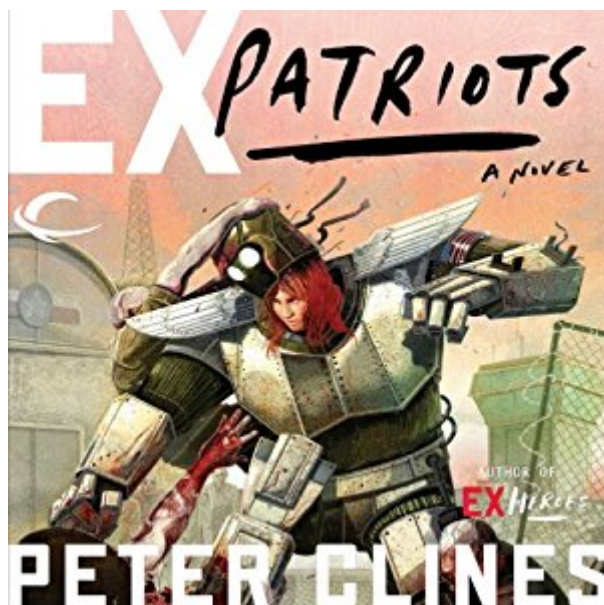


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# Ex-Patriots



## Synopsis

It's been two years since the world ended. Two years since the dead rose and the plague of ex-humanity decimated mankind. For most of that time, the superhero called St. George, formerly known to the world as the Mighty Dragon, has protected the people of Los Angeles at their film-studio-turned-fortress, The Mount. Together with his fellow heroes - Cerberus, Zzzap, and Stealth - he's tried to give the survivors hope and something like a real life. But the swollen population of The Mount is becoming harder and harder to sustain, and the heroes are feeling the pressure. Hope arrives in the form of a United States Army battalion, based in a complex a few hundred miles away in Arizona. This is not just any base, however. The men and women of Project Krypton are super-soldiers, designed and created before the outbreak to be better, stronger, and faster than normal humans. They want the heroes and all the people of The Mount to rejoin America and have normal lives again. But can the military be trusted? And is there even a country left to rejoin? There is a secret at the heart of Project Krypton, and those behind it have an awesome power that will help them keep that secret hidden. The power of Freedom. **BONUS SHORT STORY:** Ex-Patriots includes "Codependent", one of four interlocking stories from The Junkie Quatrain by Peter Clines.

## Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 11 hours and 57 minutes

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Unabridged

Publisher: Audible Studios

Audible.com Release Date: July 5, 2011

Language: English

ASIN: B005ACDY8I

Best Sellers Rank: #1 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > History > Africa #5 in Books > History > Africa

## Customer Reviews

Ex-heroes was survivors against each other and zombies. Ex-Patriots is superheroes with super soldiers and the left over government. Now, I don't know about you but the one thing that I have learned, from every zombie movie ever, is in a zombocalypse never trust the United States Government. But, let's see how that works out for our superhereos.--

“The real supervillians wear business suits and paisley ties with full Windsor knots. This has a great blend again of a story told in the past and the present (much like LOST) to tell the story. There is a little backstory to the heroes but most of the backstory follows an extremely smart scientist and the Super Soldiers that he helped create. When the heroes discover they are not alone and there are other survivors possibly even a left over government they are excited to meet them. Barry/Zzzap is there to keep the pop culture references coming and when meeting the Army-- “If someone asks if you’re a god,” said Barry’s voice, “you say yes.” I loved the bad guy/guys in this. It had just enough of a twist to it that I wasn’t really expecting the outcome of the story. I really like the Stealth/Saint George semi-romance that is happening and there were a few cute moments but just because you are a super hero does not mean you have any player skills when it comes to women. Both Saint George and Barry seem to find it difficult to get anything going with the lady of their choice. Stealth is a favorite character of mine now. I didn’t love her in the first book but she really grew on me in Ex-Patriots. It could be because she is so smart and we got to see more of her fighting skills. I really like how she examines everything and when the government shows up she seems to know how to ask all the right questions. She is even more personable in this one where you can see she really cares for and trusts her team. All in all this is another action packed adventure where you are not sure who the good guys and the bad guys really are. I really want to see a little more into the past of a few heroes but I really like the multiple POVs and rotating past/present story telling. Peter Clines has done another fantastic job at telling a story that seems much like a summer blockbuster. Again like I said for ex-heroes, if you are a fan of audiobooks this one is fantastic!

This book does the series justice. Its a big slow for the first half. But thats how this author works. All these books will be slow to start, while hes setting up all these different plot loops and trying to make the antagonist actually feel like they have existed in this world a while (rather than my petpeeve of just randomly popping up with a bad guy like its a crappy TV-Drama instead of a book.) The characters are developed. You will know whos important in the story and who is not. The only suggestion to the author would be to not focus so much time on the "THEN" chapters. Its great to know what happened. but sometimes these are placed randomly in the book with no relevance for another 2 chapters after. Also that these "THEN" chapters can drag on for a while. I want to know the past. I dont need a history lesson on why there are super soldiers. I get the concept.

I have to admit I gave the first book 4 stars- it was good, well written (and to the nitpickers, its fiction. okay?) and the pop culture references were a lot of fun. Never been a huge zombie fan, but Clines mythology is fascatis (esp the 'how they came to be' explanation is startling). Now to 'ex-patriots' .... the plotting was good/interesting/basic...until HOLY SMOKE! Did Clines just do what I THINK he did? DANG. Talk about a writer who can pull it together. I was torn between dragging out reading this book to make it last or sitting down and chewing threw in one big GULP. Really nice work on existing characters- I really like how he is....humanizing Stealth- more than what you think there, showing a wacky human-er side to Zzzap (love the pop culture references (to someone who watches movies all day (Zzzap, not me)...and some of the newer characters. The alternating then/now takes takes some getting used to, but Clines does a nice job of feeding us bits and character pieces that really enhance our knowledge fascinatingly. Captain Freedom being a nice example- instead of a stock character we get some really interesting shading on this 'hero'. Ditto Dr Sorensen, we are never quite sure if he is 'mad/angry', 'mad/looney' or 'mad/scary' or just flat out nuts...or is he? If you remotely liked the first book, this is a MUST read. Please read in order. The plot twist is a true hum-dinger, one of those 'glad I wasn't in a diner so no one could hear me exclaim "Damnnnnnnn, didn't see that one coming" (for the record I am writing this review having read 89% of the book).

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