this one is a LITTTLLLEEEEE bit longer than The Final Warning...320 something pages this time...but that's still kinda...oh I don't know...depressing compared to the first few MR books...right, now I shall shut up!

Olivia says

Oh my god, I LOVE this series, it is soooooooooo epic. I also love The Hunger Games, Percy Jackson, Harry Potter, Alex Rider, The GateKeepers, Dreamhouse Kings, Danial X, Witch and Wizard, Gone, Leven Thumps, H.I.V.E., Sisters Grimm, The Secret Series, The 39 Clues, Pendragon, The Cronos Chronicles, and a lot of other stuff, but that's just right off the top of my head.

Manuel Arbanassi says

This has been my entry point into the series, and honestly, my exit point as well. I was...appalled...to be perfectly honest. This book basically touched all the bad tropes that I've seen around. Mind you, I read this in Italian, so there might have been something lost in translation, and this is my personal opinion. Feel free to disagree with it.

The characters are...sorta annoying. They won't shut up about having wings. Not ever. The powers are thrown in like hot candy, oh, sure, now two of them can speak with fish and survive freezing cold and crushing pressure...because...reasons? It doesn't even make a lick of sense with how their powers are explained in this chapter. Ok. They got spliced with avian DNA. Fine. Then where do the weird water-breathing, aquatic abilities come from? The talking winged dog and the SIX year old that beats a MARINE in hand to hand combat. The villain is just as ridiculous, making absolutely idiotic moves. "Oh, I need to stop the MC's mother, so I'm gonna kidnap her daughter, wound her, but then let her go because...Wait, why am I letting her go again instead of just keeping her and using her as leverage?" And this is just a sample of all the things that annoyed me. Just...just no.

Ambs ♥♥ says

What am I doing? I must be a glutton for punishment because I keep reading on in the series. Yes, I love James Patterson, but this is just bad. I'm hoping it doesn't taint my overall view of his work.

Anyways, with that being said, here are the few many issues I had with this story in general.

1. Max went from being very confused about Fang's intentions and wanting to keep the brother/sister aspect

strong to being head over heels in love. They are also only 14 years old. Plus, they live alone and travel together, I think it's time they have some supervision. In truth, I'm hoping for a teen pregnancy in a future installment.

2. Max repeatedly made mention of how under educated they are, but smart when it comes to the streets. That is fine and all, but while narrating, she used some big words that I didn't even use until college, and I was well educated prior to that. The writer doesn't necessary have to dumb down the narration, but they should make it a little more believable.

3. Total's storyline got super corny. Yes, I know he loves his dog friend, he is a dog too, but talking about marriage? Really? Even if he understands the concept, I'm sure his lady friend doesn't give a crap. She just wants to sniff his butt and be sniffed in return.

4. Angel was a complete pain in the butt. She kept putting herself and others in extremely dangerous situations. Fortunately for her, she kept getting away unscathed, but someone should discipline her in a way she'd get the message.

5. Jeb was there in the beginning, traveling with the Flock and Max's mom, but once she is kidnapped he disappears? That's strange. However, he does show back up after she is rescued. I'm wondering if that was a set-up for the next book.

6. Last but not least. In fact, this was my biggest peeve, all of Max's lists. She felt necessary to list everything, even if it didn't make sense.

Overall, I wasn't that impressed. Despite that fact, I'll probably read the next installment, just because I already have it checked out from the library, but if it gets much worse, I might have to draw the line. So bummed this is going down hill, and fast.

Kadbury says

[that Max and Fang don't end up togeth

Anne Osterlund says

Max is off to save the world. Again. This time on a submarine.

I know; you're in shock.

My favorite parts of this book included . . .

- a. Progress in the romance department—always a good thing.
- b. The B.S. training aka Max and the flock whipping the pants off a certain navy training program that is supposed to take umpteen days and is completed by said bird kids in less than 24 hours.
- c. Did I mention, progress in the romance department?

Riley says

[I will think about things like Dylan, and Max forgiving Fang about Maya (Max 2) or even how Angel was the voice. (hide spoiler)]

Bex says

"Max" is the fifth book in The Maximum Ride Novels. This book is written for a younger audience (perhaps eight to fourteen-year-olds) but adults will fall in love with the characters too. My favorites are Max and Angel. As the oldest, Max sees herself as the leader who must look after the younger ones. However, she finds herself becoming distracted as she realizes she has feelings for Fang another member of the flock. Angel is the precocious six-year-old who, like typical six-year-olds, does what she wants without thinking of possible consequences. I liked the other characters too, but they play lesser roles in this story.

"Max" by James Patterson is a refreshing novel in so many ways. The language used is clean and the story lines are suitable for younger readers. It may appeal more to girls since the heroine is female, but I think boys will find it interesting as well. The reader is allowed to use her imagination to envision the flying bird-kids as well as the strange creatures that are trying to foil their plans of saving the planet. The story is fast-moving, with most chapters ending with foreshadowing. I could not put the book down and I really believe most kids will become enchanted with Max and her friends. However, I do suggest that children read the books in proper order so they do not become confused by references to prior events.

Jen says

How on earth did a series with so much potential and so much excitement get so bad?

This recent installment is better than the fourth book, but nowhere near as exciting as the first. It bugs me how Patterson does a long, dragged out recap of EVERYTHING that's happened beforehand at the beginning of each new book.

Ergh. Anyways,

contrary to the fourth book, **Max** actually has a complete plot! It also gives some purpose to the whole "Save the world from global warming, everybody!" craze, and kicks it down a notch. Nice save, Patterson, but not good enough. The extent to which the global warming situation was taken-Max speaking to all of Congress telling them to stop hurting the planet, Fang's blog post rallying teens to help prevent global warming-is unforgivable.

Although there is a plot line in this book, it is not well-developed. And since when did Max completely decide that she *loved* Fang? The perfect Fang/Max relations are strange, since the two are constantly fighting even though it's clear that they love each other. I'm disappointed that a promising plot with such awesome, lovable characters could waste potential like this. Ick.

Seth says

I am sure that I might throw this at the wall while in the process of reading . . . Machine Geeks? Come on, Patterson, the Erasers were cooler than that. At least they actually FIGHT something in this one . . . I hope there will be some fang+max stuff . . . save the fish! not really though . . . it looks so gay . . . what happened to itex? i don't think they resolved everything of that matter in the first 3 books . . . i want some good stuff here! okay now i am just venting about how sucky they book sounds. Grr.

EDIT

I gained respect for James Patterson again. Though there was stupid random plot twists, stupid environmental issues, I still loved it :))

Sella Malin says

Ergh. This book SUCKS. It's not as bad as the fourth one, but it's still really crappy.

There is *no* plot. There are just a bunch of random subplots that are stupid, full of holes, and that have nothing to do with each other. There's just all these action scenes that have absolutely no point whatsoever. They're not even done well. This book is basically a soap opera - a *really* badly done one with an attempt at action. Lol.

The ending was really stupid. It was really abrupt and sudden. Max just rescues her mom and then skips off into the sunset with the flock, totally forgetting that some really lame villain is still alive and at work out there. And at the end, Patterson randomly throws at us a hint that Brigid is a traitor, but then he just ends the book like that. It's really stupid.

Okay, let's talk about Mr. Chu. MOST PATHETIC AND LAME VILLAIN *EVER*. He's completely flat and boring, he literally has NO motive, plus he's really, *REALLY* stupid. I mean, who puts an illegal nuclear plant underwater and then LABELS IT WITH THEIR *NAME*????? That's like screaming, "HEY, LOOK! I'm producing illegal nuclear crap! Arrest me, please!" OMG. Sheesh. And I thought Patterson had done the worst when the villain had been a pile of brains in the 4th book ... at least the pile of brains wasn't a total idiot.

Oh and what the heck was up with Devin? I don't even get whose side he was on, and who he was working for. Bleehh.

I love -- excuse me, I mean *hate* -- how Patterson totally forgets to tell us who the voice is in this one. You know, by the time he finally decides to tell us who it is, I'm not even going to care anymore. I don't think I even care now, anymore. Lol.

It also really annoys me that Patterson had Max and Fang make out in front of Brigid and the flock, and he doesn't show their reactions AT ALL. Especially Brigid's. UGH.

Okay, what is up with the title of this book? Why the heck did Patterson name the fifth book in the Maximum Ride series "*Max*"? Couldn't he come up with a more *original* title? I mean, there are DEFINITELY better and more creative titles he could have chosen. Come on. Even calling the book "FISH"

would have been better and more original and creative than "MAX." *shakes head with incredulity*

OH. MY. GOD. I *HATE* ANGEL WITH A BURNING PASSION. She annoys the CRAP out of me. GAAAHH I HATE THAT KID!!! She never listens to Max and thinks she can do whatever she wants and thinks she knows everything, and she's creepy and messed up, while everyone thinks she's such a sweet little angel!!! AAAH I HATE THAT STUPID LITTLE BRAT!!! Gaaah. Plus she's the biggest Mary-Sue in the history or Mary-Sues in the world. Eeeeeewwww. Screw Angel. lol

Let's talk about the flock now. I used to love them, but now I'm pretty close to hating them. They've just gotten annoying, and turned from complex personalities to flat ones. Plus, I'm about ready to rip the book to pieces because of all the powers that they all KEEP FREAKING GETTING. Not only does Patterson totally forget and not use all the powers they randomly got before (like, where the hell did Max's super fast flying powers go???), but then he just throws a bunch of new, unrealistic, TOTALLY UN-SCIENTIFICALLY-POSSIBLE powers that just make me go, "Uhh, REALLY?!?!" Ugh. It's so stupid. I mean, not only does Angel have gills, now Fang and Max have them too! Oh. MY. Freaking. GOODDDDDDD. Idiots.

Uh ... WOW. Why did I even bother to read this book? Oh right. Because I wanted to see Max and Fang make out. *rolls eyes at self* Even THAT wasn't good. It's overdone WAY too much. It was so Disney-esque and cheesy, it almost made me puke. Eeeeeggh. They have serious makeout sessions, like, every other chapter, and they're always looking at each other googly-eyed and spouting lovesick lines at each other. It's almost as cheesy as Twilight (no offense, Meyer). lol. I mean, Fang and Max had great sexual tension in all the books before. But all of a sudden, in this book, POOF! It's totally gone. And that just makes it boring. Even when you become a couple, there's still tension and all that! It doesn't just *go away*. UGH.

Well, I think that's all I got to say ... lol. Bleehhh. Stupid book. I was just waiting for it to end the whole time. I really don't want to read the sixth book when it comes out, but unfortunately, I know that I probably will. And then I'll give it one star and write a harsh, angry ranting review about it, just like this one. Well, at least it'll be worth it, for that. I love attacking books. Heehee. XD

Arielle says

It's not like I expected much from this; the only reason I read it was because it was just sitting there at the library, and I had a couple of hours to kill.

The flock really isn't doing anything anymore, and they've really devolved from fairly badass characters into mushy, cliched, idiotic teenagers. Come on, Patterson! If I can have some sort of coherent thought process, can't MAX!?

I've actually gone through the first three books after reading the stupid-fest that was Max. Were they even written by the same person!? I mean, in Max, they even say that she has brown hair. NO SHE DOESN'T. She's BLOND. Patterson, did you forget what your own characters look like!? That's just...irresponsible. Angel changed from being creepy, yet innocent, to just being annoying. Fang's all about being "hip." The rest of the flock is pretty much completely inconsequential. Max literally got stupider. Literally! She asks so many stupid questions, three fourths of the BOOK is EXPOSITION.

Really Patterson? REALLY?

Leanne says

i do not think it will be as good as the first three, the fourth was a let down. i personally like max better when shes on the run and kicking eraser/flyboy butt rather than saving the world

Rachael says

(4.5)

I really liked this book. there was a lot of character development through out the book. I love all of the flock members of course(except for angel, she still creeps me out, she may be a 6 year old, but she can control other peoples minds and read thoughts... like, just think about that O.o)Max will always be one of my favorite characters for sure.

Now, what's going on between Max and Fang? they seriously just need to admit their feelings for each other already before I explode. because they are just so cute together! the only thing I didn't like in the book is how ella (Max's step sister) isn't included that much in the series all together. I just hope I see more of her through out the series.

Reading Vacation says

Maximum Ride = Marvelous Reading

As leader of her Flock, Max is tough and resilient. This bird girl does not give up on her mission to save the world and protect her Flock. She does it all with flair and a sarcastic edge. Despite endless betrayals and growing up in a lab, Max shows that she can have a soft side too.

The members of Max's Flock are tight and they each have unique talents. Fang can disappear if he sits still long enough. Iggy sees everything in white. Nudge is magnetic. The Gasman is an explosives expert. And Angel can read and control minds. This group of bird kids makes an amazing team.

I read Fang when it first released not realizing it was part of a series. I know, I know. When I heard about Angel, I decided to read the whole series so I could experience it from the beginning. So, guess what I did last week? I read the whole series.

Angel is less action-packed and more touchy-feely than the earlier books. Not quite a romance, but certainly a change. Being girlie and all, I liked seeing this side of Max. Angel leads up to the final challenge that will be included in the eighth book next year. Seriously, I can't wait a whole year to find out what happens! Oh, and I want to see more Fang.

James Patterson is a genius! He has crafted a unique series that takes on some serious issues in a thrilling way. Maximum Ride should be on your bookshelf. If you are like me, you'll have a hard time putting them down.

RATING

5 Loved

Cloud says

Ugh. Don't get me wrong- I loved the first three Maximum Ride books, when Patterson only intended them to be a trilogy. But the past two books have gone from bad to worse. Remember when the flock fought, oh, maybe ten or twelve savage Erasers at a time? Remember when every day was a struggle just to survive, when everyone was an enemy- especially the average, wingless Joe walking down the street? Now the flock takes down a thousand robots without breaking a sweat, and fights to save not only themselves, but the environment too! Isn't that great? Oh, and to raise awareness for their cause, they fly stunt shows. And apparently, people think it's just peachy that a bunch of mutant kids created by a shifty corporation are running wild. No big deal- pretty cool, in fact.

Excuse me? Yeah, right! Patterson has somehow managed to completely trash what began as a sparse, dry, heart-stopping, tear-jerking thriller about a most unlikely family struggling to survive in a completely hostile world. To think that he plans to write seven more Max books breaks my heart.

Tricia says

This book was so awesome and I couldn't put it down. The group really had to lean on the support of others in this book, and I loved the new powers! James Patterson finally got Max and Fang together which I loved. This was **the** book to read in this series.

GSGS says

OK. Prepare for a rant.

Starting off with the positives - this was better than the Final Warning.

Moving onto the negatives...

-The whole thing is random and not relevant to the rest of the series. I mean, we heard basically NOTHING about Erasers and scientists. It was just the random Mr Chu, and some random underwater pollution thing.

-Mr Patterson, we hate pollution, global warming and all that crap as much as you do. However, that does not mean we want books about it. We get it - we should be doing something about the environment. But why spoil a perfectly awesome series with it? If you ask me, the Maximum Ride series was polluted by all this enviro-junk.

-Where the f*** did the action go? In the first three books, there was something exciting happening on every page! That was one of the beauties of it. Now, we're lucky if we get a good fight. And of course, Max&Flock win every single fight (obviously. errDUH) which just makes it boring. Now we just have Fax shoved down our throats.

-About Fax. First it was cute. But it's freaking annoying that it's all that the books are being focussed on. How come Max keeps running away from Fang? SHE STARTED IT. REMEMBER HOW SHE KISSED

HIM ON THE BEACH? Yeah?

-Please, bring back the Erasers. We don't care about freaking... Flyboys or random robot things. The Erasers were more scary than them, anyway!

-Give us some answers, PLEASE. What's the voice? What does Max need to save the world from? Mr Patterson, do you even know the answers to these questions???

GAH! I JUST CAN'T BELIEVE THIS SERIES WAS SPOILT SO MUCH.
