



Dispatches

Steven Konkoly

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DISPATCHES:

On August 19, 2019, a rogue Chinese military cabal launched an opportunistic EMP attack against the United States, triggering a cataclysmic chain of events-- *with the potential to change world forever.*

With the United States crippled, belligerent powers rise to fill the void overseas, catapulting already volatile regions into chaos and war-- *hastening a worldwide collapse.*

On the home front , most citizens continue to struggle with the loss of power and critical infrastructure, exhausting their thin supplies and turning to the mercy of an overwhelmed government to survive the winter.

As spring arrives, Alex Fletcher faces a difficult choice. With their food supplies running low, Alex questions the feasibility of staying with the Thorntons and Walkers at their isolated lake community. While searching northern Maine for a solution to his dilemma-- *he stumbles on a secret with the potential to destabilize the entire region.*

Dispatches concludes The Perseid Collapse Series, answering reader questions about the world scene, while cleanly delivering the Fletcher's fate.

Dispatches Details

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Author : Steven Konkoly

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From Reader Review Dispatches for online ebook

Jo-ann says

Decisions to make....

Big picture - world order collapsing, small picture - the Fletcher family and their extended family of friends are trying to make ends meet through the winter and spring. Maine's governor doesn't recognize the RRZ, military is about coup against RRZ and Alex , his son - Ryan, Charlie and Ed are in a middle of a firefight with a paramilitary group. Will outcome be a good one for everyone?

Great series that leaves you wondering about future possibilities.

Jo-Ann Doyle

Michael says

Plenty of post-apocalyptic action!

Having read this series from the beginning, it appears that the initial stages of the story could have been revisited. The asteroid's hitting the east coast and the launching of nuclear missiles in an apparent attempt to destroy it prior to impact, would have been a good topic to delve into further. The story seemed to show a disconnect with the other military actions taking place in other countries. The reader is left to wonder why these military actions are related. I read the Kindle version of these stories and found the editing and character development to be well done.

Rachael Ashak-Benson says

DO NOT READ THIS BOOK!

Really - Don't read this book!

If you are scoping out reviews to see if you should read this book ... as the 1st book you read in this series — why??

Why start with the very last book in a series? Or only read that book?

Do yourself a great favor and go back to the prequel. Begin there. Then enjoy all that this fantastic story has to offer. It's an awesome ride!

With that said I've written so many times in other reviews about Konkoly's superb craftsmanship when it comes to bringing characters to life. The attachment- positive or negative - you form with characters and how that relationship invests you in the story. You're hooked, basically. The perfect dialogue that just flows, and carries you along .. helping to create emotion. And there is so much emotion, all across the spectrum. I could, and have, gone on about each of these areas and more. The last point I do want to reiterate this time around is how Konkoly's experience and expertise with military life adds authenticity to this story (and his other work). My absolute favorite is the Marines. They are spot-on, and so heartwarming.

Bottom line — this series shares a seat at the table with the other greats in the military apocalypse genre today.

Now, some additional thoughts ——- :)

(No real spoilers.)

Konkoly mentions at the beginning of the book that there were some loose ends to tie up, therefore this book. Well, I feel like after the “Big Picture” section there’s more loose ends now than a preschool class all wearing tie sneakers on gym day! Yes, I totally understand that giving snippets of what’s going on in different parts of the world, one after the other, covered a ton of ground quickly. And it got the “big picture” job done.

But I’m left adrift.

For instance, the first family. What happens to them?? The author’s phenomenal character development skills come into play, and as a reader, I’m quickly immersed in the story, as well as totally invested in the characters. But then... we never get to hear from them again?

I’m dying to know what happens to them next. What does their journey entail? The characters are so incredibly interesting in relation to their situation and setting! I find myself doing whatever throughout the course of my day and that family crosses my mind. Niggling at me. Great idea for a spin-off book.

Then there are the Fletcher “kids.” “Kids” which include Ryan and Chloe. Who are aged what now? 25/26? Yet are still referred to and treated like “kids” in this story, and still with a “secret” relationship. As we left the whole crew this time - no shock here that everyone remains pretty much living together/near each other. The “kids” with their respective parents.

So - what is the future for the kids? Just settle into homesteading? Gardening, canning, hunting and fishing? Sneaking off into the woods here and there when the parents aren’t paying attention??

Seems pretty unrealistic.

Realistic for Ed and Charlie and their wives. And even Kate. But for adults in their mid-20’s?

There was one point in the story where Alex thought with some form of regret that Ryan, “would have made a great Marine officer.” And I thought FOR SURE that was some sort of foreshadowing.

Thus.... another spin-off book idea. Ryan and Chloe focused. Of course with a little Alex sprinkled in, because we all know he’s not really a “sit in your rocker in your 40’s” type either. ;)

Just a couple ideas Mr. Konkoly..... if you ever get bored or suffer from writer’s block. lol :)

RJ says

Book four says it's the conclusions of The Perseid Collapse series, but I'm not entirely convinced. Readers moved Konkoly to produce book four to resolve unanswered questions from the first three books. Book four answered many of those questions including the fate of the Fletcher family, but I can still see the fate of the nation and the Chinese in limbo. Book five Mr. Konkoly? This is a very good series with great characters and a steady flow. Well done.

Bettina G. May says

Not as much fun as the first threeww

I excitedly pressed pre-order when I saw that another Steven Konkoly but was available, but this sequel to the Perseid Collapse trilogy has more than a few bumpy spots. Some of the most important plot points are

confusing and poorly foreshadowed; the political background is not especially convincing. The author tells us the book deliberately contains two different stories, I think I would have enjoyed two separate books or one longer novel. I still really enjoyed revisiting characters from the first three books, and the glimpse into a world view so different from my own. I would recommend this book to anyone looking for a fast exciting read. If you enjoyed the Perseid Collapse novels this is a must read. Don't forget to check out the other stories in this series on Kindle World.

Bee Glosson says

Not impressed by this book at all. Its split into two different sides of the storyline. The first part being completely new characters from a completely different side of the story. Hard to get into these characters. Then half way through it drops you back into the original characters that carried you through the first 3 books. This book was more of a novella than a novel. Too short. Not enough substance. I only give this book 2.5 stars because of the second half of the book. Otherwise I'm not impressed. Books 2 and 3 in this series are the best in the series. Sorry

Joyce Robbins says

Setting up for book five

Still good, but not close to what the first three books were like, it's the talented writing that gets the three star rating.

While the first half of the book takes the reader to what is happening in other parts of the world, we wind up back in Maine with the Fletcher family and their neighbors. There is the prerequisites of a power struggle between two government agencies/officials, and between nature and man.

The author's talents for all things military gives us the gift of the ultimate car chase, one that would make Steve McQueen green with envy.

Would I recommend this book? Yes. As a stepping stone for the next book in his series, it sets up the foundation for the political power struggle that is occurring. The chase scene makes for good reading also, and the international struggles open the door for even more intriguing stories.

Gayle says

Disappointing

Although the ending of this book was good the beginning was a slow read. Too much unnecessary and irrelevant info in the first third of the book.

January says

Definitely edge of your seat thriller. Like others, though, I wonder if Part 1, which takes us to other parts of the world and the international situation, isn't a little out of place. Could there have been another way to give

us the international situation without introducing us to new characters and places? Will definitely read more by Konkoly.

Beth Lemberg says

Good read

The series finale closes out a good read for those who enjoy survival scenarios. Alex and his family continue their post EMP journey in Maine. Still beset by militia forces, federal intervention, and Winter, Alex stands tall as an ex-Marine with a pragmatic heart of gold. I enjoyed the series and think you will too.

vivian says

Excellent read

The series would make one epic book....lots of military jargon that might be .easy for some...can see series continuing. Will most likely read again to see what I missed first time.

Linda L. Morrison says

A must read for Apocalyptic/Dystopian EMP lovers!!!

I've read my share of reading books about Emp's, and I can truly say Steven Konkoly has done an incredible job in writing all four books in this series. I purposely held off writing a review until after reading book four, as I wanted to see where the story took us. Wow what a ride! The characters are absolutely believable, and you grow to feel like you're on the nightmarish tale with them. I'll always remember Alex and Kate Fletcher, their family and friends. If you've read ONE SECOND AFTER, and the sequel ONE YEAR LATER, you'll love Konkoly's books. Get them today, and you won't be disappointed. I'm actually hoping he does a fifth book in this series, telling us readers how things are progressing in this upturned world. A 5 star Bravo!!!!

Sean Fitzgerald says

Alex Fletcher for Governor of Maine.

Another solid installment in the Fletcher universe. Keep up the good work Konkoly, you have a knack for drawing me into your stories. The Black Flagged series was an exciting read as well. I eagerly await your next book in any series.

Ruthanne says

As a rule, I'm not big on end-of-the-world stories. This series kept me up late way to many nights, reading ahead to see what was next. Thoroughly enjoyed the series.

Charla Hale says

Great read!!

From start to finish the epic tale of The Fletchers grabs and never lets go... not even in the end!!
