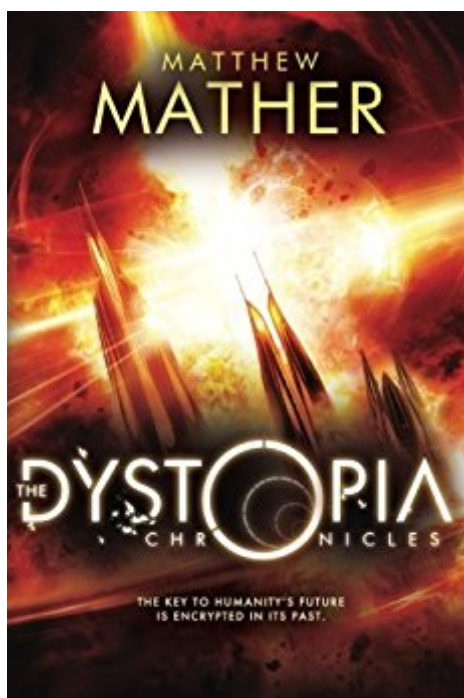


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The Dystopia Chronicles (Atopia Series Book 2)



Synopsis

The second book in the bestselling Atopia series. Cast out from Atopia, Robert Baxter undertakes a globe-trotting quest to find his friend Willy's lost body, which just may hold the key to understanding the dangers facing his home and Jimmy Scadden's role in the disasters that are spreading across the world. As Robert pieces together the puzzle, he realizes that mankind's ravenous consumption of natural resources is no longer the most immediate threat to this world. As full-scale global war erupts and an ancient apocalyptic threat resurfaces, Robert must risk losing the ones he loves to save the planet from destruction.

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Customer Reviews

I loved Atopia and Cyberstorm. This sequel to the former has a disappointing start. I struggled to catch up to the characters and who they were. It took me a while to remember Bob and Vince were the surfers and that Jimmy was Bob's childhood friend. I couldn't recall Patricia from Nancy, or that Sid was a man. That made the first 200 pages some tedious / frustrating reading. After finishing it, I get what the author needed to do: get the main characters separated so there could be doubt and

questions. The balance is quick-paced but relies on a lot of unnecessary detail and unexplained technology. Toward the end, the main antagonist is suddenly dead, NO explanation and NO climactic showdown. I thought that could have been better. The author then relies on the bible of all things, "Revelations," for a plot twist. The religious thread was spun throughout, and could have been left out entirely and the story need not change. (Note to the author: the book in the bible is Revelation.) Since biblical apocalypse is such a warmed-over approach, the author might as well throw zombies and vampires into the mix. I believe it is capitulation. I find the most thought-provoking of the series is the notion of split awareness or virtual presence in more than one place. It is a literary feat to pull this off. I don't know if the author intends psi abilities as a subtle indictment of our tech-heavy world (and semi presence when a phone is in one's hands). Having spent five days on the Tuolumne River without a phone or email was absolutely freeing! As an avid Mather fan, I will read the complete this series - and anything else he publishes.

While I do enjoy the traditional science fiction books, this one should be put on a pedestal along with Ender's Game. Both books create a universe with technology you could never have imagined, and ask tough questions. Both touch on existentialism, Ender's Game on xenophobia, and the Dystopia Chronicles on what define the being and whether existing here or somewhere else makes a difference. I don't want to spoil anymore of the book, but Mather masterfully immerses you in his universe with such skill as to rival Tolkien, Card, and many other fiction greats. If ever schools offer courses on ethics, or even for schools that offer philosophy; this book would be perfect. It brings so much to the table, as do all the other ones in the series. This is the first book by this author I've ever read and I want to thank you personally Matthew Mather, it is a wonderful introduction to your work; I'll make sure to check out more if it. I hope this review helped someone, sorry for rambling on, and good night.- JB

The book is about some cyberkids of all ages doing a lot of stuff. What they did, I forgot, but mostly a lot of teleporting. I finished the book about an hour ago, but I'm sorry I don't know what the story was about, I think all died in the end, but not sure. I know the author is well versed in Bible study as he makes a lot of references to the bible, not it's spiritual content but to it's action themes. The author is a Christian (or will soon be), not like Dan Brown and his unreadable, and utterly boring, blaspheme stories. Anyway perhaps it's a cool read for teenagers, it certainly has many pages. I skipped whole chapters too make it to the end. Atopia was a 4 star.

I listened to this as an audiobook, because of this it is harder for me to judge the "literary" quality of the writing. I enjoyed it, though. The sequel to Atopia. It would help a lot to have read the first one. The science is a bit far-fetched, but the underlying themes seem sadly familiar. Abuse of power for profit, Use of religion to justify immoral/unethical actions, hedonism with no examination of one's actions on others, and exploitation of poorer, non-elite populations by the elite, rich and powerful are among these. The question about any series like this is "are you waiting for the next one to come out?". I say yes.

Mather's best work yet. This story expands on the world built in Atopia, following a group of "refugees" kicked out of paradise as they look for their lost friend. Mather explores the limits of future-tech, blurring the line between technology and magic at times in the style of some of the greatest sci-fi. The book ventures into spiritual or metaphysical territory, making you wonder where he's going with all of this - ghosts? biblical allusions? just what am I reading here? But then he wraps it all up with a thoroughly satisfying science fiction explanation, and all the pieces drop into place. You'll benefit from reading his Atopia Chronicles first, and readers of his Cyberstorm will appreciate the occasional reference, though that one is by no means required (read it anyway, it's great too). Note: I was a beta reader of Dystopia, and did not have to pay for the copy I read. I will be buying it when he releases it though! EDIT: Purchased!

I would have given it 4 or even 5 stars, it is a good read; but the end is ... bland, it's like he could not find how to end it. I have found this in many books, they give you a great story in 3, 4 sometimes more books, and when you reach the end... well guys, lights out, that's it. I liked Mr. Mather's writing, in fact I just bought some more of his books; but this was my feeling about this great story.

The Dystopia Chronicles is the second book in the Atopia Series. The book follows Bob, Sid, Vince, and Nancy each on separate adventures looking for Willy's body. This book is quite different from anything else I've read. There were parts of this book that left me confused and frustrated but for the most part it was enjoyable and entertaining and I can't wait to start the last book in the series.

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