



The End of Modern Civilization

T.I. Wade

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At exactly midnight on December 31, every electronic device made in China for the last 30 years stops working!

From the U.S. electrical grid and all its back-ups, engine control-management systems, early warning systems on U.S. satellites, every motor vehicle, aircraft and ship made after 1985, to even simple memory chips inside children's teddy bears—every electronic fuse, resistor, or connector that was "Made in China" becomes dormant... forever.

At one minute past midnight on January 1st, every modern television broadcast of the U.S. New Year's Eve festivities on the East Coast black-out. Millions of motor vehicles with an engine management system or engine-computerized system suddenly die, causing loss of control and thousands of accidents only seconds into the New Year. Traffic lights, directional beacons, communication stations, and all aircraft landing systems black out a couple of minutes later, as their modern back-ups start failing. Children's Christmas presents, nearly forgotten, stop buzzing, moving, and blinking and go silent. Radios, computers, and all forms of electronic communication devices—even the latest 132 million electronic Christmas presents given only a week earlier (iPhone 5Gs, IPod Nano 4s, IMac Notepads and iPad 3s) go silent, never to blink on again. Ninety seconds after midnight, the entire electrical grid of North America deactivates itself and goes into close-down mode.

The shutdown of the United States of America, and 97% of the entire world, is accomplished by 12:30 am U.S. Eastern time on the first day of the New Year.

It takes only 30 minutes to completely dismantle the whole of modern Western civilization.

The End of Modern Civilization Details

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From Reader Review The End of Modern Civilization for online ebook

Drew says

The two star rating on this book is based on the book alone. The problem from my eyes of this book is that it sets the stage for later books in the series. As a result there is a lot of background and a lack of action in this book. For the first 250 or so pages it is truly just background which I'm sure will be helpful in the later books, but wasn't good for a standalone book. After reading this I am planning on going on to book two but if you're looking to get this book then be aware that you'll probably have to commit to at least two books rather than just the one. Also pilots will love this book as there is a lot of flying talk!

Nancy says

This book was very hard to finish. Honestly, I skimmed about half. I couldn't get into it. It's just too drawn out. Too long and tedious. Too boring. The last third, after the catastrophe, when all the action picks up, is good. The concept is good. The writing...not so much.

So basically, a Chinese corporation spends 30 years getting their microchips and computer part thingies into everything around the world. If it has "Made In China" stamped on it, these guys probably made it. Then, they decide to flip the kill switch and shut it all down. Apparently, it's up to a group of plane enthusiasts to figure out why and - I'm assuming - save the day.

Great concept. Really good idea. Very tedious. I'm trying to think of good things to say, but other than "great concept," I can't. The first 2/3 of the book are spent setting everything up...in excruciating detail. Seriously, I don't need to know the family history and background of EVERY character. It was so hard to muddle through it all. I really just ended up skimming it. Once the action picked up, it was still a bit tedious, but it was at least interesting.

The biggest problem I have with this novel, other than how boring it was, was that I couldn't connect with any character. I usually can connect with the main character and a few of the others. The character I felt the most connection to was the chairman of the Chinese corp. I just wanted him to hurry up and push the button and hopefully get rid of the main characters. Really, though, I seriously did like the idea - that's why I got the book - but it was just SO hard to read! Normally when I read, I stop seeing words and start seeing the story. Didn't happen here. I just couldn't get engrossed like I normally do. Hopefully, the next book will be better. I don't know if I'll get it, though. If I do, it'll be after the price comes down or it goes on sale or something. I can't justify spending almost \$5 for the sequel to a book I didn't really like.

Aviation buffs will probably love the book, though.

Brian Turner says

Techno thriller about a takeover of the worlds major powers, and the aftermath. Good thing was the cause of the takeover, and how long it took to implement (no Bond style super weapons).

The villains were also fairly credible, and their parts of the book are where it shines.

The heroes...all seemed to be super intelligent, super rich, and able to afford what may turn out to be the solution. Unfortunately, their parts of the book seemed to drag (quite a wordy bunch).

Despite the world being taken over, it's very USA-centric at this point, not sure if that will change in later books.

Steve Rankin says

The plot was great I would actually give that 5 stars. The problem was, there was WAY to much character development going on late in the book. I do not expect to STILL be going through character development (including flash backs to already written points) halfway through a book. At least not with an action book, Which is what this one reads like.

Also there were many many places where there was a need for better proofreading and spell check, repeated words, misspelled words use of the wrong homophone. For me, The editing was what really dragged this book down so bad that it lost stars.

If this could be cleaned up and made a little less stilted I might be inclined to think about reading more books by this author.

Carol says

Very interesting story.. sends shivers up you spine (thinking it could REALLY happen!!) I struggled a bit for the firat part (about 60% of the book) and then I couldn;t put it down.. finished the last 40% in one sitting!! The first half is setting up the story - fair enough ut the minute details of every kind of aircraft got very boring. I love flying too but who cares if a model C plane is 7 kilometers slower than a model D ?? It detracts from the story.

Some great characters are involved in this end-of-the-world-as-we know-it saga and I just hope the next books are as good 'cos this first one leave you on a terrific cliff hanger..

Paul Belanger says

The story itself is okay, but the characters seemed to be carbon copies of each other. Everyone was an expert electrical engineer and expert pilot. The main character is rich, has his own airfield, and owns a couple of war birds. Some of his normal friends own war birds as well. I wish I could own a war bird or two. They're expensive to own and even more expensive to operate and maintain.

I read a review elsewhere complaining about the editing and conversations not being real. I agree. The editing is very bad. I found many missing words or use of the wrong word. It gave me the impression that the editor never actually read the book but only glanced for red underlines in a word processor. Granted, I didn't see any misspellings, but come on. If I can catch things like this why can't someone who is trained, and paid,

catch it? That's the biggest travesty. Then the editor would have cleaned up the horrible conversations too.

Well, I'm a pilot, so aviation-related stories get a more critical eye. At one point the author is talking about airspeed in a run-on sentence and then uses the word altitude erroneously. I wish I wrote it down so I could quote the misuse but, alas, I didn't. The editor should've flagged the sentence for the author to review. Then in a couple of places he refers to Flight Level 25. All Flight Levels in the US drop the last two zeroes starting at 18,000' (Flight Level 180). So it should have been Flight Level 250. In foreign countries the Flight Levels can start much lower, like 4,000' (or Flight Level 40). Sorry for the lesson. Some military flight simulators I've played used different terminology. So 25,000' would be Angels 25. Maybe the author confused the two?

Luckily, I got the book for free on Amazon during a promotion. It was mildly interesting enough that I bought the second book. Look for that review next.

Brad T. says

Loved it!!!

S says

I started and stopped reading this book 3 times before I eventually persevered and got through the early chapters. The reason for my persistence was because I liked the concept very much and after reading a review of the second book in the series I decided to give it another try. The problem I found was the first couple of chapters were not engaging enough and the author flooded the book with in depth material about the old planes, which whilst informative could put off casual readers. There was a lot of flying around going on without much storyline progression in the earlier chapters but once the Chinese angle of the story came in to play the story became a little more interesting.

*****SPOILERS*****

I would like to have read more about the character Lee Wang and find out more about he became friends with Carlos as I found his character to be one of the more interesting. Furthermore, it wasn't really made clear as to whether Lee had grown disillusioned with his undercover job or whether he was just reacting to the threat of the hit squad. I also found it a bit implausible that the military just decided to base themselves in Preston's farm within 24 hours of the attack and the troops started taking instruction from Preston!

Overall, the final third of the book was well paced and enjoyable and by the time I finished the final chapter I was ready to jump straight in to the second book.

Thomas Adams says

I agree with both pro and con comments made by other reviewers. Pro: a very believable and chilling scenario. Con: way to much character development and too much time building up to the disaster part. That said I will read the next book in the series as I do like the story line. This was your classic, "The first one's free" gambit of a free Kindle book but hey, I really knew that going into it!

Balthazar Lawson says

This book is very drawn out in parts and thus very dull in parts. It's also repetitious and full of totally pointless details about flying. If a good editor got hold of this book it could have been cut by almost half.

The idea is interesting but the execution of that idea is a bit of a disaster.

I like future war thrillers and unfortunately this doesn't get to that stage as it's only the first part in a series and the war has yet to begin. This is the biggest let down of the book. It's the prelude to the real events.

Overall I was disappointed with this.

The story only got interesting when things started going wrong.

Ann237 says

First, this would make a great movie! Even though it was a bit dragged out at times in the beginning, with all the different airplanes, and character descriptions, most of it all fell into relevancy later on. I found myself looking up the different planes on the web for a better visual, in my reading experience. The author did a great job in giving the reader food for thought. How far will some go for control? Some would say not that far, I would reply " watch the news to see how far people go, and the things they do for a hell of a lot less." So glad I do not have to wait for book 2 to be written. I may just dive right in now....

Javida says

Invasion USA is a series about how the Chinese turn off everything made in China after 1985 in an attempt to take over the world. The setting of the first book is all over the United States and in some parts of China. The book is told by several different perspectives, but every main character has something in common they like to collect and fly ancient antique World War 2 planes. They also have friends who collect World War 2 army vehicles. Together they might be the new USA air force and Army.

In my opinion this book was amazing, it was written very well and it has a good plot. The writer really makes you understand everything that is going on. You get to know the characters like you know your best friends. When the author described what it was like to be flying I felt like I was actually in the plane. He talked about the amazing views and the swoosh of the wings as the plane banks. This book was great and I am currently reading the second in the series.

Barry Sherrill says

Terrific vacation book. Very believable and chilling. Even if you're not an aviation buff, it's still exciting. Characters are easy to believe and the good guys are very likable. Highly recommended!

Stephen says

This looks like a solid beginning to a great series. At first I thought this might be related to the old Chuck Norris film Invasion USA. I was wrong. This book was about a Chinese plot to shut down the majority of the world's electronics. Once that is accomplished it was up to a group of pilots to start restoring communications with antique aircraft. This book dealt a lot with refurbished planes and going around newer circuit boards. I had a great time reading it and am looking forward to the next one in the series.

Elizabeth says

So I'm 19% in the book and I don't know how I feel ,if I like it or not,so far in each of the chapters that I've read you meet a different character and that chapter basely tells you something about their past and history as well as going back and forth between the characters and Jiangsu Province, China , so right now I'm on chapter 6 and its about the Smart Family, last chapter was Chapter 5 and it took place in Jiangsu Province, China -1980s. So I'll keep reading to see what happens next, you do in the first chapter find out something is kind of wrong but I'm not going to say what that is, if you want to know your going to have to read this first book for your self. So I just finished it and I have to say its different then anything I've ever read before ,it kind of reminded me of that movie called Red Dawn (1984) with Charlie Sheen and Patrick Swayze. Where its i the dawn of World War III. In mid-western America, a group of teenagers bands together to defend their town, and their country, from invading Soviet forces, if you ever seen that movie you know what I'm talking about but in this book its not a group of teenagers that band together and its the Soviet forces that are invading, so like I said before if you want to know what's happen and who is invading then you have to read this first part of the series to see.
