



Invasion

Sean Platt , Johnny B. Truant

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They are coming. The countdown has begun.

First visible only as blips on a telescope image, the discovery of objects approaching from Jupiter orbit immediately sets humanity on edge. NASA doesn't even bother to deny the alien ships' existence. The popular Astral space app (broadcasting from the far side of the moon and accessible by anyone with internet) has already shown the populace what is coming. So the news has turned from evasion to triage, urging calm and offering the few facts they have:

The objects are enormous, perfectly round spheres numbering in the dozens, maybe hundreds. They are on an approach vector for Earth. And they will arrive in six days.

Fear simmers.

Meyer Dempsey - mogul, wealthy entrepreneur, arrogant and always in charge - is in New York, on the phone with his ex-wife in LA when the news breaks. He can hear tension in the voices of reporters and experts chronicling all that's known and unknown. But even while those supposedly in charge restrain their own panic, Meyer finds he recognizes bits and pieces of what the world is facing. He's seen this in dreams - in visions of another place. He knows where he and his family must go. He has prepared ... though he never knew until now what he'd been preparing for.

He knows only they cannot hesitate. They must run to their safe haven in the Colorado mountains. Now. Before society shatters into chaos, and it all falls apart.

Fear rises.

Meyer has been taking steps for months, and has made preparations: a trove of supplies, a van stocked for the worst, a Gulfstream waiting at a small airstrip in Jersey. But he hasn't yet been able to take the final and most important step: moving the family to Colorado, where every contingency is covered.

The networks stay on-air longer than expected, creating a farce of calm. But those with means have already begun to scramble as Meyer gathers his wife Piper and his two teenage children and begins their race toward that compound, toward safety. There is no time for hesitation, regret, or pity. Soon, pundits begin to ask questions hard enough to tip those who've thus far stayed calm out of their complacency, inciting chaos:

What do the beings inside the ships want? What will they do when they arrive? And what if the scientists are wrong, and the spheres aren't decelerating? Will they strike the planet, raising clouds of extinction dust? Will they knock the Earth off its axis? Is this a prelude to an alien invasion? An alien war? An alien apocalypse? The first domino in the birth of a new alien empire?

Fear erupts.

Panic, once it breaches the thin crust of civilized society, spreads like a virus. Meyer knows only one thing, and it's a truth that has perched atop his mind like a psychic obsession: When the ships arrive, his family must be at the Colorado compound or all will be lost. The space fleet in itself doesn't matter. The disintegration on the surviving news outlets does not matter. Reports that Las Vegas has been set ablaze do not matter. The fate of humanity, in Meyer's eyes, doesn't matter.

All that matters is Piper. Trevor. Delilah. And Meyer's ex-wife Heather, coming to the same destination from the west - a woman who remains his best friend, and his secret lover.

Rioting spills into the highways as time ticks away. Unrest boils in both city and hinterlands. But Meyer's obsession to reach Vail is single-minded, guided with the focus of a far-seeing nightmare. Gangs can ground his plane, threaten his vehicles, and steal his belongings. But nothing will stand between Meyer's family and their haven ... and Meyer will kill his way to Colorado if he has to.

This relentless, page-turning tale of apocalyptic dawn is the first in the alien invasion series by masters of story Truant and Platt, authors of *The Beam*, *Robot Proletariat*, the *Dream Engine* series, and many more.

Invasion Details

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From Reader Review Invasion for online ebook

G.G. says

Contrarily to what the title says, the whole story isn't about an invasion but about a family who tries to reach a bunker the father had had built in case of such an event. The event, you might wonder, is that spaceships are spotted in our solar system and they seemed to be aiming directly for Earth. It doesn't take long for people to panic, the flights to be grounded and for our little family to start having trouble going where they need to be.

The main protagonist might not be the likeable one we might expect. We soon learn he's a cheater who still have sex with his ex. Yet, we can't really hate him. At least, I didn't. He does all he can to bring his family to safety (and that includes his ex on the other side of the country).

So, as we read we live the trouble they have, and the fears and all. It's well done. It keeps you reading. However, if you were looking for aliens and such, well, you'll probably have to wait for the sequel as we don't learn much about them. Since what we do learn is at the end of the book, I won't say a word so not to spoil. (The sequel is offered free at the end of the book if you don't feel like spending a dime.)

Over all, if you're ok with what I said above, you should like the book. I did.

Melissa ♥ Dog/Wolf Lover ♥ Martin says

FREE IN KINDLE 1-5-16

Chris says

Read all six seasons of Yesterday's Gone and loved it. Invasion is nothing like that. We're stuck on a road trip with a sociopathic narcissist, who believes he and his idiot family are the only ones who deserve to survive the coming alien holocaust because "he is prepared for it."

The second book in the series is offered free at the end of the Kindle book. No thanks.

Steve Kinsman says

I didn't dislike it but I was unimpressed overall. I should have known the writing style would be a bit immature just from the character names - Piper, Delilah etc - but I thought I was being judgemental.

There are too many irritating characters doing things that don't add up. There are too many coincidences and artificial cliff-hangers at chapter ends. It's kind of engaging (enough so that I got through it quickly) but a long way from being good literature - you're aware of the amateur style throughout.

The follow-up, "Contact", was free so I'm now reading that but kind of regretting it. Either I've really had enough now or it is on a downhill slide.

Melissa says

I hated "Meyer F*cking Dempsey," and his entire lot, BUT this was a great audiobook for my weekday commute. It was very well-paced and exciting. I'll look forward to the next installment.

Diane says

Great idea and good solid writing. I just didn't enjoy spending time with these characters. I also didn't like the cliffhangerISH ending.

Wayne Marinovich says

Pulled the plug after 5 or 6 chapters. Way too much TELL for me. No different hook in early story line to many other alien landing books. Gutted as I really wanted to like it. Too many other good books to read

Steph says

(Listened to audiobook w/hubby) Didn't really track that Meyer, a man who had supposedly incredible insight and preparedness, would not include certain (seemingly obvious) survival items. But, aside from that, which very much frustrated my retired Marine hubby to no end, we're curious to see where the story goes from here.

Alan Zendell says

This book turned out to be a lot more entertaining that I expected it to be. I almost put it down after the first few pages because it seemed more vulgar than it needed to be and the main protagonist seemed modeled after Donald Trump. However, both impressions changed as I stuck with it. Meyer Dempsey turned out to be rather likable, spiritual in his own way, and heroic - a good guy to have along in a crisis. And while much of the dialogue remains crude in spots, it seems to fit the characters and the situations they're in.

The opening book in the Invasion series, this volume has Meyer desperately trying to get his family to safety in Vail, Colorado from New York (including an ex-wife Heather traveling from Los Angeles and Raj, the unexpected Indian boyfriend of daughter Lila who is shanghaied along by circumstances). They have five days before the aliens arrive and civilized behavior is breaking down everywhere. It's not all completely believable, but it turns out to be fun.

The best line is when Heather is trying to talk about personal matters with the family and she says to Raj,

"Why don't you go do some math".

Emotional Reads says

The hero was a cheating jerk, setting up a sex date with his ex wife while married to another woman, in fact cheating on his wife their whole marriage, then this author having the wife thinking that if he is cheating it's her fault. The jerk wasn't hero material and I kept hoping he would be the first person to die.

I hated, hated the so called hero. The cheating jerk

Kathy says

The Aliens are coming, and it is something that Meyer Dempsey as known for years. He lives in NY with his family, but is building a house in CO with a huge bunker underneath it, and has stocked it with enough supplies to live there a very long time. When the ships are spotted approaching Earth, everyone panics. Meyer works hard to get his wife, two children and a friend out of the city, no matter what it takes. This is book one in a series of seven. I liked it, and it was a fast read. I don't know yet if I will continue with the series, as this was a free book on my Kindle.

Patrick Sherriff says

I've been listening for three years or so to Johnny Sean and Dave, the Piglet, Tigger and Eeyore of self-publishing podcasting, and I thought it was about time I read one of the trio's novels, having at least two on my Kindle. From their chat on their podcast (formerly The Self-Publishing Podcast, now rebranded as Story Studio), I was aware that Invasion had been written as a commercially appealing start-of-series book designed to shoe-horn readers into the wide end of the funnel and hopefully getting them addicted to the story and therefore becoming a paying reader of however many instalments the series has (five? six?).

Well, for the funnel to do its magic, you need a damned good first book (I learnt that from Johnny, Sean and Dave's excellent Write, Publish and Repeat book). And, well, Invasion was not quite it for me. The story is essentially a narcissistic family's road trip to a bunker to see out the alien invasion. How heroic. At times it felt like I was reading a script for a porno without the sex. Why should I care about the boorish movie mogul producer protagonist who still had the hots for his smart-alec ex-wife? Or his teenage son who had a crush on his current wife? Or the protagonist's secretly pregnant daughter? Or her dopey boyfriend whose only characteristic was his name was Raj and he was of Indian descent? There was a decent cliffhanger or two and I managed to read it all the way to the end, so it is worth another star for that. Not sure I'll continue with the series, but may try out their Beam sci fi series, which the lads say is more cerebral, and frequently plugged in the text of Invasion. Oh well, nobody died (unfortunately).

Download my starter library for free here - <http://eepurl.com/bFkt0X> - and receive my monthly newsletter with book recommendations galore for the Japanophile/crime fiction/English teacher in all of us.

Patrick Stemp says

What strikes me most is how real the characters are in Truant and Platt's books. They aren't afraid to deal with feelings and thoughts that real people have but desperately keep to themselves. You don't see that a lot - everything is very PC these days, even in fiction. But not here. So aside from the impending invasion, we get a real look into the heads and hearts of real people dealing with real problems - some related to the situation at hand, but many more spilling over from their lives "before".

Michael Ronn says

I wasn't sure what to expect when I picked up Invasion, but I'm glad I did. It's extremely well-written, and it is definitely a page turner. I won't summarize the plot (other reviewers have done this better than I can), but the premise is fantastic and the book moves quickly.

Meyer Dempsey is probably one of my favorite Sterling & Stone main characters--I really felt like I knew him, and I found myself thinking about him even after I put the book down. My only complaint is that Meyer was so well done that the rest of the family just wasn't engaging enough to keep up with him. Not a major problem as the series is just getting started, but something I noticed. All in all though, I would recommend this series if you're a S&S fan---you won't be disappointed.

The audio narration was also good. The narrator did an excellent job with Meyer and his voice was perfect for him. I thought the other characters weren't as well-voiced, and I thought the pacing/reading could have been better. I thought some of the minor characters (the Iowans in particular) sounded too hillbilly for me, but that's a minor quip. Overall, it's a solid narration though not S&S's best.

Brenda Rothert says

Great writing of an outstanding story. Sean Platt hooked me with Yesterday's Gone, and I loved Invasion just as much.
