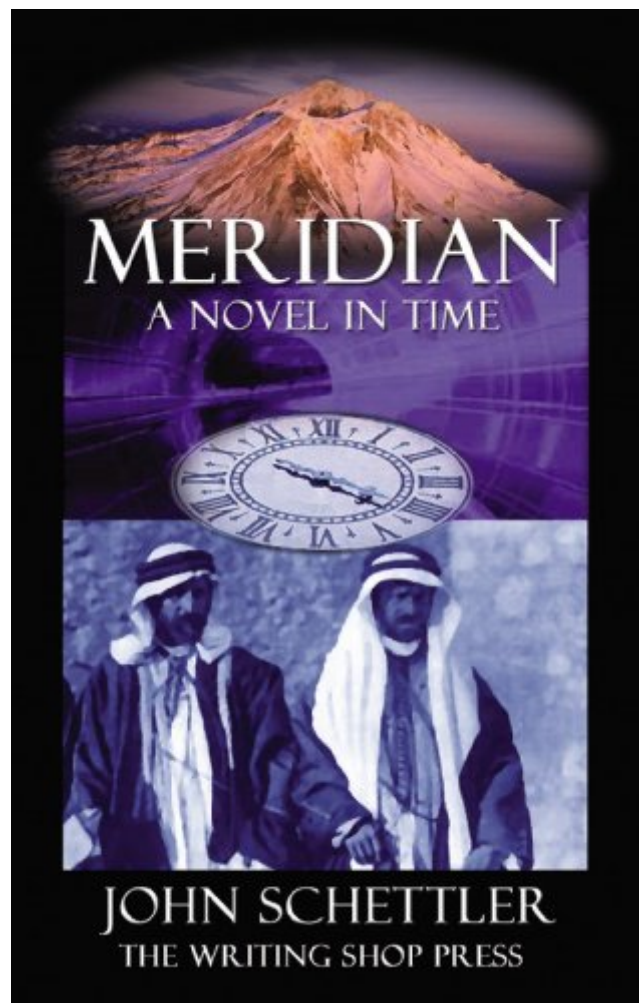




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Meridian - A Novel In Time (The Meridian Series Book 1)



Synopsis

ForeWord Magazine's "Book of the Year" 2002 Silver Medal Winner- Science Fiction -The Meridian Series is a now set of five linked volumes comprising a quintet of extraordinary novels in the popular time travel genre. It is the story of the first ever attempt to travel in time on a rainy Memorial Day weekend set in the very near future. The project team has acquired the recently demolished site of the venerable Bevatron complex at Lawrence Berkeley Labs, and quietly built their "Arch Complex" to test new physics principles in Quantum Mechanics that allow for time travel. The four main characters in the novels each have a unique discipline and contribution to make to the effort. Team leader Paul Dorland is the Physicist who developed the theory behind the Arch facility. Dorland is a dreamer as he tinkers with infinity, his mind ever on the physics, and he often serves to explain elements of the intricate time theory for the reader in a straightforward and believable way. He is ably assisted by computer and math wizard Kelly Ramer, a down to earth and sometimes comical character who finds himself in severe jeopardy due to the annihilating effects of Paradox any number of times in the series because his death was prevented as a means of enabling this first mission to happen. The mission research is the province of Chief Historian Robert Nordhausen, an esoteric, eclectic, overly curious professor who often spars with, and is held in check by, the analysis of Outcomes & Consequences led by the feisty and determined Maeve Lindford. The opening volume, Meridian, deals with the "Palma Event," a willful act carried out by radicalized Islamic terrorists, the opening salvo in the ongoing Time War. This opening volume finds the last member of the project team arriving late with the news of a catastrophic event on the Island of Palma. The Cumbre Vieja volcano has collapsed, and upon learning that this was a willful event caused by the detonation of an atomic "suitcase bomb" the team cancels its appointment with Shakespeare and sets out to find some way to prevent the event from happening. If they fail, the whole eastern seaboard of the United States will be devastated by the massive tsunami generated by the "Palma Event." They have 6 to 8 hours to research and plan their mission before the first wave sets crashing ashore, and the research leads them to the Jordanian desert during WWI and the fabled adventurer Lawrence of Arabia. Meridian is an intelligent, compelling, fast paced story that is impossible to put down.

Book Information

File Size: 769 KB

Print Length: 352 pages

Publisher: The Writing Shop Press; Kindle edition (May 12, 2009)

Publication Date: May 12, 2009

Sold by:Â Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B0029U196I

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #448,010 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #44

inÂ Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Nonfiction > Science > Physics > Time #158 inÂ Books >

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Customer Reviews

This book would be great if I was very very analytical, as I'm not it moved too slow and was way to technical, couldn't get into it at all. Sorry, the person who recommended this author loves him and reads everything. Just not the author for me.

a made for ebook alt-history, about a third of the way thru nothing goes zing, or urk so about average

I just had to review this novel because I so thoroughly enjoyed it. Meet the very first people to travel through time! They live here in the Bay Area and it's the night before they are about to conduct a human test of their arch through time. A stranger shows up from the future to tell them they will be successful in their experiment but he has been sent back in time to give them a task to save western civilization from a cataclysmic catastrophe! As the story unfolds the author expounds on his theory of time which is one of the best and most coherent yet simple theorems I've ever read. He views Time as a somewhat organic fabric that responds to great events and allows things to change at certain nexus points, always remembering that cause and effect is constantly operating a zero sum game! All I can say is if you're a time travel fan you have to read these books. They are well written, backed by good solid scientific thought and tell a great story. I'm telling all my friends about

it so I can talk about them with someone. Just finished the second book and now I'm off to the third one! I hope you enjoy them as much as I am!

I like time travel stories, even though I don't think it's really possible. This is one of the better time travel stories.

The negative reviewer has some nitpicky things he found wrong with the novel, one of them being that the novel was self-published. I, for one, consider that a positive thing; who wouldn't want to support an up and coming author? I, for some reason, am constantly reading time travel stories and I personally find Schettler's approach to be very unique. Sure, there are some dialogue issues, but I highly recommend the series.

I was encouraged by the reviews of prior readers about this novel. After all, it got five stars. Pretty good, hey? Now I'm wondering if the reviews I read were from the author's friends and relatives since I was most disappointed to learn that "Meridian" was actually a self-published book and not a very good one at that. Why? First off, the beginning chapters are devoted to where and when a group of four will travel in a time-machine that is the first of its kind in history. So where and when do they decide to go? Witnessing Christ dying on the cross? Being with Columbus when he discovered the new world? The dropping of the A-bomb on Hiroshimi or Nakasaki? The assasination of John Kennedy? Being with Martin Luther King when he said "I have a dream." No. They wish to go and observe one of Shakspeare's plays being performed. Give me a break! Maybe doctoral students in English literature would be turned on by such a trip but what about the rest of us? Second, the dialogue is fairly stupid (sorry, I can't think of a better word) and I can see why the author went the self-publishing route. Example: he keeps saying "we need to go to UC Berkeley" every time (which is frequent) that he refers to the campus instead of saying "campus", "Cal", "the university" or some other appropriate reference to the place instead of continually repeating "UC Berkeley." This may sound like a nit-pick except that it is actually reflective of the type of writing he does throughout the story. There are a slew of great time-travel novels out there. Despite its "award," t his is not one of them. Si-Fi readers need to pass on this and should not be advertising self-published works in the first place or, at the very list, referring to such novels as being of the self-published variety, thus giving the potential buyer like me the opportunity to pass on it.

Meridian - A Novel in Time, by John Schettler received "Honorable Mention" in the Genre Fiction

category for the Writer's Digest 2002 Book of the Year contest! Competition was particularly fierce, with over 2100 entries, and even though the book did not garner top honors, the Writing Shop was pleased to receive this recognition on the very first title it published under the "Writing Shop Press" label. The novel scored 9.5 out of a possible 10 and the judge's comments are shared below:

Meridian, John Schettler (science fiction) The Writing Shop Press

WRITER'S DIGEST REVIEW: "A striking cover and excellent production values make this a book one would pick off a rack. That would be a rewarding move, for Meridian is a science fiction novel combining history, quantum theory, and time travel in a highly intriguing manner. The author has a firm grasp of concepts here, and his understanding of the potential danger of travel into the past is finely tuned. The team of scientists involved in developing the Arch, their device for moving through time, is composed of interesting people who seem very real and compelling. The plot is more than complex, yet he keeps it very clear to the reader. The return through time of a man from the future comes at a point when a mega tsunami, caused by the collapse of a wall of a volcano in the Canary Islands, is on its way toward the U.S. His enigmatic message that they alone can avert the disaster through returning to 1917 and changing a small detail in the career of T.E. Lawrence sets the team on a perilous course. The ending is both believable and satisfying, and the writing is top-notch. This is a nine and a half on a scale of ten. It should have been snapped up by a commercial publisher."

Judge's Comments: Writer's Digest Book of the Year Contest

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