



## Leviathan

*David L. Golemon*

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The ships of the world are under attack, attacks so sudden and vicious that many ships are lost without a single distress call. The navies of the world start a frenzied search, but even these ships disappear without a trace.

Enter the Event Group, the most secret organization in U.S. history. Armed with proof that history is repeating itself, the Group finds themselves in the grasp of an insane genius straight out of the pages of Jules Verne. They are up against the descendant of the man who was the inspiration for the captain of a vessel known to the world as Nautilus.

Legend comes to life in the form of Leviathan, the most advanced undersea vessel in history. She will stop at nothing to save the seas and to render justice to humankind for a world that has long been dying, a world Leviathan plans to alter forever, unless the Event Group can stop her!

## **Leviathan Details**

Date : Published August 4th 2009 by Thomas Dunne Books

ISBN : 9780312376635

Author : David L. Golemon

Format : Hardcover 368 pages

Genre : Thriller, Science Fiction, Fiction, Adventure, Action

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## From Reader Review Leviathan for online ebook

### **Logan Weatherly says**

Very good book. Very interesting how 2 separate classic novels are woven into this story.

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### **Josh says**

David Lynn Golemon's book are always hard for me to categorize. Are they a thriller? Science Fiction? Horror? I always struggle with this because of the wide variety of elements he brings to his stories. Truthfully, his books are bit of all three. This one being no different. I enjoyed it for the summer read that it is. It's like a summer popcorn movie - see it once and move on to the next, having spent an enjoyable amount of time in the company of the characters, but not fully committing the story to one's memory for life.

This novel deals with everything from a submarine with technology that far surpasses anything any nation presently owns, the book "The Count of Monte Cristo," Jules Verne, "20,000 Leagues Under the Sea," mermaids, Abraham Lincoln, and so much more. See, he pulls things from all over the place. And somehow he makes it all make sense and work for the reader.

I will continue to read his novels because I've grown to like all of the characters immensely and I am always curious to see what farfetched adventure they will find themselves in next. Surely, that's a sign of a good writer, as this is my 3rd or 4th Golemon book I have read.

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### **Tim says**

This was my first Event Group Book so if you haven't read the rest you have to start at the beginning of the series or you will be lost. With that, the story is amazing and such a great idea. What a story teller.

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### **David Elkin says**

Another great tale by Mr. Golemon. It has been a while since I read it but his tale again works against historical backdrops and pulse thundering adventure. Certainly a potboiler but it is a helluva fun novel to read. He has not disappointed in his series. Started reading Primeval now.

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### **Jordanel says**

I came across this book purely by accident. For a very random discovery I thoroughly enjoyed it. The idea of a super-advanced vessel appearing and decimating humanity's most advanced warships, for the sake of saving the oceans, is pretty awesome. I should mention this probably isn't for everyone as there are a few more technical concepts explained about naval science that some may find a little unnecessary. This

information however is written in with such tact that you get a true sense of what's happening. To say fans of the X-files and verne etc. would enjoy this is a very accurate claim.

Overall this was a very good read for me and one I would recommend for anyone who is into military technology with a touch of science fiction. I found myself wanting to keep reading to learn more about the behemoth known as Leviathan.

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### **William says**

David Golemon's series about an ultra-secret government agency tasked with discovering the truth behind the world's greatest mysterious phenomenon and thwarting the worst of the world's villains, is very similar to James Rollins' Sigma Force novels. So if you are a fan of one but not yet the other, may I suggest you check it out.

I really enjoyed the end of this novel as the confusing threads of the story started to finally come together and make sense. Although, for the life of me, I will never understand a villain's logic to allow the good guys to live to see their wicked plans come to fruition because that only gives them time to stop you. Anyway, the action in the last 100 pages is electrifying and I flew through this final fourth of the novel in record time. But, as I said, getting there sometimes felt cheesy and confusing. The whole idea of kidnapping the good guys so that your maniacal plans have an audience is a definite no-no if you wish to succeed, but that is exactly what the baddies do. Now, it is somewhat explained (the supernatural part of the story), but it still seems contrived. The action, however, makes up for the villain's poor judgement as you never really know who is going to survive the final pages of the piece.

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### **Jonathan Wilson says**

4.5 Stars

Am liking this series more and more as it goes on. Just find the combination of thriller, suspense, military action, history, and science to be a joy to read/listen too.

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### **Mary says**

Hmm, 3 or 4 stars? It's a tough call. On the positive side, the story was fairly entertaining although it was totally over the top. To say it was implausible is the understatement of the year but then I don't read books like this for realism. I read them for their entertainment value and I must say I was entertained. Also, this book was a damn sight better written and edited than the first three which were rife with clunky sentence structure, typos and a total lack of editing. This book had a few noticeable errors the editor missed but overall it was a lot better than the three that came before. In the negative column a lot of the science related to submarines was seriously lacking. Pumping air out of the ballast tanks to surface? Really? Anyone who's seen even one or two old WW II submarine movies knows that. And did I mention the story was totally over the top? OK, 4 stars because it was entertaining and better edited than the author's first three but I'm knocking off half a star for the extreme implausibility of the storyline. Finally, I will be reading the next book in the series. Can you say "guilty pleasure"?

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### **Kristin Lundgren says**

Really good Vernesque classic romp. The Event group, as this is one of their adventures, is a super black ops project, deep in a well concealed location in the Nellis Air Force Base. Down about 50-100 stories are levels for administration, research, a super computer that beats all super computers, and levels upon levels of vaults, large and small, that hold the treasures of the world, and the oddities of science, collected by the group. Think of the last scene in Indiana Jones, but instead of a warehouse, climate controlled vaults, and labelled, catalogued, etc. The Event Groups raison d'etre is to follow historical trends, and objects and see how events and things influenced history - to try and learn from it, good or bad. They study the past to help the future. Warehouse 13 thrown in. In this one, the Event Group's headquarters is somehow infiltrated, and the top leaders are kidnapped, and two vaults are blown up. And the computer storage records on those vaults is missing. Left behind is a skeleton staff trying to recreate what those objects were, to better understand why the kidnappers came. The story starts out with a man in a famous prison, Chateau d'If, where he is languishing because he refuses to give the upstart Napolean his plans for batteries and a submarine that would help him win the war. He escapes, helped in part by a pod of dolphins, and what he calls "angels of the sea." He eventually ends up in Norway, where the treasure he found on his escape has helped him to finance his further research. After he is killed to try and steal his a special artifact he has, his son continues to find a way to finish his work, and thus the Leviathan is born - a mighty submarine, built around the time of the Civil War, but 100 years ahead of its time, to be used for peace, and helping the world's oceans. Knowledge of the sub disappears after the civil war, but something is out there in the seas now, sending out unknown weapons that can disintegrate a whole battleship in seconds. And then demands are made that oil shipping be stopped, and travel on the sea restricted to civilians. They want to preserve and protect the ocean life, much of which is dying, as well as a certain new element. Led by a fanatical woman, and a faithful crew, the story continues with the Event group working from outside and inside the sub to stop the attack, and find out the mysteries and discoveries of this vessel. Great, ripping yarn as they used to say. Fun, lots of references to books, people, etc. I always enjoy the books in the series, and this as no exception.

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### **Mark Easter says**

The ships of the world are under attack, attacks so sudden and vicious that many ships are lost without a single distress call. The navies of the world start a frenzied search, but even these ships disappear without a trace.

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From Publishers Weekly

Fans of *Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea* will enjoy Golemon's recasting of the Jules Verne novel, his fourth Event Group thriller (after *Ancients*). A prologue set in 1802 at an isolated French prison evokes another well-known classic, *The Count of Monte Cristo*, then the action leaps forward by increments until it reaches the present day. The U.S. president calls in the Event Group after a mysterious undersea vessel, the *Leviathan*, begins terrorizing the seas, sinking ships and subs alike. Those aboard the *Leviathan* threaten nuclear destruction if the land dwellers don't stop their abuse of the ocean. A traitor enables the terrorists to infiltrate the Event Group's headquarters and take its leadership hostage. Once Event Group operatives manage to board the *Leviathan*, the plot echoes its inspiration even more closely. While Golemon adds his own closing twist, the story line's overall lack of originality makes this less interesting than the series' first and strongest entry, *Event*. (Aug.)

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Review

Praise for \*Leviathan:

*"The fourth adventure of the Event Group continues the tradition of mixing history with page-turning suspense...Fans of Clive Cussler, Verne, X-Files, and military tactical thrillers will find much to enjoy in this increasingly clever series."* --Booklist \*

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### Dee Haddrill says

Originally read 5 Aug 2011; listened to via Audible 1 March 2015; listened to via Audible 11 October 2017

"The ships of the world are under attack, attacks so sudden and vicious that many ships are lost without a single distress call. The navies of the world start a frenzied search, but even these ships disappear without a trace.

Enter the Event Group, the most secret organization in U.S. history. Armed with proof that history is repeating itself, the Group finds themselves in the grasp of an insane genius straight out of the pages of Jules Verne. They are up against the descendent of the man who was the inspiration for the captain of a vessel known to the world as Nautilus.

Legend comes to life in the form of Leviathan, the most advanced undersea vessel in history. She will stop at nothing to save the seas and to render justice to humankind for a world that has long been dying, a world Leviathan plans to alter forever, unless the Event Group can stop her!" - Goodreads

My thoughts - Fan-freaking-tastic!!! This series just gets better and better. I've read reviews of this series where people complain that there is no character development. I disagree - most of the main characters we have come to know and love over the past three books and the last thing you want is to rehash the same old information all the time. I think it's important that these books are read in order, mostly for the characters and their relationships and how they grow. The opening scene at Nellis AirForce base would be nowhere near as heart-wrenching if you weren't already invested in the characters and their lives. Again, Jack and Sarah's

relationship continues to develop and their reunion scene (while short) brought tears to my eyes and I found myself waiting impatiently for it to happen! Can't wait for the next one!!!

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### **Lori L (She Treads Softly) says**

Leviathan by David L. Golemon is the fourth novel in his Events Group series. After a prologue set back in time which touches on several historical events, we are in the present day and the ships of the world are under attack. The Event Group has been pulled into the fray and must find the answers to stop the conflict.

This time Golemon has taken his inspiration from literature. In the prologue, The Count of Monte Cristo inspires the setting in a French Prison in 1802. Most of the novel, however, is inspired by Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea, with Golemon recasting Verne's characters and taking what was Verne's Nautilus forward through time, now as the Leviathan.

The series is all about escapism and entertainment - science fiction mixed in to an action/adventure novel. Leviathan is a much stronger book in the Events Group series than the previous novel, Ancients. I felt that the plot and action were more carefully conceived and planned out. While you still need to read the series in order to know and have a deeper understanding of all the characters, Golemon did do some added character development this time around, adding a little depth to several of his recurring characters.

All in all this was a strong addition to the Events Group series.

Highly Recommended; <http://shetreadssoftly.blogspot.com/>

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### **Verywierd says**

I have read all of the author's preceding novels before Leviathan, but finally gave up half-way through this book.

First of all, let me say I liked the concept, linking the Count of Monte Christo to 20,000 Leagues Under The Sea, but ....

There are the usual grammatical errors, missing words, and sometimes unintelligible sentences, which make the book painful to read.

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**WARNING - SPOILERS!!**

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Worse still, are the many technical errors that display extremely poor levels of research and even general knowledge. For example :

"the fool has slit his own throat." - A cut on the forehead and blood running down the face will not be mistaken for a cut throat.

"started striking the flint against the stone wall" - You strike flint against steel or at least rock containing iron pyrites. Banging the flint against the wall will do nothing.

"and saw the seal of England--the head of the lion and the three crowns of Richard I" - The escutcheon of Richard I the Lionheart was initially one or two lions, and then changed to three lions passant guardant.

"HMS Warlord, a 175-foot battle cruiser of Her Majesty's Royal Navy" - Battlecruisers did not exist until the 20th century.

"The massive thirty-two-pound rifled cannon ... the most powerful guns in the British fleet" - The Royal Navy used breech loading rifled Armstrong guns during that period and there were no 32 pounders. The most powerful rifled cannon in service was a 110 pounder.

The constant tucking of pistols into waistbands by professional soldiers is unrealistic and irritating.

The Ingram submachine gun was a commercial failure and production ceased in 1986. It is unlikely that a super secret High Tech organisation such as the Event Group would use it.

The constant reference to special forces soldiers wearing clothing made of Nomex IIIa is absurd. Nomex is fire resistant fabric used by fire fighters and tank crews who might be caught in flames. It has no particular advantage for a normal soldier or superspy.

"Then they could tell by the centrifugal forces being applied that the speed of the great ship increased to unheard-of velocity." - A submarine travelling and accelerating in a straight line would not display centrifugal force.

Simple errors of this kind that could be prevented by simply checking Wikipedia are intolerable, not to mention such things as the Leviathan going around deliberately ramming other submarines instead of firing torpedoes or other weapons.

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### **Tim The Enchanter says**

Posted to The Literary Lawyer.ca

#### **The Series is Solidly Back on Track - 5 Stars**

This is one of the best Action Adventure books I have read in quite some time. Maybe it isn't really a 5 star read to you, but for me there was so much to love about the story that it gets 5 stars for enjoyment alone.

#### **Plot Outline**

The Event Group finds itself under attack by an unknown assailant. This group has infiltrated their ranks and uses this to both destroy several vaults in their facility and abduct multiple high ranking individuals in the organization. All that is known about the organization is that they possess superior technology and they have a very advanced submarine right out of a Jules Verne novel. This group is attempting to close the world's commercial waterways as pollution is killing a majority of sea life. These are not the run of the mill "eco-terrorists" and they will stop at nothing to reach their goals.

## The Good

### **20,000 Leagues of Awesome**

The author take a page out of 20,000 Leagues Under the Sea. In fact, in early flashback scenes, Jules Verne makes a guest appearance. The submarine itself is fashioned on descriptions from the Jules Verne story. My bias for this story stems from my childhood fascination with the movie 20,000 Leagues under the Sea (The 1954 version with Kirk Douglas). Fans of both the film and the original Jules Verne novel will appreciate the homage to the classic tale.

Beside the fact that I loved the story, the oceans are the greatest and largest unmapped and substantially unexplored areas of our planet. We know so little about what is really lurking in its depths. Stories that explore the seas and expose "mysteries" of the oceans have always fascinated me.

### **Living Up to my Expectations**

I have had high hopes for this series since the very first novel. This series has a good balance between the action and adventure you might expect from James Rollins, Matthew Reilly or Steve Berry but it tosses in some light sci-fi elements. The science fiction elements never overwhelm the story but provide a great second layer.

In my earlier reviews of the series, I complained about the author's writing style. The series has improved and at this point I have no complaints about the ebb and flow of the story. The cast of characters, while large, is clear. The prose is clean and the plot makes sense. This series is a great example of improvement as the series progresses.

### **Can it Stand Alone**

Yes. There are reoccurring characters in the series but their positions are generally explained. There is an issue that is held over from the previous novel but it is explained. While knowledge of the previous novels does provide background information, you could read this one without the others and you could enjoy it.

## Final Thoughts

This novel provides some great deep sea adventure with some science fiction elements. Like most novels in this genre, the characters are not especially deep or developed but the plot and creative elements of the story are what propel it. In my opinion, this installment stands up to any Rollins, Reilly or Berry novel out there.

Scale 1 - Lowest 5 - Highest

### Sex - 1.5

There is a bare minimum of sexual content. There is small amount of chaste kissing and one or two suggestive comments. The content is appropriate for all ages.

### Language - 2.5

Occasional use of adult language. It tends to be mild.

### Violence - 2.5

While there is some violence, it is "war-like" violence in this installment. Warships and submarines are shot down. While there is a loss of life, it is not graphic. There are a few killings but they are not graphic.

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### **Fernando says**

Loved it! I am completely addicted to the Event Group books and the fourth book in a series that just keeps getting better is a blast.

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