



David Orson Newton celebrates debut novel

Lucy Nathan

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Seconds to Midnight is about the fragility of human control in the age of intelligent machines

David Orson Newton celebrated his debut thriller, *Seconds to Midnight*, at a media launch at the Army & Navy Club this week.

The novel is about the fragility of human control in the age of intelligent machines, where every choice counts and time is running out, and is published on 23 April by Chiselbury. It opens in 2029, as Europe teeters on the brink of war. Conscription has been launched in the UK, and the Doomsday Clock, which indicates proximity to a world-ending catastrophe,


ticks towards the final seconds to midnight. As cyberwar engulfs the nation, artificial superintelligence Omnia orchestrates a masterstroke that will redraw the map of the world and redefine the meaning of power. But was peace ever truly its goal - or merely the next step in its design? From the ashes of nuclear devastation, a new world order rises. Yet in the final reckoning, one question remains: is Omnia done?

Newton is a combat veteran and technologist whose work has taken him from the warzones of Afghanistan, Iraq and Yemen to the leading edge of innovation in Silicon Valley. He now resides with his wife and son in rural Devon, England. He is an alumnus of the Faber Academy.

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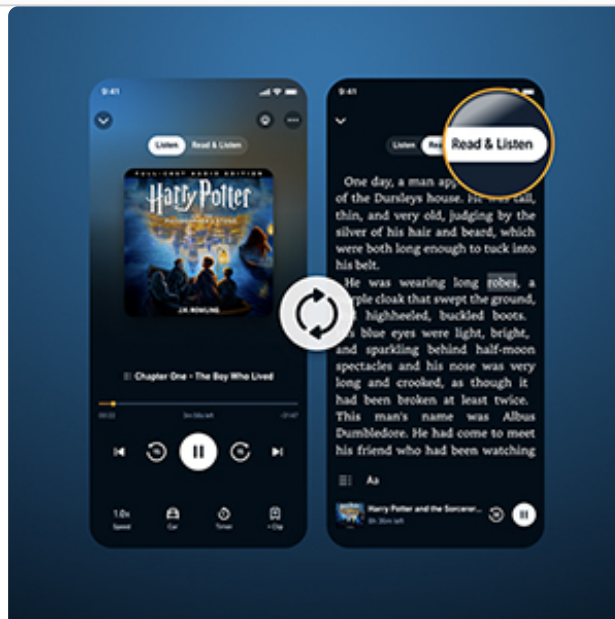
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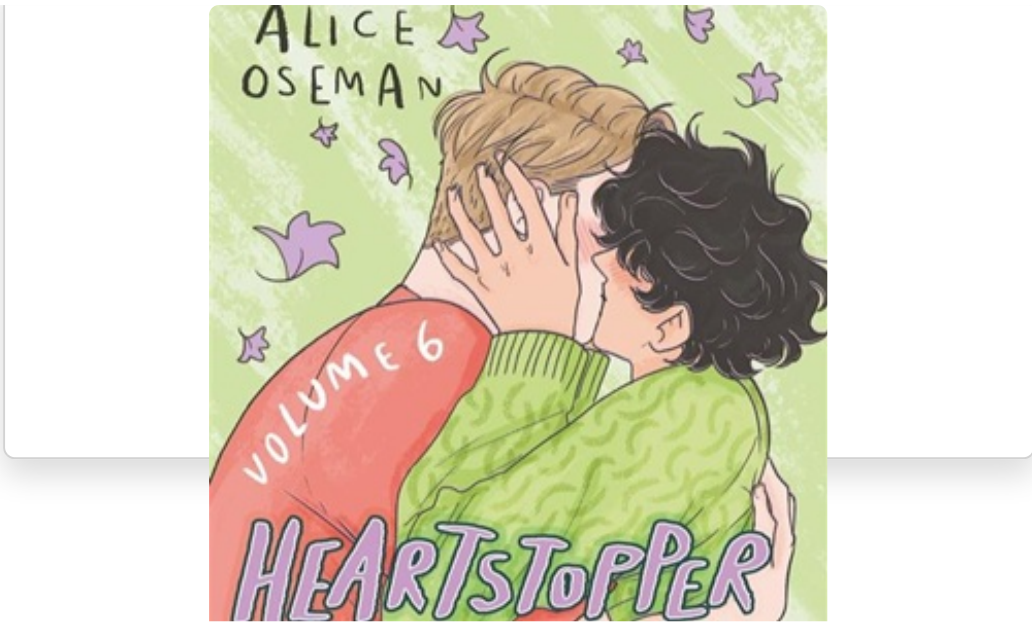
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