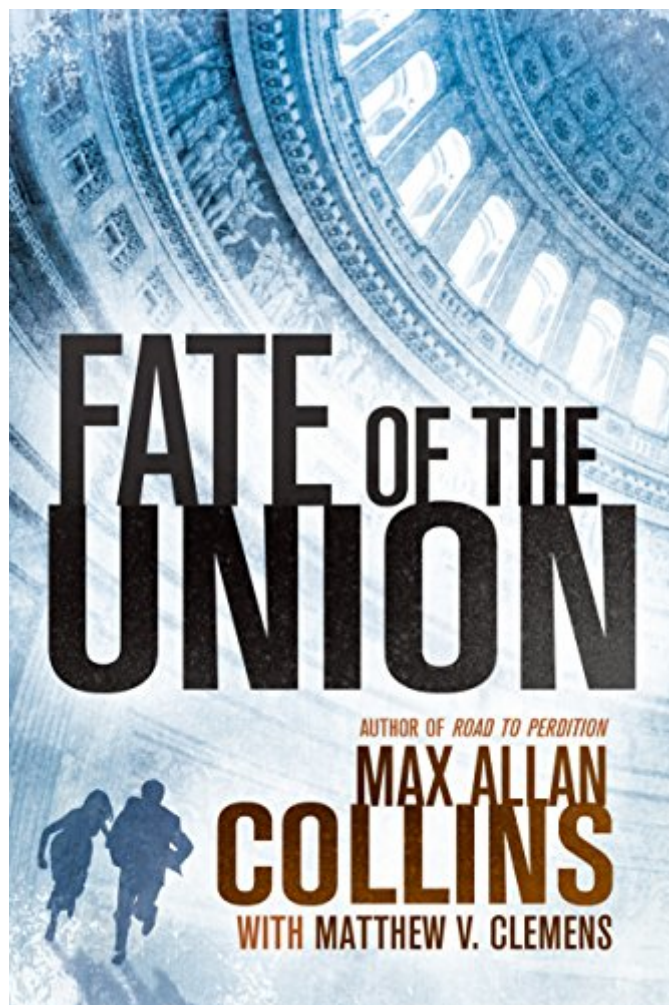


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Fate Of The Union (Reeder And Rogers Thriller)



Synopsis

When a retired colleague dies of an apparent suicide, ex-“Secret Service agent Joe Reeder knows there must be far more to the story. Why did the man leave a desperate message for Reeder moments before dying? And what could possibly make such a seasoned veteran fear for his life? FBI Special Agent Patti Rogers has a mystery of her own to solve: she’s leading a task force investigating a brutal series of similar but seemingly unconnected murders across the DC area. Are they serial killings or something even more sinister? Could Reeder and Rogers be tracking down different facets of the same conspiracy? And how do the continued assassination attempts on a presidential hopeful figure into an unprecedented attack on the heart of government? The answers to these questions are uncovered in this riveting sequel to the bestselling *Supreme Justice*.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Fate of the Union is the sequel to *Supreme Justice*, the first novel in the thriller series which introduced us to ex-Secret Service agent Joe “Peep” Reeder and his FBI pal, Patti Rogers. In their new novel, Joe is investigating the apparent suicide of a friend. Found hanging from the shower bar of a local motel, Joe is convinced that his friend would not have gone willingly or easily.

Moreover, he had just called Joe, asking for his help. Meanwhile, Patti and her task force at the Hoover Building have been looking for a serial killer who may, in fact, simply be a professional hit man. A group of as yet-unconnected victims have been found, each with a "double tap" shot to the brain. As Joe and Patti join forces each will discover that their two cases may well be related. Meanwhile, the richest man in America is contemplating a presidential bid and wants Joe on his team. With some questionable members of his already-existing professional staff, Joe's antennae are vibrating. Could there be a relationship between the rich candidate's activities and the two cases under investigation? Joe is equipped to separate the truth from the chaff because he is an expert in kinesics, the study of body movements and their "tells". This is an attribute which he shares (somewhat obviously, one might have thought) with Kathryn Dance, Jeffery Deaver's heroine. There is a nice McGuffin (a substance that can be weaponized with horrendous results) and a Hitchcockian conclusion in which a national landmark structure plays a crucial role in the resolution of the plot. The writing is smooth, the depiction of the D.C. and environs setting well done. The principal characters are interesting and the supporting characters are utilized well. The story holds your attention.

Fate of the Union Length: Print, 320 pages, Audible, 8 hours 21 minutes. Kindle Sales Rank when this review was posted: 122. This is an intriguing fictional political suspense novel, the second in a series featuring Joe Reeder and Patti Rogers. When you read that it is a political suspense novel, you can probably figure that the story arc is going to include a hard-edged military anti-establishment character and that the language will be seedy, (what my mother always referred to as mule skinner language). If the f-bomb annoys you, look for a different story. Although this stereotype has been around in print for a couple generations, it seems it will last for much longer. Certainly, it still works with this PI, as brought to life in this great story by Max Allan Collins and Matthew V. Clemens. Although this is a series, I did not read the first book and don't believe I enjoyed this story any the less. Also, there is no cliffhanger ending, although there clearly we are left aware that follow on work related to this story is coming, someday. Note: I discovered this book through Audible and got into it so fully, I added the Kindle version a short while ago. What astounds me most is that until this book, I was not aware of Max Allan Collins, despite his great success with Private Eye books, and a score of TV credits that includes Mike Hammer, CSI, etc. EXCERPT: The below excerpt should provide a good feel for the pace and flow of this story: "Then . . . then we showed up. "If he recognized me as we drove past" this was likely our blond perp" he knew he'd scored a bonus round. If you and I hadn't chatted a while in the car, we'd have

already been inside when he hit the detonator.

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