



Impact (Wyman Ford Series Book 3)

By Douglas Preston

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A brilliant meteor lights up the Maine coast... and two young women borrow a boat and set out for a distant island to find the impact crater.

A scientist at the National Propulsion Facility discovers an inexplicable source of gamma rays in the outer Solar System. He is found decapitated, the data missing.

High resolution NASA images reveal an unnatural feature hidden in the depths of a crater on Mars... and it appears to have been activated.

Sixty hours and counting.

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Impact (Wyman Ford Series Book 3) By Douglas Preston Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Near the start of this solid thriller from bestseller Preston, the U.S. president's science adviser asks former CIA operative Wyman Ford, last seen in 2008's *Blasphemy*, to look into the sudden appearance of radioactive gemstones, in particular to identify the precise location of their origin in Cambodia. Meanwhile, college dropout and frustrated astronomer Abbey Straw, who believes she witnessed a meteor's fall, embarks on a search of small islands near her Maine home to locate pieces of the meteorite to sell on eBay. In California, soon-to-be murdered professor Jason Freeman sends Mark Corso, a Mars mission technician at the National Propulsion Facility, a classified hard drive with evidence of gamma rays emanating from the red planet. The three story lines end up neatly intersecting, though the final payoff doesn't do justice to the engaging setup. Preston refrains from inserting the scientific minilectures of which the late Michael Crichton was so fond. (*Jan.*)

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From Booklist

Wyman Ford, the former CIA agent turned freelance investigator introduced in *Blasphemy* (2008), returns. This time the U.S. government sends him on a seemingly straightforward mission to locate a secret Cambodian mine, the source of some unusual gemstones. But Ford's assignment quickly gets a lot more complicated, and soon he's immersed in a mystery involving conspiracy, murder, and a strange object buried in a moon of Mars, an object that might be about to unleash something unimaginable upon Earth. *Blasphemy* felt almost claustrophobic at times (much of its action took place on a single set), but here the author opens up the stage, with plot threads unspooling in various countries and involving various supporting characters, who seem, at first, to have no connection to one another. Where *Blasphemy* tread on some controversial ground (the nature-of-God question), this book is a more traditional thriller, substituting adventure for philosophical exploration. Is it a better book or a worse one? Different readers may answer the question in different ways, but one thing's for sure: once Preston kicks the story into high gear, they won't put the book down until it's finished. --David Pitt

Review

"Some hopeful science fiction fans such as yours truly have begun to see Preston as the possible successor to the recently deceased Michael Crichton... Some novels you want to savor, some you want to read so quickly that you can scarcely keep yourself from tearing pages as you move forward. Preston's entertaining accomplishments tend toward the latter."

--Alan Cheuse, National Public Radio

"Impact is out of this world. Simply put, Douglas Preston has crossed over into a new frontier of thriller. It is a fireball of astronomic proportion that will leave you gasping for air! So buckle up, turn off the phone, and don't forget to breathe."

—Brad Thor, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Apostle*

"Douglas Preston's wildly creative novels expertly blend real science and heart-stopping thrills. He is, quite simply, the new and improved Michael Crichton."

—Tess Gerritsen, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Keepsake*

“A brilliantly executed thriller—exciting, fascinating, and thought-provoking. The kind of book you want to savor—and when dawn comes you realize that it has taken off like a rocket and swept you through the night. Wild and wonderful reading fun! A highly original and yet eerily plausible premise.”

—Whitley Strieber, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Critical Mass*

“Brilliant . . . full of huge ideas, but intensely human, too, and intensely suspenseful.”

—Lee Child, *New York Times* bestselling author of the Jack Reacher novels

“Preston will have his readers checking the sky for falling objects. Impact delivers one . . . and then some!”

—Sandra Brown, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Smash Cut: A Novel*

“One of our ...

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Ashley Mansfield:

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Cindy Knutson:

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