



The Alexandria Project

Andrew Updegrove

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Cybersecurity super-sleuth Frank Adversego finds himself trapped in a power play between the FBI and the CIA as hackers try to destroy the USA. Only by defeating the Alexandria Project can he clear himself.

"THE ALEXANDRIA PROJECT is fiction that cuts close to the bone. But where George Orwell envisioned 1984 from the safety of thirty-five years out, the future that Updegrove describes may already be upon us. That's what makes it dangerous, and that's what makes THE ALEXANDRIA PROJECT an important as well as riveting read."

- Dan Geer, CHIEF INFORMATION SECURITY OFFICER, In-Q-Tel

The Alexandria Project Details

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Author : Andrew Updegrove

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From Reader Review The Alexandria Project for online ebook

BonusMom says

Decent read

Good start to a series. A lot of twists in the story, enough to keep your interest and keep you guessing.

Terri says

Don't be afraid of the technology!

When reading the overview of the "Alexandria Project", it would be understandable if you thought it would be heavy on the technology. & it was! But in an exciting, straight forward & extremely enjoyable way! I'm always interested to read "techno thrillers" but I'm usually left feeling like I've missed part of the story because that part of the plot is over my head. Andrew Updegrove writes in such a way that while I could understand the techno aspect, he never made me feel like it had been "dumbed down". I can proudly say that while I've heard the word "bot net" before, I now understand what it is! =D

Updegrove's other talent? A gifted ability to paint a picture w/ his words. By the end of the first few chapters, I could clearly picture the home of the Alexandria Project & as an added bonus; the relationship between Frank & Lily. He took a man & a dog (owned by his mother but reluctantly cared for by Frank) & wove a hilarious love-hate story that will make you laugh out loud!

The Alexandria Project is a book that fully embraces both sides of the "technothriller" genre & as it progresses, it becomes harder & harder to put down. Finally it leaves you thinking that the Alexandria Project is a cautionary tale which gives you a whole layer of chills & will leave you thinking when NOT if long after you're done.

Kerry Hunter says

Thank you so much to the author for giving me the honour of reading this book in exchange for an honest review.

""Thank you for your contribution to the Alexandria Project" is the message cyber attackers leave behind as they delete crucial data from computer networks across America. It's not long before the nation is on the verge of collapse as Wall Street, the transportation system, government agencies, and the rest of our internet-based economy all fall victim to the attacks of unknown assailants. As the public outcry builds, Frank Adversego, a brilliant but conflicted cyber security expert, finds himself under suspicion as well as trapped in a power play between the FBI and the CIA. Only by tracing the Alexandria Project back to the source can he clear himself. What follows is a fast-paced, satirical tale of cyber sleuthing, international espionage, and nuclear brinksmanship that accurately portrays our increasing vulnerability to cyber attack. The surprise ending will leave readers both ready for the next Frank Adversego thriller, as well as concerned about where our headlong rush onto the Internet may be leading us."

This thriller absolutely TERRIFIED me. The thought of a thriller being based around the internet, something we all rely on so heavily, and it having real life implications is honestly horrific, and I think this is one of the many reasons that this novel is so effective at achieving its goals. It highlights the brilliant, yet terrifying, reliance on technology we are developing and really makes you think about what exactly can go wrong. And the fact that that can happen to anyone is what is so scary about this.

The most appealing thing about this novel, to me, is the plot. It's a very intelligent book that some readers may struggle to understand (I was one of them, and I don't consider myself an unintelligent person!) until they get to grips with what's going on. I'm not all that versed with computers so sometimes it went over my head a little, but I still managed to grasp what was happening and follow the story which was great. What's not to love? This novel has family, conspiracy, fear, crime, attempted murders... Everything about this plot is thrilling and I couldn't wait to find out what happens next!

As well as the plot being incredibly intelligent, the writing was also. It's not exactly the most fast-paced thriller. But that's okay, it doesn't have to be, because even on the slower parts you are kept engaged. There are some really moving moments between family members and I found them a touching break to the rest of the action in the story, and they were written delicately and well. I think the balance of fast paced and slow paced was done perfectly.

I would have liked to have seen a bit more character development within this book, as the main character is a little bit flat in some places, but I can totally overlook this because of the excellent writing. Hopefully as the series progresses, we see a bit more development for Frank. I still cared enough about him to want him to be alright in the end and catch the bad guy, but he could have had a little bit more personality in parts.

Overall I'd rate this an easy 5/5 stars and can't wait to read the next in the series!

Bogus says

A good thriller with a technical edge. Great name for the main character, Frank Adversego. Nice play of humour throughout the book and non-subtle and all too believable digs at the idiocy of those that have taken it upon themselves to "protect" us (i.e. the Government and their minions) while doing the opposite. I did enjoy it and await the next installment...

Gesmer Gesmer says

A Thinking Person's Cyber-Thriller

If you think a mystery novel containing elements of international espionage, politics, finance, cryptography, law, Internet technology and inter-governmental agency turf battles might appeal to you, I highly recommend this novel. It contains all this, plus much more (did I mention the Mother Of All Hacker Attacks and plot twists that will have you calling your chiropactor)? It will make you think twice (thrice?) about U.S. data security almost every time you read the international headlines. And the protagonist -- Frank Adversego -- may become your new anti-terrorist fictional hero. Highly recommended.

Disclosure: I work with the author, but I mean every word in this review. Really.

Felipe Lerma says

Maybe, technically, due to sporadic typos, a 4.55. But it tilts, in my view too much to five stars not to be graded that way.

I've come to realize, anything I've ever graded five stars, movies or books or concerts, were that level because they fulfilled something more completely within me than other work I've read or seen or experienced. So it is with "The Alexandria Project."

Yes, the technical portions were woven into the story via the characters, much as I've seen Micheal Crichton do at his best.

Yes, the humor varies from subtle to steady to side-splitting, like much of Janet Evanovich's Stephanie Plum series.

Yes, the chapters and segments near the rapidity and pace of a good James Patterson novel.

And yes, a variety of point-of-views are meshed like a good Joe Konrath.

But it was something in the author's inter-weaving of all those components that felt so extremely satisfying to me. So much so it raised the work to five stars for me. Whether it's luck or skill or magic, or some unpredictable potion of the three, it worked.

Paul says

A gripping, plausible doomsday plot complemented by insights into the murky worlds of cybersecurity, international politics, and venture capital. The Alexandria Project by Andrew Updegrove is a fast-paced and high-octane cyber thriller. It is a finely plotted Sci-Fi mystery, which takes you on an adventure that is full of twist and turns.

I received an ebook Kindle version from Andrew Updegrove in exchange for reading and giving my review about the book. Thank you Mr. Updegrove, I can't hardly wait until the sequel "The Lafayette Deception" will be available.

Hannah says

I've read the first two chapters, and this seems like an interesting IT thriller. I sympathize with the main character, Frank, and his need for redemption. The story flows well. It also builds suspense and leaves the reader wanting to know more.

Cats of Ulthar February Weird Fiction says

REVIEW THE ALEXANDRIA PROJECT by Andrew Updegrove

I frequently read thrillers. Some are good, some are very good, some are excellent. A few I can't put down. This was true recently of Ben Lieberman's The Carnage Account, and it holds true for THE ALEXANDRIA PROJECT, which I could not stop reading. The author, a long-term attorney, is also a gifted writer. Even though the plot focuses on cybersecurity and information technology, I followed with no difficulty; Mr. Updegrove covers this territory legibly, so we all can understand. I highly recommend THE ALEXANDRIA PROJECT.

Tulay says

Interesting story.

Reminded me again Cuban missile crisis, this time with North Korea. Started with cyber security experts trying to locate the hacker or hackers.

CIA, FBI and Homeland security isn't communicating with each other to solve the problem.

Lucinda Clarke says

WHAT A FUN BOOK

No, this is not a comedy, but it was fun to read, the imagery was great and it made me giggle in lots of places. It's very tongue in cheek as we feel for the hero Frank who thinks he's been framed for the largest hacking event in history. He believes his life and livelihood are on the line while in reality he's been sent off to discover who the real hacker is. Add to the mix the CIA agent used to date his daughter and I was totally intrigued. This is the Second book I've read by this author and it was even better than the first.

Max Power says

For me this is a very classy thriller. Superb opening to the story and what follows is an intriguing story of espionage with the cyber security expert Frank at the centre of the story. But it is much more than that. I loved Frank, a wonderfully flawed genius who I warmed to immediately. The author is skilled when it comes to characterisation across the board but Frank is the perfect example of how a writer needs to give depth to their creations. The narrative is strong and consistent and the writer shows off his technical knowledge without detracting from the story or losing the reader. He clearly is more familiar with the world of computers than I am and it is a complex book in terms of plot strands and the actual technical background information. However Andrew Updegrove brought me along with him every step of the way. I never for one second felt overwhelmed by this side of the book, a tribute to his knowledge of the subject matter behind the storyline and his great story telling ability. I am not generally a fan of books about espionage, cyber terrorism or conspiracies for that matter, but I was completely engrossed in this book from start to finish. There is a great sense of style here. I believe that having read this book that I know exactly what to expect

from his next one. Thriller writers often revert to cliché and can be lazy in terms of recycling the ideas of others. Not so in this case. I found The Alexandria Project to be original and it carried a strength of voice that appealed to me greatly. This is a gripping, funny, clever and above all entertaining read. I am officially an Andrew Updegrove fan and cannot wait to read his next one.

Terry says

A novel that could be pulled from today's headlines, but so much more fun.

Intelligent writing, but not so technical as to where an IT degree is needed to understand it.

Humorous, with a very likeable, interesting protagonist Frank Adversego, who I'd like to see more of in future books by Mr. Updegrove.

Nicely paced, with lots of plot twists, will keep readers on their toes. You won't fall asleep with this one in your hands.

Highly recommended to anyone who enjoys a good novel. Even if technical thrillers are not your usual cup of tea, give this one a try - an all around great book sure to please.

A copy of this novel was provided by the author for an honest, impartial review.

Wendy says

"The Alexandria Project" which I won from Goodreads Giveaways is a fascinating mystery thriller that begins when file directories are being compromised at the Library of Congress (LoC); a flaming image and a thank you note left in their place. When Frank Adversego, a disgruntled but brilliant cyber security expert at the LoC becomes the CIA's chief suspect, he decides to investigate and finds a connection to international espionage and a conspiracy to annihilate two major American cities. What he doesn't expect is to become of the target of an FBI manhunt.

Andrew Updegrove's narrative looks not only at IT architecture, but its security and the impact a lack of safety could have on military/weapons deployment. It is well-researched and technical in places but as the plot progresses, it quickly heats up as Frank Adversego not only uncovers the identity of those involved in the Alexandria Project but also the far-reaching consequences of the hackers' intrusion into computer networks across America. Within the narrative Andrew Updegrove has woven subplots that deal with a contest of wills between the FBI and CIA, an intelligence leak and a missile crisis. All converge in a climax that's not only explosive but has shocking implications.

The characters are well-developed and multi-faceted especially Frank Adversego Jr., the anti-social, highly intelligent cyber guru who's concentration is absolute when solving a problem. Although at work he's considered an unreliable genius and bull-headed, his redeeming qualities include a loving and forgiving heart as well as a wry sense of humor. Marla Adversego is the opposite of her father; sociable, poised and self-assured. She's very protective of her father and in her dealings with the CIA tends to be perceptive, shrewd and feisty. Agent Carl Cummings seems self-important, arrogant and proud, but in his job is dedicated and reliable. George Marchand, Frank's boss is an innate leader who's secretive, but supportive and trusting. I especially liked Lily, the obese overly affectionate Corgi who seems to undermine Frank's boredom with her energetic spirit and Frank Thatcher, the amiable and wily retired FBI agent. All the characters in the novel

add strength and colour to a story that's riveting with all its twists and turns.

I hope in future novels we'll see more of the indomitable Frank Adversego, a refreshingly flawed hero. I thoroughly enjoyed this cyber thriller and highly recommend it.

Doug Norton says

The Alexandria Project was my last summer read, consumed with sand and sun over Labor Day weekend, and it was one of my favorites, hooking me with interesting characters, technology insights, and plot twists. Updegrove has crafted a light-hearted, fictional look at serious issues and kept it moving briskly. When I finished I had not only grinned at his caricatures of feckless bureaucrats, egomaniacal politicians, and greedy venture capitalists, but had been deftly reminded that we really do need to get a handle on the security of our oh-so-critical IT systems, and that nukes in the hands of delusional dictators are a looming catastrophe, visible but ignored. So, hats off to the author for informing without preaching or fear-mongering. The hero is refreshingly human (well, pretty screwed up, actually), all of the characters are well drawn, and several end up delightfully skewered on Updegrove's incisive descriptions and satirical wit. And I guarantee you won't figure out the final plot twist until he wants you to!

I really enjoyed this book--order one now, don't wait for summer!
