

## **SYNOPSIS – VEXTON TRILOGY**

### **THE VEXTON TRILOGY: SYNOPSIS**

What does it mean to be American? What happens when democracy stops working? When a governing system fails because of corruption, how do you traverse the widening gap of political division to become whole again? Paul Trinetti's political sci-fi thriller series, The Vexton Trilogy is a story that grapples with the frailty of democracy, how it affects individuals as well as corporations, and how freedom must be fought for, not just given. In this multi-layered universe that Trinetti has created told from various points of view, nothing is simple and everyone has an agenda.

The series opens twenty-five years after a devastating civil war (the War Within) that has caused the once strong America to become politically and socially divided. It's a world of consumer robots with the dissemination of information relating to federal politics and major news events by the UCIT network and its robot, Cryptic, a computer intelligence system. That with The Peace-Bringer Association (PBA -formerly Democrats) and Militant Alliance of America (MAA- formerly Republicans) are vying for control of America, and currently the PBA with President Westgale hold a tenuous grasp for the future of the country.

After the War Within tore America apart, an international group stepped in to help restructure the country. The Outer Commission, composed of all other major countries around the world

save for Pinia and the HKM, became America's overseer, replacing the cherished American Constitution with the New Order Treaty. As part of the treaty, America must pay off the massive debt owed to the commission by a specific deadline, or the country will lose its independence.

A mysterious epidemic affecting America's youth is sweeping the country putting Westgale under increased pressure to find a cure for the deadly LRS disease. With several murders and the apparent suicide of a key scientist, Dr. Ahar, suspicion and allegations are set in motion opening the door to the domestic terrorist group AXE, which is led by Ahar's daughter, Anya. A brilliant scientist herself, Anya is close to curing the disease. Nicole Kratz, second to Westgale in command, decides to place the well-being of young Americans over politics and fights to have Anya appear before the Judicial Triangle (high court) for permission to negotiate with the convicted terrorist to achieve a stay of execution and let her work on a cure. When the hearing ends, Nicole's plea is denied, resulting in her resignation.

While the drama within the government increases in intensity, the story shifts to the farming community of Vexton where Heath, the director of the Vexton land protection group is desperately trying to help his son Riley who has been struck down by LRS. When their artificial robo-dog starts shutting down strangely, Heath and a friend discover a component in its brain has traces of a poisonous toxin which was banned. This toxin is proven to be the cause of LRS. The question of whether the source of the contagion was intentionally planted, or by accident

puts the owners of Vexton-Tech in the spotlight. It is soon determined by the Peace-Bringers investigative team that unsavoury characters sabotaged the Vexton-Tech plant during the manufacturing process of the robots. This along with the prior murders is proven to have been part of a plot by the Militant Alliance of America and Westgale's own Defense Director, General Sims, in hopes of the resulting chaos leading to the Outer Commission eliminating the Peace-Bringers from power leaving the country in the hands of the Militant Alliance. The sinister plot fails, and a highly weary Westgale retains power.

In an unexpected twist, it's revealed that Dr. Ahar is alive, and has found a natural cure to the disease which will save those struck down by LRS. Before that's known, Heath takes his son to Moon Shade Bluff to witness the Vexton Gleam, a light show from the ether that happens only every 135 years. After the event, Riley is actually cured of LRS, but not because of Ahar's natural cure. This leads Heath to discuss the possible supernatural effects of the Gleam with a scientist who unknowingly discovers an unauthorized excavation on the bluff, giving credence to the idea that there is a secret of great value below the ground.

The mysterious mineral discovered on Moon Shade Bluff has been transformed into the miracle VX drug, capable of preventing the onset of all major illnesses and prolonging the average lifespan to age 120—a drug whose existence a criminal organization has been hiding for thirty years. With an election on the horizon, President Westgale decides not to run for re-election. He asks Nicole Kratz to run. Nicole, still championing for prisoner Anya Ahar, who remains on

death row, refuses to oblige unless Anya is given a chance at a permanent stay of execution.

When Nicole and the rest of the country learn Anya's resentment of society stems from the fact her mother needlessly died in a tragic manner during the War Within, her story begins to garner sympathy with America's youth. Westgate gives in and promises to start the process.

In hopes of meeting the Outer Commission's impending deadline, Westgate has been banking on making a deal with Pinia, rich in natural resources, to acquire its ground-breaking fera-bean biofuel to pay the debt, but when Pinia is taken over by the tyrant Cobra Pix, Westgate fears America will not meet the deadline after all. Six of Pix's seven sons were killed in battle by American forces, and his hatred of America is so great that he's threatened to destroy it.

To complicate matters the president's daughter, Jessica, while in Pinia providing aid to the nation's children, has fallen in love with Cobra's only living son, Shadow. At first infuriated, Westgate ends up accepting their love. Jessica informs him that Cobra and Shadow are planning to propose an even more lucrative energy deal than the prior Pinian government.

However, unbeknownst to all the players, Cobra and HKM president, Sie Woi have plans to ultimately destroy America. When Shadow Pix arrives in the US to formally execute the deal with Westgate, his personal security guard goes rogue and attempts to assassinate the President. Shadow leaps between Westgate and bullets and is critically injured but manages to survive to the great joy of Jessica who introduces him to his estranged mother Luanda.

Cobra has been one of the outside forces secretly attempting to influence the outcome of the American election. In the race between Nicole Kratz and her Militant opponent, billionaire Gerald Levin, he will do whatever it takes to keep the Peace-Bringers in power and ensure his sinister energy deal with America remains in place. Should Levin become president, the deal will fall through, since his fellow Militant Alliance cohorts, Earl Pemberton and his nephew Andy, run the largest energy company in the country.

The election race rapidly deteriorates into a ruthless battle, where past skeletons are placed on public display. However, Nicole's election campaign is focusing on enabling America's youth to be heard. When she promises to do her part to free Anya Ahar, Nicole is elated to learn that it's not just young Americans who are on her side. And although she is met with resistance from her own party, she remains determined to see it through.

There's a problem, though: Anya won't accept her help. Although she has now warmed to Nicole and is supportive of her attempt to reshape America, Anya fears she'll fail and it will cost Nicole the election. Much to Nicole's dismay, Anya declares she is prepared to meet her fate. During the official announcement of her upcoming execution Anya is given the opportunity to address the country and pledges her full support to Nicole. When polls reveal that 67% of Americans want Nicole to be America's next president, Gerald Levin and the Militant Alliance forfeit their candidacy. For Nicole the news is bittersweet, as Anya prepares to face her death.

Prior to Anya's execution, which is being coordinated by the Outer Commission, Nicole receives

some shocking information. The lethal poison Anya supposedly manufactured as a member of AXE was fake, and the tip the authorities received about AXE's planned bombings of government buildings came from Anya herself. When Nicole confronts the Outer Commission guardian with this information he informs her there is no turning back; Anya has admitted to her crimes and her execution is imminent. Nicole rushes to Westgale to try to save Anya, but he tells her it's too late, Anya has been executed. Devastated by the news, she decides to tell Anya's father before it's made public. When she arrives at Dr. Ahar's condo she's shocked to learn, that like Dr. Ahar did months before, Anya's death has been staged. She is alive and well. All along, with the assistance of the Outer Commission Anya has secretly been the key player in an elaborate scheme to maintain Peace-Bringer leadership by having her and her tale of sadness become the country's symbol of hope and reason for change.

With Nicole as the president-elect and the country poised to regain its independence, Jessica is abducted by Cobra Pix treating her like a "guest". While in captivity she learns that Cobra is on the verge of sending a cargo of robo-planes loaded with lethally altered fera-bean biofuel (the bi-product of the Moon Shade Bluff mineral) to America to be released which will act as a giant bomb destroying much of the country. Westgale and Shadow fear Jessica might be dead but their team track her to Pinia. A clash between Cobra's Iron Lotus and the Militant Alliance takes place with Jessica caught in the middle. Shadow takes matters into his own hands and arrives on scene. As Cobra's lead commander goes to shoot Jessica, he stands in front of her and takes the full brunt of the attack falling dead to the floor. Shadow rushes in and kills the shooter. The Militant Alliance take full credit for bringing Cobra and his terrorist plot down.

Back in Washington, with the Pinian energy deal now history, the Outer Commission's guardian prepares to declare the end of America as a country. But then, much to the astonishment of those gathered, president-elect Nicole Kratz and Andy Pemberton of the Militant Alliance announce that, united, they have found a way to bring the miracle VX drug to the rest of the world, and pay the debt.