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M Verant Crushes Trump's Wall in New Novel

Trump's Wall Splits America in a New Thriller about Power, Truth, and a Country on the Brink of Civil War

SAN FRANCISCO, CA, January 22, 2019 — Political fiction is hot. George Orwell's novel "1984" shot to No. 1 on Amazon's best-seller list after Trump's election. But M Verant's new novel "Power in the Age of Lies," published by Acerbic Press, takes political fiction to the next level by bluntly portraying a corrupt Trump conspiring with Russia while building his Wall. And in Verant's world, the Wall splits America itself. The West Coast has become the Free West, a technological superpower leading resistance to Trump's authoritarian rule.

The real-life political battle over funding for Trump's wall echoes in the novel, where Conrad Vega, a fictional Democratic senator, is "yelling about blocking funding for the Wall."

"In both the novel and reality, the Wall is the defining symbol of Trump's presidency," said Verant. "The story portrays Trump as driven by ego and insecurity. He's compelled to hang his name on buildings in twenty-foot-tall letters. Trump's ego makes conflict over the Wall inevitable."

For a book that is virtually a liberal manifesto, "Power in the Age of Lies" has an unexpected protagonist. Madison Padgett begins the story as a passionate advocate for coal power.

"Trump has an infamous history as a misogynist," said Verant. "So the hero had to be a brilliant, powerful woman. But the book's theme is rejecting lies and prejudice to find truth and act with compassion. We all have biases and blind spots to overcome. Madison is trying to save her dying Kentucky coal town. She is heroic because she challenges her own biases while remaining true to her values. And then she rises as a champion for others."

And what will happen with Trump's wall? Verant quotes his heroine: "We will unite and tear down that wall. Because these are the values we share as Americans."

"Power in the Age of Lies" is on sale now in paperback and ebook editions.

M Verant writes speculative fiction that explores social, ecological, and political themes. "Power in the Age of Lies" is his first novel. He lives in the San Francisco Bay Area.

For more information about Verant's book, to request a review copy, or to schedule an interview, please contact Lisa Cooper at 669.213.3518 or press@acerbicpress.com

Praise for "Power in the Age of Lies":

"With the United States on the brink of a second Civil War, *Power in the Age of Lies* calls to mind *The Man in the High Castle*. Verant has given us a stirring and disturbing book, and a lot to think about as 2020 looms." - **Greg Olear**, author of *Dirty Rubles: An Introduction to Trump/Russia*

"A powerful, exciting read that is both hopeful and terrifying. The portrayal of a corrupt, egotistical Trump dragging America toward civil war feels all too real. Madison and Conrad are champions of science, empathy, and truth." - **Michael Huttner** of author, *The Resistance Handbook*

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