



A Time for Patriots

Dale Brown

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Welcome to Battlefield America

When murderous bands of militiamen begin roaming the western United States and attacking government agencies, it will take a dedicated group of the nation's finest and toughest civilian airmen to put an end to the homegrown insurgency. U.S. Air Force Lieutenant-General Patrick McLanahan vows to take to the skies to join the fight, but when his son, Bradley, also signs up, they find themselves caught in a deadly game against a shadowy opponent.

When the stock markets crash and the U.S. economy falls into a crippling recession, everything changes for newly elected president Kenneth Phoenix. Politically exhausted from a bruising and divisive election, Phoenix must order a series of massive tax cuts and wipe out entire cabinet-level departments to reduce government spending. With reductions in education and transportation, an incapacitated National Guard, and the loss of public safety budgets, entire communities of armed citizens band together for survival and mutual protection. Against this dismal backdrop, a SWAT team is ambushed and radioactive materials are stolen by a group calling themselves the Knights of the True Republic. Is the battle against the government about to be taken to a new and deadlier level?

In this time of crisis, a citizen organization rises to the task of protecting their fellow countrymen: the Civil Air Patrol (CAP), the U.S. Air Force auxiliary. The Nevada Wing—led by retired Air Force Lieutenant-General Patrick McLanahan, his son, Bradley, and other volunteers—uses their military skills in the sky and on the ground to hunt down violent terrorists. But how will Patrick respond when extremists launch a catastrophic dirty bomb attack in Reno, spreading radiological fallout for miles? And when Bradley is caught in a deadly double-cross that jeopardizes the CAP, Patrick will have to fight to find out where his friends' loyalties lie: Are they with him and the CAP or with the terrorists?

With *A Time for Patriots*, the *New York Times* bestselling master of the modern thriller Dale Brown brings the battle home to explore a terrifying possibility—the collapse of the American Republic.

A Time for Patriots Details

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Author : Dale Brown

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From Reader Review A Time for Patriots for online ebook

Eric says

Not sure why I put this book on my list to read. For a just slightly futuristic rendering of a USA falling apart at the seams, it was very disappointing. Too many people making too many mistakes. Perhaps the only saving grace were the short quotes heading up each chapter of the novel. My favorite - "I hear many condemn these men because they were so few. When were the good and brave ever in the majority?" - Henry David Thoreau.

Dale says

p and Down

Read by William Dufres
13 hours.

Dale Brown knows how to write action very well. He certainly knows all about airplanes (sometimes he talks about them so much that it's quite easy to drift off for a while and then come back), he has created enough new technological gizmos to outfit an entire fleet and he does a solid job of creating dialogue that sounds good to the ear - from old men to teenage boys. But, the promised confrontation with militias in A Time for Patriots just sort of fizzles rather than pops.

Lt. General Patrick McLanahan is retired and living in Battle Mountain, Nevada on a remote air base safeguarding the last of America's spaceplanes in the hopes that the program will be re-developed in earnest when the economy picks up and the budget can allow for it. In the meantime, he and his son are flying missions for the Civil Air Patrol (CAP). Brown, who is also a member of CAP, spends a great deal of time describing its mission and even runs the reader (or in my case, listener) through an actual search and rescue operation which was interesting but not really germane to the story line as described on the back of the book.

Meanwhile, a militia group uses a dirty bomb on an airplane to attack the federal building in Reno. Brown uses all sorts of red herring leads to confuse multiple story lines and try to make it a surprise as to where the attacks were coming from. Although my original suspicions turned out to be correct, I was fooled for a while...

Read more at: <http://dwdsreviews.blogspot.com/2011/...>

Andrea says

Definitely a case of "don't judge a book by its cover." I picked this off the library new-book shelf not realizing I'd already read - and not enjoyed - a previous offering by the same author. And this one was even worse. Totally ridiculous plot, horrendously-written dialog, clichéd caricatures of characters - this one had it all, not to mention waaaaaay too much technical detail that did nothing whatsoever to advance the story or give insight into the characters. Ugh!

Nick Mann says

Dale Brown, a former US Air Force pilot, proves in “A Time for Patriots” that if you know the territory of a subject (like aviation) and have imagination and craft, you can weave an interesting story out of almost anything. Who would expect a riveting, edge of your seat story to come from main characters who are kids in the civil air patrol? Out in the wide open country of Nevada, Brad McLanahan has turned 18, gotten a driver’s license and now he has struck out for adventures in the CAP. His air force general dad is his hero and, as dad’s are supposed to do, provides Brad with the genetic fortitude and smarts to push through a series of adventures starting with a search mission for a crashed civilian plane. He and his CAP buddies (Ron and Ralph) along with the general are on a collision course with fundamentalist subversives seeking to overthrow the government. High tech sensors, 12-foot tall robots, dirty bombs and other military and spy-like technology are woven through the tale in which the rich rancher villain, Mr. Anderson, twists the notion of freedom but really seems to aspire to state of anarchy. Is art imitating life or vice-versa?

Cliff says

I've picked this to read from a vast heap of library books I recently borrowed. I'm not sure I shall stick with it. I immediately suspect any book which has to start with 4 pages of the meanings of acronyms that will appear. including such as 'GPS' and 'sitrep'. Oh come on, Mr Brown. Credit your readers with a little intelligence.

I did make it through. However, I found this book extremely strange. It is shown as a thriller. but is more an alternative history, as dates the action is dated in 2012. I am not sure if it is part of a series (and if it is, I shan't be bothering with any others). The back story presupposes the 'American Holocaust', presumably sometime in the early years of the 21st century as it is implied that is post dates 9/11. That Holocaust appears to have been an unprovoked attack on the USA by Russia, I assume with nuclear weapons. All very strange, as I thought Russian missiles were more likely to blow up in their silos rather than on American cities. No mention is made of devastation caused, the main problem being a very deep financial depression (clearly the author does know what is happening in the real world), but far more extensive than actually being experienced. A new President has been elected but neither her, nor his predecessor bear any resemblance to the actual holders of the office. There is even a 'Space Force' with 'space planes'. If the author wanted this scenario, why didn't he set the action say 10 or so years hence?

It is what I call a 'boy's toys' book. Very little attempt at any in depth characterization. but a great deal of detail about various aircraft, how they are flown, search patterns etc.

This author is said to be a best seller with glowing reviews. I just don't get it. I can't give it more than 1 star.

Mark Polino says

I got this as a free reviewer book. I've loved the other McClanahan books from Dale Brown, even when they strain the imagination. This one though, just didn't do it for me. I kept waiting for the action and it never came. The government characters underreacted at a dirty bomb and overreacted at little things. McClanahan

was all over the place. I just can't recommend it.

Alan says

Dale Brown weaves a tale that is entertaining, and pulls the reader along all the way to the end. It's a techno-action adventure featuring a retired, convicted and pardoned 3-star US Air Force general and his 18-yr old son as the main characters.

The main setting for the story is Battle Mountain, NV. I've been there and through there several times, and I have to admit that I couldn't think of a less likely place to set an action adventure. Anyway, it works for the most part.

Brown's tale is set in the future in a time when extreme austerity measures had to be made to keep the US Government afloat, even after significant numbers of government agencies were disbanded, and many, many more government jobs were eliminated. This happens sometime after "The American Holocaust", to which only vague references are made. I found that to be unsatisfying. Since I am not a regular Dale Brown reader, that may have been a central story line in an earlier novel. Sorry if I missed that.

So if you like references to high tech military gadgetry without being bogged down in the details, and a story that involves ultra right-wing constitutionalist terrorist and survivalist groups, fiercely independent western characters, unscrupulous FBI agents, and heroic volunteer members of Civil Air Patrol all crossing paths...along with stolen nuclear material, then this book is for you.

As for me, there were too many references to things that were not clearly enough resolved (at least in this book as a stand-alone read) to warrant 5-stars. I actually debated about whether to award 3 or 4 stars, but since the book is readable and the story flows well, I opted for 4 stars.

I hope you found this review helpful.

Bob says

General Patrick McLanahan has been retired and living at downsized airbase at Battle Mountain Nevada. Working with the local Civil Air Patrol along with his teenaged son and flying mercy flights, the lead a fairly quiet life. One day while out on a search for a missing private plane, Pat's son Brad is with the ground party that finds the lone survivor. At the same plane is flown into the federal building in Reno causing much damage and the release of radio activity from a canister of radio active waste that was carried in the plane. All flights are grounded, but when a big and connected local rancher on whose land the crash occurred offers to fly the injured boy to the hospital the run afoul of the FBI, Homeland Security and other agencies. The lead FBI agent in charge is monitoring a local religious enclave but also suspects that Patrick is somehow involved with the terrorist bombing and is out to get him. Lots of action, the TinMan and CID battle robot are involved as well as Jon Masters who is supplying Patrick and the FBI with some advanced equipment. A quick and fun read as well as a probable new future for McaLanahan.

Pam says

A Time for Patriots is a novel by Dan Brown. It is a contemporary novel taking place in Nevada and is at the present. He shows us what might happen if we fall into another recession and our next President has to be faced with many difficult decisions on cutting programs. Which ones are not needed? I love the way he connects us with his characters and the way he uses words.

Patrick McLanahan is retired and lives at Battle Mountain, Nevada where he volunteers for the Civil Air Patrol and keeps the base running smoothly. He is in "protective custody" because the Russian have sent men to kill him. He is raising his eighteen year old son, Brad. He is also teaching Brad to fly. He is often sought out by the President to work on specialized projects. After going out on an emergency rescue, he rides back with Mr. Anderson, a wealthy rancher who lives next door to Battle Mountain. Anderson disregards the newly set aviation rule of no flying and is questioned by the FBI. They think he is running a terrorist camp. They believe Patrick is somehow involved and set out to prove their statements.

The people are getting restless because of the lack of police after a bomb goes off in Reno. They are forming their own groups to defend themselves. These groups are being looked at as "terrorists" until it is proven that they are not. Patrick tries to defuse the situation with one group and his offer of using the barracks at Battle Mountain for housing and getting food, etc. from their stores. The group believes it is simply a way of getting the group into the hands of the Government.

In an attempt to get confirmation of what Patrick is up to, they draw Brad into a trap and threaten him into spying for them. Will Brad tell his father or someone about the threat against his father or will he keep his mouth shut to save himself?

Can they figure out who is behind the bombs with "dirty radioactive materials" before they set off another one? Who in his organization can Patrick trust? This fast paced novel will take you into the center of defense for the country.

HOWARD H BONDS says

Great Book

Great Read! Non Stop action. I really enjoyed the great story line. A must read thriller. I highly recommend this book to anyone who likes a Dale Brown thriller.

Gina says

A Time for Patriots by Dale Brown.

Interesting, I probably would have given this book 2.5 stars if I could have. I've not read a Dale Brown book before, I may go back and pull some earlier books in the MegaFortress series to see what they are like.

If you have ever watched anime cartoons like Speed Racer or even read comic books, you have a pretty good idea of what this book is like. The characters were more like caricatures than people. I swear I could see the faces scrunching up when they were angry or the word "POW!" when something was hit. Very over the top. It was kind of funny and I don't know if that was intended by the author.

The federal agents - FBI and Homeland Security - were stereotypical numbskull heavies, short-sighted,

focusing on the wrong people and abusing their power for personal vendettas. The sovereign freedom groups talked in big booming voices, wouldn't listen to the other side at all or compromise, and kept repeating the same mantra over and over --- government is bad, military is evil, we are the only ones that live according to God, etc. Like I said, all the characters were pretty one dimensional.

Brown walked a fine line in this book between 'the federal government should save America by any means and at all costs' and 'militia preppers are the only way to save the true America'. Since I haven't read any of Brown's other books I don't know or couldn't tell if he personally supports one side or the other.

Supposedly there was an "American Holocaust" where Russia and China started bombing the US then we fought back but many people were killed; the economy crashed and everyone was out of work. On a personal note I kind of objected to the use of the word - holocaust. But it really didn't play much of a part in the story, it was mentioned a couple of times as a background sort of thing but pretty much ignored.

There were some cool techy gadgets mentioned in the story, the "Tin Man" and the CID - some sort of manned robot used in battle. From reading other reviews, one of the characters killed in the story has been a main character for a while.

William Dufris was an excellent reader, giving each character's voice the perfect qualities that fit in with my cartoon analogy. And I mean that in a good way, the preacher/leader of one band of militia had a BIG BOOMING VOICE and Mr. Dufris captured that nuance as described by the author perfectly.

So an unknown group starts attacking federal buildings with dirty bombs, the federal government sends in FBI and Homeland Security agents to figure out who's behind the attacks and they come to Patrick McLanahan's base. They of course focus on the hero instead of really looking for the culprits.

There are a lot of descriptions of airplanes and flying details which went over my head and after a while bored me. I thought the ending left some questions unanswered. All in all, this was entertaining to listen to during the commute.

Ronnie Taylor says

Great tribute to CAP

This is a must read for all Dale Brown fans,as a former of civil air patrol this was well done ,great action,not as much flying scenes like I like,but it shows a lot of how a search and rescue missions went,I only practice doing them,but I did learn to fly while in CAP, on to the next book

Nancy says

It wasn't bad, but it wasn't great, either

SB says

This was an okay book. The action was a bit hit or miss for me. The main character is not my favorite, but I like his son and a few of his colleagues -- and they seem to be enough to keep me interested.

Mo says

From ReadingWithMo: <http://www.readingwithmo.com/2011/07/...>

Air Force Lieutenant-General Patrick McLanahan is back for another adventure. The United States is trying to recover from economic ruin. McLanahan is forced into action when terrorists launch an attack with a dirty bomb on Reno, Nevada.

This was my first novel from author Dale Brown. In researching for this review, I learned that A Time for Patriots is book number seventeen in the Patrick McLanahan series. The book started out with some intense drama and I just knew I was going to love it. Secret weapons and high tech devices, what's not to like?

But I found myself losing interest after the first third of the book. There were parts that were good and held my interest, but overall I lost interest. It seemed like every paragraph I read mentioned the Civil Air Patrol. I am sure it is a fantastic organization, but the author played that card to death. By the time I was finished with the book, I had decided that I would never read another book that even mentioned the Civil Air Patrol.

If I had read some of the previous books in the series, I might have had a different opinion. I am sure the side story lines have deeper meaning to those that have plugged their way through the series. Without having the emotional investment in the characters, a lot of the book was dry at best. I highly recommend reading your way through the series before taking this one on.

Overall, I give this one a three out of five. The beginning of the book was gripping and held my interest. I enjoyed the author's view on the economic health of the United States. The rest of the book did not work for me, but I will just chalk that up to beginning a series at book number seventeen.
