

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

### Overview – After Eden Series, Book #1

*Thy Kingdom Fall* is the provocative, debut sci-fi thriller of author Austin Dragon—a dramatic mix of politics, religion, and intrigue set over 75 years in the future. In 2089, a former skin-runner-turned-star-reporter investigates the Washington DC daylight murder of the most powerful political king-maker in the nation. It is just the tip of a wider conspiracy and the start of a chain of events leading to the outbreak of World War III. It is the first in the epic After Eden series.

What makes the After Eden series unique is that it attempts to *directly* link our current times to this future.

#### From the Back Cover:

It is the morning of September 11, 2125. The New York City police commissioner stands on the 170<sup>th</sup> floor of the Three Towers, clutching his chest in shock. The sky goes dark, filled with dozens of them—the opening attack of World War III. Not merely our third global war, but the first one of the Tek Age— a hell we have never seen before.

How did we ever get to this place?

In 2089, a former skin-runner-turned-star-reporter quietly investigates the Washington DC daylight murder of the most powerful political king-maker in the nation. It is just the tip of a wider conspiracy and the start of a chain of events leading to this world catastrophe.

The world is a very different place: Western Europe has fallen to the Islamic Caliphate, Israel is gone, Eastern Europe has merged with Russia and Beijing runs the anti-American Chinese-Indian Alliance.

America is very different too. The US Constitution has been found unconstitutional and replaced, presidential term limits are gone, and the culture wars are over. The three-term American president is obsessed with keeping the nation safe at all costs—by ending religiosity. But the Resistance stands in his way.

*Thy Kingdom Fall* is Book One of the epic After Eden Series.

#### The Cover:

Besides the name, the cover of Book# 1 clearly suggests two main themes in this science fiction series: firstly, politics with the picture of the White House and, secondly, religion with the images of a Star of David and cross.

## Main Themes:

- (1) Technology. The population seems obsessed with their “toys”: computer-interface glasses, ubiquitous mobile devices, smart-cars that drive themselves, smart-houses that do all the cleaning and cooking for you, the occasional robot pet. The modern word is no longer technology but “tek.” The government has also embraced the new tek with ever-flying drones, ever-watching surveillance digital video systems and cybernetically-enhanced police officers.

There is a battle between the technology-saturated major tek-cities of the Pagan (anti-religious) society and the outer, self-segregated religious communities who live a simpler life but are very much as tek-savvy as the rest of the population.

- (2) Politics. The political landscape of the books is not contemporary. It is seventy-five years in the future. There is never a discussion of liberal or conservative, or even libertarian or independent. The political battles are gone. The government is obsessed with maintaining the order of Tek-World (general society) and fighting domestic and foreign terrorism.
- (3) Religion. In America religious people are now the minority as opposed to the eighty percent today who believe in God. The government and the culture is very much anti-religious and have passed laws to reflect their modern views. Religious people haven't completely disappeared; they live outside of the main tek-cities. We also see there are new, recognized religions: Vampires, Vulcans, Jedis, etc.

The battle extends beyond religious versus non-religious. Jews battle Jews, Christians versus Christians, etc. The series is filled with religious and non-religious “good guys” and “bad guys.”

- (4) Culture. The tek-cities may be wonderful to most of the population, but the cracks in “paradise” are also apparent. There are growing non-religious sub-populations: Anarchists, Nihilists, Hedonists, etc. Gender identification is mandatory by the government and there are now six gender categories. Marriage in any form is legal, all drugs are legal, and all sex occupations are legal.

Moreover, the general population is so integrated with tek at all times, that commentators are starting to refer to humankind as a new and permanent cyber-tek species.

- (5) World War Three. The first chapter of the book actually starts where the series will end—the opening attack of the War (known as “Wolf 359”). It is at the Three Towers in New York City and it is September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2125. It is a very visual sequence and as one reads the series with all the technological advancements and ideological-cultural-international conflicts, we realize that this global war could not be anything else but unprecedented and horrific.