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> *New York Times* **bestselling author Larry Bond thrills again in** *Lash-Up***, an explosive new novel.**

In a bid to dominate Asia and the western Pacific, China provokes a military crisis with the United States and then starts shooting down GPS satellites. America has only a short amount of time to devise some way of protecting its remaining satellites or China will gain an enormous advantage in the coming conflict. The only way the satellites can be protected is from orbit, so an armed spacecraft must be quickly designed, built, and launched to fight on this new battlefield.

A team of soldier-scientists must construct a craft capable of knocking space weapons out of the sky. The fate of the United States rests on the shoulders of these determined people.

Lash-Up Details

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Author : Larry Bond
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From Reader Review Lash-Up for online ebook

Greg Oaster says

Well researched and thought it. My only issue is with all the acronyms. I kept having to refer to the glossary to remember what they were.

Michael Barrs says

Mediocre read. Formula effort.

Ann Amadori says

Great story!

Dennis Hearon says

Actually, DNF. I had my doubts about this one from the beginning. From the author's note, I suspect this was actually a novella by Bond that was finished by the unidentified "co-author" Carlson. This is only apparent from the copywrite information and the Author's Note, but not on the cover anywhere. Abysmal writing , even by Mil-lit standards (where the bar is, admittedly, very low") A complete waste of time and money.

Skovrodino says

This had to have been the first technothriller I've ever read where the focus was overwhelmingly on the engineering/development work rather than on the action or the geopolitics. The biggest conflicts in the book are bureaucratic and logistical, with a bit of espionage tacked-on to make it less dull. The fighting between China and its neighbors was just an excuse to get the high-tech project under way; any actual military action is incidental and held-off until the very end.

Although this was a fresh (and somewhat unexpected) departure from his usual work, this was not the author's best. I would not recommend this to a first-time Larry Bond reader; only read Lash-Up after you've gone through the better ones.

Otavio says

Fun Clancy Spin Off

The novel lifts off at a ponderous pace. I finally skimmed the political sections. They didn't add anything to the story. But the practice of focusing on our anxious anti-hero pulled the story through a slow beginning. But like the eponymous Defender, once the tension level began to rise, Lash-Up rose steadily to the climax. A fun tech thriller in the Tom Clancy mold.

Chuck says

This yarn takes place in 2017 A.D. China is amassing troops along it's border with Vietnam. It's navy is positioning itself offshore. America then realizes it has lost signal from one of it's orbiting GPS satellites; then another and another and determines that China is responsible by virtue of a giant, mountain based gun shooting armed satellites into space. The loss of the GPS satellites begins to adversely affect the guidance systems of our missiles and smart bombs.
What in the world can be done to counter this attack? Ray McConnell, a civilian engineer with the Navy's Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command has an idea however it is quite involved. He suggests modifying an old spacecraft, a Lockheed "Skunk Works" innovation which was meant to replace the Space Shuttle, to include armament and defend our remaining satellites. I am not a Sci-Fi fan but this is contemporary enough to be believable.

Mark Polino says

Lets be clear, this isn't a techno-thriller. It's defense contractor's management daydream with a small spy thriller thrown in. There's no action until the end and I mean no action and by the end, I mean the very, very end.

Ric says

Near-future, tech-heavy military SF. In preparation for an incursion into Vietnam, China uses a newly-developed long-gun to methodically destroy the US' military GPS satellites. At an attrition rate of one sat per week, the US must respond quickly or give up point accuracy from its GPS system in a looming war with China. The American executive empowers a ragged group of engineers and officers to put together a fighter space plane from mothballed and black-cover research projects, reflecting the "lash-up" of the title. And from there, as is often said in this type of thriller, the race is on.

When the luster of Larry Bond's war-gaming books such as Vortex, The Enemy Within and Cauldron, diminished from formulaic repetition, I thought I was done with his work. But what a difference a little fancy SF tech can make. In Lash-Up, he delivers (with the help of a co-author whom he acknowledges in the afterword) an entertaining, tech-heavy read. In particular, I enjoyed the space action segments. Read the whole book as a war-gaming what-if scenario to help overcome the initial wtf reaction.

Recommended for those who enjoy technological thrillers and military SF. 5 stars.

Henri Moreaux says

Lash Up is based on the short story which originally appeared in Stephen Coonts' Combat anthology, it's been fleshed out and expanded into a full length novel with everything that had to be cut from the original to meet the forty thousand word limit.

It is vastly more realistic than your average techno-thriller which is generally filled with fanciful future technology, whereas in Lash-Up everything is mostly plausible. The novel commences with China commencing an indirect attack on the United States by shooting down their GPS satellites with a new weapons system, they do this in an attempt to get the United States to back down over a confrontation between China and Vietnam.

Enter Ray McConnell who has an idea on how to protect the American GPS satellites from China's new weapon.

An enjoyable page turner with quite a climatic ending, it's not a deep literature award winning novel, but it's enthralling and entertaining.

Jeff Danhauer says

Don't think too hard about it, It's just a good 'popcorn' read. An old fashioned 'yeah - that's how I'd do it' book

Tim says

After a painstakingly, agonizingly slow first 2/3, this story finally ramps up. What took so long and who would have an unvetted in a secure facility? Fortunately, the ending saves this. 5 of 10 stars

Warren says

Smashing

For an expansion of an original short story the authors filled out the storyline exceptionally well. Hopefully existing systems in this story work as well if needed. A spaceforce is needed, a separate service with no allegiance to any existing service or agency. However interservice fighting does happen, just have to remember the USAF's white paper "Global Power, Global Reach." Enjoy!

Dwain Weckman says

A rather long-winded description of the development of a new space-based weapon while working outside of the normal military development programs. Seems like it ran out of steam at the end - resolution of the conflict with China only took one paragraph at the end.

Ben says

First time reader of Larry Bond. Was an enjoyable story of the Chinese v the USA. The Chinese shot down several of the USA's GPS satellites causing the USA to retaliate (sort of). The protagonist develops a design for a star fighter to knock out the Chinese weapons. Not a story I've come across before but very enjoyable.