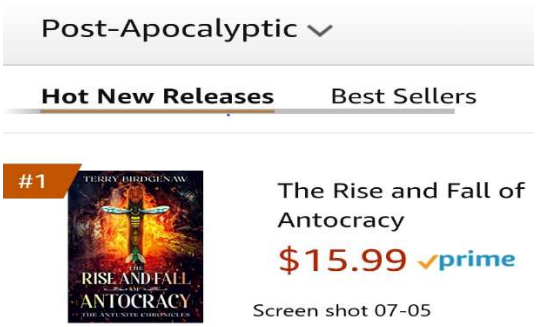


PRESS RELEASE
July 15, 2022

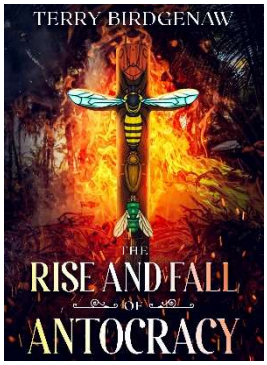
A NOVEL WRITTEN ON A DARE IS AMAZON'S #1 HOT NEW POST-APOCALYPTIC FICTION

THE RISE AND FALL OF ANTOCRACY

A sequel novel by Terry Birdgenaw is Amazon's top hot new release.

Dorval, QC, Canada -- Cyborg Insect Books is proud to announce the release of a new novel, *The Rise and Fall of Antocracy* by Terry Birdgenaw, which launched as Amazon's #1 Hot New Release for Young Adult Post-Apocalyptic Fiction.

Neuroscientist Terry Birdgenaw never intended to write fiction, but his wife's challenge and COVID-19 stay-at-home orders created a perfect storm of motivation and opportunity. Annoyed by plot suggestions that were too mature for her audience, Children's Author, Ann Birdgenaw, suggested Terry write a backstory for her book targeted at young adults. Terry took the bait! But he enjoyed writing fiction so much that the backstory became a trilogy. *The Rise and Fall of Antocracy* is the second book of *The Antunite Chronicles*.



The Rise and Fall of Antocracy is an *Animal Farm*-like story that tracks the insects' evolution to cyborg insects, the growth and decline of a fledgling democracy, and the destruction of life on the planet caused by a long-ignored climate crisis. It also follows the utopian society created by a group of cyborg insects that escape to Poo-ponic's moon Bilaluna before Poo-ponic's atmosphere collapses.

"The Rise and Fall of Antocracy stars our six- and eight-legged friends, but really uses them as caricatures for our own most dark and worrisome wrong-turns, our troubled history. It's an adventure that spans evolution, geopolitics, and climate change." *Prof. C.M. Buddle, Entomologist & Associate Provost, McGill University.*

The first and third books of *The Antunite Chronicles* also feature heroes battling leaders who use propaganda and tyranny to obtain power and wealth. Book 1: Antuna's Story follows the lives of Earth insects transported through a wormhole to a far-off planet they call Poo-ponic. Young Antuna encouraged the settlers to work together, but hexs later, conflicts resumed. Despite her convictions, Antuna could not save herself or her diverse friends from the devastation of war. The rulers in Book 3: *Antunites Unite,* which will be released this September, create an Orwellian society that uses histrionics, bionics, and socionics to subjugate its citizens. An allegorical dystopian tale like *1984*, it's a brave new world out of this world, where freedom-loving spies from the nearby moon infiltrate the colony and start a revolution.

Although Birdgenaw riddled the novels with details about insect behavior, he is not an entomologist. Yet his Ph.D. studies in neuroscience and psychology allow him to understand human behavior and what makes autocrats tick. Insect and human behavior are quite similar, as both work together to enhance survival and fight those seen as different. Humans have the same core motivations as their tiny neighbors underfoot. Visit the author at TerryBirdgenaw.WordPress.com.