

WHAT TO KNOW TO SOUND LIKE YOU'VE READ THE BOOK

Overview – After Eden Series, Book #3

Rising Leviathan is the latest science fiction and international thriller in the After Eden series by Austin Dragon—a dramatic mix of politics, religion, and intrigue. The saga continues in the year 2096 with the inexplicable death of the Russian president. Or was it murder? As one leader falls, a deadly power rises. Will there be war or more than one? The march to the explosion of World War III continues—the first global war of the Tek Age, a hell we have never seen before.

From the Back Cover:

The science fiction and international thriller series continues.

It's the year 2096. Maybe world peace is possible, just a few years from the 22nd century! The Russian president hosts a summit of the world's three superpowers—America, the Islamic Caliphate, and the Chinese-Indian alliance. So much promise, so much hope, but the Russian president...dies.

Was his inexplicable death murder?

One moment world peace was in sight, now world war seems unstoppable. Will the Russian Bloc erupt in civil war, a regional war, or both?

One leader falls and a new deadly power rises. Leviathan will rise! But is it the name of a ruthless crime lord from Europa? Or is it the most powerful, "living" weapon ever constructed—a secret only known to the Faithers?

New enemies, new conspiracies, new dangers. The resistance moves from America and the Spanish Americas to Russia and Neo-Asia.

It all leads not just to the third of the world wars, but to the explosion of the first global war of the Tek Age—a hell we have never seen before.

Rising Leviathan is Book Three of the epic After Eden series.

The Cover:

The cover of Book #3, as with other After Eden books, suggests its main themes: the Mother Calls statue which, in this time, is not only the symbol of Russia, but the entire Russian Bloc—the alliance of both Russia and Eastern Europe—and is where the novel takes place. Also, we see from below the waters, giant tentacles emerge and entwine the statue. Is this the Leviathan referred to in the title?

Main Themes:

(1) Technology. The technological advances of the day continue to play a primary role in the lives of the population: from mobile devices far more ubiquitous than today to drones in the sky everywhere to smart-cars that drive you themselves. But there is a far darker side to the

technology going beyond simple health and medical reasons. It's being used for crime. It's being used to create other biological things far beyond what HG Wells envisioned in the *Island of Doctor Moreau* or Mary Shelley did in *Frankenstein*.

- (2) Politics. The first two novels in the series were focused on domestic politics in their countries (America and Mexico). Now we go to the international stage and see the leaders of the world's superpowers interacting with one another—all plotting against each other while they smile and shake hands at a summit in Russia. As we often see in history, nation-state empires are replaced by others, new ones appear, and others disappear. We learn that Russia wants to be a superpower too, as it was in the past. Unfortunately, that desperation leads to a disastrous chain of events for the country and we the reader already knows and even more disastrous event will come for everyone—World War Three.
- (3) Religion. With the first books of the series, there's been a focus on Atheists, Protestant Christians, Jews, and Catholic Christians. Here we're introduced to Wiccans and Mormons, and are introduced to a Hindu character. In the first two books, there is the Resistance, which are religious Americans in a quasi-civil war with the militantly atheist majority government. In the Russian Bloc, the same circumstances seem to be repeating: a militantly atheistic government targeting religious citizens. In the first two books, that Resistance was led by Christians and Jews. In this book the formation of its resistance movement seems to be the Wiccans. As with the first two books, we see pro-government religious people and anti-government ones. The conflict between these factions also turns violent.

We mustn't forget that the World War Three that the series is building to is a religious one and as such different religions, religious groups, and religious characters are at the forefront of this series. Of course, one's own religiosity or lack thereof, is always the lens that we view the world through. But the series is telling a very complex story of a lot of good and bad people whose conflict leads to some significantly great things but a whole lot of bad things. That is not a statement for or against practicing religion or non-religious atheism; the series is chronicling people and events leading to this global war.

- (4) Culture. We see a lot of people are slaves to the tek-saturated (technology-saturated), sex-obsessed, drug-obsessed superficial life of Tek World, their slang term for the "great modern world." But we see other people hungry for something else, something more, and something meaningful. They don't know what it is, but they want it. Some people ignore those feelings; others turn to suicide. Some of those people turn to religion.
- (5) Science. The novel enters what some would say are the horror and supernatural genres with some chapters, but it is actually covering very serious issues. The concept was first explored in the last novel and also in the *After Eden* Tek-Fall novellas; science progressing to a human form of "god-hood." The ability to create humans (clones), re-animate the dead (zombies), merge biology with robotics (cyborgs), or create whole new organisms (humanoid or creatures). In this time, the science has progressed to the level where unnatural organisms can be created for purposes no one would regard as "good."