About the Book

When the lights go out… British MI6 agent, and former SAS trooper, Jack Tate is trying to escape his past when he witnesses a terrorist attack of unthinkable scale. An electro-magnetic pulse knocks out the US power grid, killing anything with a computer processor, throwing the whole country into darkness.

Under the cover of the blackout, a clandestine operation aims to assassinate prominent public figures on US soil. Looting and violence spreads across the country. And Jack Tate’s past comes back to haunt him. As the only intelligence operative on the ground, he is hurled into a mission that will put him – and the people he loves – in immediate danger. With the fate of the United States on the line, only he can prevent the horror of a new world war.

Other books by the author

Alex is the author of the Aidan Snow series: Cold Blood, Cold Black, Cold East. Total Fallout is the second novel in the Jack Tate series.

See Alex’s website for more details at www.alexshaw.co.uk

About the Author

Alex spent the second half of the 1990s in Kyiv, Ukraine running his own business consultancy before being head-hunted for a division of Siemens. The next few years saw him doing business for the company across the former USSR, the Middle East, and Africa. Most recently he has spent several years in Doha, Qatar.

Alex is an active member of the International Thriller Writers and the Crime Writers’ Association. He is the author of the international bestselling Aidan Snow and Jack Tate thrillers and the forthcoming Sophie Racine series.

Alex, his wife and their two sons divide their time between homes in Sussex, England and Doha, Qatar.
Discussion points

- What was your favourite action sequence in the novel? Why?

- Did Jack Tate ever really have the option to not get involved with the events in the novel? Discuss his sense of duty.

- Detective Chang is a secondary protagonist for the second half of the novel, and vital to the story. Discuss how you think his character differs from Jack Tate. Is this effective? Why?

- Do you think it’s unusual for an action-adventure novel that neither the hero or the villain know who the other is? What does this add to the storytelling? Can you think of any other novels where this is the case?

- The novel jumps between storylines and locations. How effectively do you think the author achieved these transitions? Did you prefer Jack's story or the story at the Embassy?

- How important do you think it is to have a principled character at the heart of an adventure story?

- Discuss the author's choice to use the fallout of an Electro Magnetic Pulse weapon as the backdrop to the novel. What does this mean for the story?

Suggested further reading

*The Plantation* by Kris Kuzneski
*From Russia with Love* by Ian Fleming
*Nomad* by James Swallow
*Scar Tissue* by Ollie Ollerton
*The Midnight Bell* by Sean Dillon

Useful Links

Visit Alex's website at [www.alexwshaw.co.uk](http://www.alexwshaw.co.uk)

Published by HQ Stories, an interview with Alex Shaw on [Writing What You Know](http://www.alexwshaw.co.uk)

An interview with Alex in Business Ukraine magazine: [Borsch Bestseller: British author taps into Ukraine chic](http://www.alexwshaw.co.uk)

Simon Duringer's: [10 Questions with Alex Shaw](http://www.alexwshaw.co.uk)

Follow Alex on twitter: [@AlexShawWhetman](http://www.alexwshaw.co.uk)

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