



The Journey Home

Jeff Motes

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Authors note: This is a Revised Version of the original book. It has been revised to reflect a 1st person point of view for each chapter's main character. Take note of which character leads the chapter title. This will help make the flow of thoughts smooth.

This is not a book on religion or religious ideology, however, two of the main characters are Christian. They pray often and acknowledge God's influence upon the events taking place. If you find praying, acknowledging God, or seeing Jesus' name used in a positive context offensive, then I suggest you do not read this book. These are strong characters, who I think many can relate to. I hope you enjoy the book.

The Day

The day was like any other day—until it became “The Day.” At 4:05 p.m. the United States was attacked with an Electro-Magnetic Pulse (EMP) weapon. A 20 mega-ton nuclear warhead was detonated high in the atmosphere above Kansas, blanketing most of the contiguous United States and parts of Canada and Mexico with an electro-magnetic pulse that damaged nearly all microprocessors and electronic controls beyond repair. Nearly every system that depends on computers and electronics has ceased to work. The electrical grid goes down. The water system goes down. The sewer system goes down. The phone system goes down. The cellular system goes down. Cars stop. Tractors stop. Radio and TV stations go dark. The internet is no more. No more ambulance services. No more emergency services. No more government services. No more 911. In the twinkle of an eye America is sent back deep into the 19th century.

Jill Barnes, a single mom, finds herself stranded on the side of Interstate 459 near Birmingham, Alabama. Jack Chance, a bank vice-president, is stranded on Interstate 85 near Montgomery, Alabama. John Carter, a contractor, finds himself stranded near Leeds, Alabama. Each must travel home to Clarke County in rural southwest Alabama. Follow them as they each make their decisions and journey home while the fabric of American society is torn asunder and criminals run amok. The story is exciting and enlightening, compelling and fast moving, infuriating and redemptive, heart-rending and heart-warming. Keep some tissue close to hand, just in case...

The Journey Home Details

Date : Published December 11th 2016 by Pine City Press

ISBN :

Author : Jeff Motes

Format : Kindle Edition 383 pages

Genre : Christian Fiction

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From Reader Review The Journey Home for online ebook

Val Shaw says

Had to stop reading

I don't enjoy leaving a bad review but have to be honest. If this book is ever cleaned up and edited properly, I would love to read it. I really liked the characters and the story line. The first person type is a little hard for some reason but really it came down to the constant repeating of simple facts as well as contradicting statements. Also it was written so elementary that I would think even a beginner would feel patronized. I really liked the fact that God was such a big part in the story and in the characters lives. I hope it gets re-edited so I can finish it.

Ginger Whitney says

Spellbinding

Couldn't put it down very good writing, suspenseful. Will definitely be reading more of Jeff notes books. Thank you! Ginger

Lynn Zuniga says

First half needs work

Too much unnecessary "filler" info. I had a tendency to start skipping all the wordy verbiage. Picked up a bit toward the ending cliffhanger.

T says

At first I was quite captivated by the book and planned on ordering the second book in the series. I found that as I got farther into the book parts of it were too much . . . too much talking about weapons and repetition with regards to the weapons, too much having one character describe what was happening and a second character describing again what the first character had said in exactly the same way, and too much feeling as if the reader was being "courted" to run out and buy named items to prepare for the apocalypse.

martin benfield says

Can't wait for more

Loved this book !!! The style of writing in the second person keeps you in the moment. Also very instructive

in disaster preparation.

Kevin G G Simon says

gets the prize for terrible this year

Richard Crayne says

Excellent book

Excellent book, excellent information, it's a fun read. I can't wait for the next one. There were very few slow spots.

Linda says

I have mixed feelings about this book. I liked the basic story line but it did not seem realistic to me. The characters did not seem believable. Their emotions fell flat. If I was a parent trying to get home to my child during an apocalypse I would not be as calm as Jill. I am also fairly certain I would not be concerned with shaving my legs in case something interesting should happen.

I found the second person viewpoint to be a tough swallow. Sort of felt like one of those online games whose outcome is determined by the selections of the player. Different selection changes the story. Also at times I felt like I was reading one of the If You Give A Mouse A Cookie type books.

What I did appreciate is that the narration was done by a male and female. This helped to establish which character was being focused on.

Michael Lewis says

The story was good but severely hampered by the formatting. Also, the technique of replaying a scene through another characters POV got old very fast. The author has a good story and hopefully improves his technique in future books.

Clabe Polk says

What happens when a disaster occurs that renders the nation incapable of action and exposes the vulnerability to individuals to starvation, violence and the depredation of their fellow human beings?

In the series Once Upon an Apocalypse by Jeff Motes, multiple families in southern Alabama find

themselves coping with an electromagnetic pulse (EMP) event without warning. A sufficiently strong EMP will destroy solid state circuit boards instantly turning the modern electronics upon which we depend to worthless junk; and the event depicted in the story does exactly that.

The series focuses on the interaction of members of several families; particularly the families of Jill Barnes and John Carter as they find themselves suddenly devoid of modern conveniences and transportation, sources of food and fuel, medicine and basics like tooth paste and toilet paper. Circumstances force them to depend upon what they have in hand for their survival.

In book 1, *The Journey Home*, the focus is on Jill Barnes and John Carter; two people who know each other and believe in being prepared as much as possible for such an occurrence. Jill is the single mother of Lizzy Barnes. Her father had taught her to shoot and much of the basics of being prepared for emergencies. John is the widowed father of Will, Lizzy's boyfriend. John and Will are well trained in survival skills and preparation. The problem is the EMP stranded Jill near Birmingham, almost two- hundred forty miles from home; and John near Leeds, Alabama, more than two- hundred fifty miles from home. Besides Jill and John's determination to survive, there is a Divine plan bringing them together to ensure each other's survival. Getting home will tax every survival skill Jill and John have between them; not to mention a growing attraction between them and the ever growing anxiety about Lizzy and Will's welfare.

The Journey Home, written in the first person, is a scenario demonstrating survival skills exhibited by well-prepared characters as well as an entertaining, nail-biting, story painting a bleak, but realistic portrait of what people can expect in times of serious disaster; times when citizens turn to their government for help and find, for whatever reason, there is no government to help. Jill and John fight through their fear and the worst intentions of their fellow man while fighting through their own anxiety about their families. They are well developed characters, sound of inner character and belief, for whom the reader cannot help but cheer.

The Journey Home will leave most readers disturbed and perhaps a bit shaken. None will walk away feeling fully secure. What they do about it will vary...as those in the story vary...from doing nothing, to preparing for a very long siege. None will walk away untouched.

Emma says

Great book.

Makes me want to pull my get home bag out and make sure I have all I need and also for all my girls. Really makes you consider just how ready you are for a full blown meltdown. Thanks for the great characters.

Lisa Rodgers says

OUTSTANDING KINDLE BOOK -- Highly Recommended

Well-written, excellent plot, believable characters, credible scenario, accurate technical details, and clean. There's even a pleasant romantic angle for the ladies.

If you want to gain insights into how/what practicing Christians think about self-defense, self-reliance and "prepping," this is the book for you.

Highly recommended!

sarah gabarra-shaffer says

Religious book

I only got through a few chapters, I didn't realize it was a religious book. It's a shame because what I read was good except for the praying and Psalms. I will also delete books 3 and 3

Barb says

I really enjoyed this story. The writing threw me off a few times. I couldn't help laughing at all the name brand shout outs. I was sure there were going to be links to buy some of the items mentioned. There was a website mentioned. Do authors get paid for product placements??? Also I'm not entirely sure an EMP event would lead to such chaos so quickly. We've had week long power outages before & I really missed hot showers but I wasn't ready to shoot someone for stealing a bike. Also, seems like there would be looting but not so much raping so quickly-yikes! But, despite all my complaints, this was worth reading until the end & I'm already starting book 2!

Debbie says

5 stars for the technical aspects. -3 for the story line. Meh.
