



Stars and Scorpions

Austin Dragon

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Stars and Scorpions is the latest political, sci-fi thriller by Austin Dragon—a dramatic mix of politics, religion, and intrigue set over 75 years in the future.

The saga continues in the year 2088. “Wonderful” Tek World with its looming glass and steel towers, A.I. controlled cars and roadways, and net-enhanced residents under the watchful eyes of the Grid.

There is a conspiracy in Washington DC—to purge religiosity from the nation by, of all people, the president. Some say it's his reaction to seeing the Fall of Western Europe to the Supreme Islamic Caliphate decades ago. Others say his motives are far more sinister.

But the Resistance grows.

In America, the paramilitary leader of a secret Jewish group has set in motion a series of events. In Mexico, a young Catholic priest becomes a mythic leader, but will he live long enough to join the resistance?

It all leads to the explosion of the first global war of the tek age—World War III—a hell we have never seen before.

Stars and Scorpions is Book Two of the epic After Eden series.

Stars and Scorpions Details

Date : Published August 12th 2013 by Well-Tailored Books

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Author : Austin Dragon

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From Reader Review Stars and Scorpions for online ebook

Jason says

Full Review will posy on Feb 14th on my blog, Chill Reviews...Here is a taste...

“We're going to meet a lot of lonely people in the next week and the next month and the next year. And when they ask us what we're doing, you can say, We're remembering. That's where we'll win out in the long run. And someday we'll remember so much that we'll build the biggest goddamn steamshovel in history and dig the biggest grave of all time and shove war in it and cover it up.”

? Ray Bradbury, Fahrenheit 451

“The past is not dead. In fact, it's not even past.”

? William Faulkner

History is doomed to repeat. This has been the theme throughout history. Why? What can cause the human race make the same mistakes? Do we not learn?

Is it power?

Money?

Sex?

Ignorance?

Material possessions?

Religion or lack of?

Tony Parsons says

WWIII was not only a religious war but also with things that had been newly invented. It was coined the Tek age. The Holocaust how will anyone ever forget that reads about it.

9/11/2011 NYC was the 1st day it occurred. Over 60% of the US battle fleet was destroyed by the Supreme Islamic Caliphate Battle Group.

Each governmental country has the ability to keep an eye on the other with vid-cam Drones.

Secular division of sort.

The President of the US, Canada & Mexico met to discuss the situation.

Then the Hispanic population another ongoing matter.

& the Western countries (Iraq, Iran, Afghanistan, etc...) we are currently involved in. Watch out for North Korea, is Nostradamus way off his prediction? & what about the slums of India? Computer or tech outsourcing & they speak very little English. Then there is AIDS/HIV, & the newest pandemic Ebola Virus.

Not all this was in UR book, but U really did not miss a whole lot.

I did not receive any type of compensation for reading & reviewing this book. While I receive free books from publishers & authors, I am under no obligation to write a positive review. Only an honest one.

As a retired Vietnam veteran; Army thank you for serving the US.

My undergrad was history among other things. I loved that part of the book.

If Priest's have psychological training it does not do them much good. Do they even have a Code of Ethics?

A very awesome book cover, great font & writing style. A fairly well written HS age futuristic dystopian book. It wasn't always very easy for me to read/follow from start/finish, but never a dull moment. There were several grammar/typo errors (word spacing, misspelled words, but no repetitive or out of line sequence sentences. Lots of exciting scenarios, with several twists/turns & a huge set of unique characters to keep track of. This could very well make another great HS age futuristic dystopian movie, animated cartoon, or paid-per-view mini TV series. An enormous amount of pages to digest. But it seemed to be a lot of blah, blah, blah. This I call book filler. When it started out it was kind of cheesy. But as it went along I began to like it. Towards the end the story finally pieced itself back together. I'm not so sure it should have just been 2 separate books. You have the resume for a writer/author. I write APA only now. No room for error. You learn to be a perfectionist. The time line 2088-2095 flips to a different dimension a lot. That said I am only going to rate this at 4/5 stars.

Thank you for the free (Booklikes; Author; PDF) book
Tony Parsons MSW (Washburn)

Nathalie says

I really enjoyed the first book of this series, and like the first book, the 2nd one keeps coming with the twists and turns. It gets quite difficult to follow the different storylines at times, especially because it jumps a few decades at times, but maybe that's because I tend to read a bit fast sometimes and skip titles of chapters ;) One negative, the kindle edition (I can't speak for the paperback or hardcover) is not very well proofread, almost to the point of being a nuisance. Words missing or double, on almost every page, takes away a bit from the joy of reading. Still a great story!

Deborah says

An interesting idea of how our world could be in a few short years. It was a well written book and the style of the writer is nice and flows well. I especially enjoyed the character of Father Marcos. And the character of Shoshana was a kick butt woman. It was quite the interesting book and really not that unbelievable of what could happen.

Michael Eitniece says

Stars and Scorpions is a fantastic addition to the After Eden series. Austin Dragon has picked up where he left off, but writing the next part to story that is both explosive and terrifying. By that I mean, the action sequences move at a break-neck speed and keep you on the edge of your seat, while the story itself terrifies me because of how the majority (if not all) of it could come to pass. As with the previous book, Austin does

a great job of taking our true historical events and blending them into a future that is in the realm of possibility.

Book 2 in this series picks up where book 1 ended and shows the Jewish people's (the Stars) response to the current world governments towards religion, and the primarily Mexican Catholics (the Scorpions) fight to take back their country from the drug cartels and corrupt government. There are more great characters introduced in this book and I am especially fond of Father Marcos. He's been my clear favorite so far in the series due to his stance and the way he treats people. There have been plenty of characters in this series that are great to root for and villains that you'll love to hate, but Father Marcos still is at the top for me.

My very favorite thing about this series hasn't changed, though. I said it with book 1 and the same holds true for book 2, Austin does an amazing job of weaving together plot points. It's like he's holding several timelines in his hand and can see clearly where they will intersect and where they will diverge again. Sometimes I'll be reading a section in the book and wonder what Austin is doing with that particular plot point, but then I'll read further and everything comes together and makes sense. There are no loose ends or unfinished thoughts with this series. The way he weaves it all together still amazes me.

In summary, this is an excellent addition to the After Eden series. If you have already read Thy Kingdom Fall (book 1) and enjoyed it, you're going to love this one as well. I would recommend reading book 1 first, though. I think you could probably start with this book if you wanted, but some of the plot elements will just make more sense with the background book 1 provides. Plus, I just couldn't imagine missing any of the story in this series. It's that good!

*I received a copy of this book in exchange for an honest review. My thoughts and my opinions are my own.

Susan says

Stars and Scorpions is the second book in the After Eden series. While this is part of the series it can be read as a standalone, though it is clearly not the end of the storyline. There is violence.

Be aware of the political and religious topics that are in this book and series. Also realize that this book was published in January 2014, long before the current political climate around the world. Enjoy Stars and Scorpions for the well written FICTIONAL book it is. Could this possibly be the world in another 70 years? Yes it could be. But we could just as easily be living on the moon or Mars by then too.

The book blurb adequately describes the storyline so I'm not going to repeat all of that info here. The author did a good job of giving readers an overview of what this book and series is and will be about. Much of the book is set in the late 21st century and the world is, in some ways, radically different from our world today. Tek and drugs are almost everywhere in the United States, especially in the major cities.

Some readers will find the format of this book confusing due to all the multiple viewpoints and the back and forth on the timelines. But if you pay attention to the headings (which tell you the date, time, location) you will be fine and keep track of the storylines. This is definitely a series that I will keep reading!

Tanya says

i got an arc copy and i want to review

one of the most powerful men in the world wants to get rid of religion of all sorts. that man is the USA president. can he do it? will it only push it underground? will it cause more issues than it can solve? makes you think whether or not we can do without religion

Cats of Ulthar says

Review: STARS AND SCORPIONS (AFTER EDEN BOOK TWO) by Austin Dragon

If you've read Book One of the AFTER EDEN series, you are already familiar with the wide-ranging imagination of Author Austin Dragon, of the unexpected paths it takes, and the very frightening future it purports. If you've not yet read THY KINGDOM FALL, you can enter STARS AND SCORPIONS and still understand it; but I would suggest reading in order if at all possible.

This series, which could be categorized as DYSTOPIAN in all capitals, always puts me in mind of the Dystopian "In the Year 2525" (Zager & Evans, 1969) and of Dante's proscription, " Abandon hope, all ye who enter here." Deliver us from the type of society presented in this series.

George says

DRAGON SCORES AGAIN! Book #1 of this series, 'Thy Kingdom Fall,' provides background and sets the stage for an all too possible future where Government uses all means available to secularize the United States of America, removing religious obstacles to exercise of total power. Book #2 in the series, 'Stars and Scorpions,' focuses on efforts by followers of Judaism (Stars) and those of Catholicism as practiced in Mexico (Scorpions), to defend their faiths against external pressures: attacks against Judaism by the government of the USA; attacks against Catholics by the drug cartels and corrupt government of Mexico. It is not difficult to choose a side in these running conflicts, but Dragon set the hook with Book #1 and he keeps the line taught throughout Book #2. I tried to put Book #1 down more than once but always picked it back up. There was never a question about Book #2. AND, lurking in the shadows – but always probing – is the Islamic Caliphate sitting atop all of Europe, the Middle East, and parts of Asia and Africa. Their goal is world domination. World War III is coming.

Sophie David says

I really enjoyed this book, it was gripping and intense and sometimes downright sinister (especially the bits about Wisp!)

I also believe that this book heralds the birth of a new literary hero for me in the shape of Father Marcos. What a wonderful character he is. A genuinely good person and crime fighting hero on the side of his fatherly duties at the church. What a breath of fresh air he is amidst the death and destruction and lack of morality in the modern Tek world that this series is set in. Book 3, Rising Leviathan is bound to be thrilling

and I cannot wait to read it! I think this series just gets better each time.
