



WRITTEN BY
R.L. GALBRAITH

THE LAND OF THE FREE AND THE HOME OF THE BRAVE
HANGS IN THE BALANCE

IN THE FUTURE, AXIS, A DETERMINED GROUP OF INDEPENDENT MEDIATORS TRY TO CONTROL DESPERATE REPUBLICAN AND DEMOCRATIC ARMIES THAT SEEK TO TAKE CONTROL OF A FLEDGLING GOVERNMENT RUN BY AN INDEPENDENT AMERICAN PRESIDENT WHO TOOK OVER YEARS EARLIER.

So What: Whether democracy is good or bad is in the eye of the beholder but has been the choice of the American government for hundreds of years. It's not a secret, we face a pending crisis in future years because of blatant conflicting political postures that now consume us.

It's been proven that in desperate times, citizens will rise up and try to popularize their ideologies. Everybody wants to rule the world, but in this case, they just want a normal society: whatever that means to them.

Drama Series: Based on a political future of dismal uncertainty, the theme of this story is one of courage and perseverance of citizens who are trying to make things right. The tone is a dark reality that people face, wanting to see the light at the end of the tunnel. Naturally, the desperate experience of being thrown in an uncertain world generates discord, anger, and a sense of retaliation for the various players.

What could the future hold? You are about to find out.

Character Sentiments ...

The United States has changed, and no one knows if it's for the better.

In politics, the truth is usually buried somewhere, despite what people say.

What's a little collateral damage?

Perception is an evil we all bear.

The consequences of our actions will save those around us.

2035: The political landscape of the United States is in disarray. Disenfranchised citizens have taken it upon themselves to take a stand against the current government. Two prominent militias scour the fastness of America, with the Democratic Army being in direct confrontation with the Republican Army. Splinter groups of troublemakers

become a major problem for everyone concerned. Unlike the American Civil War, there are no regional boundaries, although there are a few pockets of dominant presence relating to each army. Many citizens fear for their lives, not knowing where their loyalty lies.

Citizens of all races and political persuasion are fearful that the fledgling government is becoming insurmountable. Many states are trying to secede from the union, simply because they feel the sanctity of the government is obsolete. Similar to citizens during the French Revolution, some want the region they live in to control their destiny, while others either want a different kind of central government or are happy with the status quo. Many feel a resolution is possible; while others feel hopeless which engenders anger and incites terrible disputes among citizens.

AXIS, a newly formed protectorate, is trying to maintain order and a sense of normalcy because many police forces are now obsolete, and they are trying to help citizens deal with the changing environment, as well as interacting with both armies to enact a resolve.

The worst challenge for AXIS is trying to monitor and control the various splinter groups that often harbor deviant motives and mistreat people they don't like. They have ideals and goals like everyone else, but a few are aggressive and in some cases, want anything but unity.

Physical Environment and Commercial Production: The American physical environment concerning land and infrastructure has been neglected over several years. Bridges, roads, and transportation hubs are all in complete disrepair. Farmers are doing their best, but many are suffering. Most farm lands have deteriorated and are unfarmable. New products like cars, even though now all electric, are sparse and very expensive. People tend to wear hand-me-downs, as clothes are incredibly out of reach monetarily.

Affected Areas: States initially affected: Colorado, Oregon, Idaho, Nevada, Utah, Wyoming, New Mexico, and Texas.

Current Government: The government is run by an independent party whose values are not constant with either the Republican or Democratic party. The president is more concerned with his image than protecting the rights of American citizens.

Affiliations and Major Players:

AXIS. A group formed in Colorado and considered a protectorate by the founders because they want to maintain a sense of normalcy that doesn't exist anymore. Their fundamental purpose is to find people in trouble and protect and shelter them. They are not aligned with current government. They plan to expand because they realize the mid-west is not the only one in trouble. They believe there must be pockets of protectorates throughout the United States.

EDEN. What they call the location in Colorado where the protectorate is housed.

AXIS PLAYERS:

Henry "HAWK" Hastings: The founder of AXIS. He grew up in a middle-class family in Philadelphia. His father worked for UPS and his mother was a teacher. A mediocre student, he went in the Army as an enlisted troop. Working his way up, he became a warrant officer and trained to be a helicopter pilot. His callsign was HAWK. Two tours in Afghanistan took a toll on him. When he retired, he decided to live in Colorado and off the grid. Over the years, he became disillusioned with the state of American politics and swore he would do what it takes to make a difference. But he has demons haunting him from his time in Afghanistan. He drinks in excess and dabbles in drugs occasionally when he's most vulnerable.

Lucy Hastings: Hawk's wife. Lucy grew up in Boston Massachusetts. Her father was a doctor, and her mother was a housewife. She excelled in school and went to Yale and studied the arts. She met Hawk at a bar when she was working in Denver. They immediately clicked and within a year were married. They have no children. She shares Hawk's affinity to make America a better place and will do what it takes to make it so. She reluctantly accepts Hawk's vices but tries to be the voice of reason when it comes to his addictions.

Roddy Howell: Roddy grew up in several places but ended up in San Antonio, Texas. His father and mother were sergeants in the Air Force. After graduating from high school, he decided to keep it in the family and join the Air Force. That's where he met Hawk. He was a mechanic working on helicopters. Despite the difference in rank they got along well. When Hawk was setting up EDEN, he and his wife made a decision to join them in their endeavor. Roddy loves marijuana and is grateful he's in an area where it's readily available.

Betsy Howell: Betsy grew up in Flint Michigan. She was brought up by a single mother who had a drug problem. Struggling in high school, she left before her senior year and traveled the country in an old Jeep. She met Roddy in San Antonio at a bar. They didn't

seem to get along at first, but over time they figured they were made for each other. Her upbringing has made her a little cynical about life and its intricacies.

Angus Digby: Angus grew up on a farm in Colorado. He did well in high school and thought he might want to be doctor, but his sick father needed help, so he ditched those plans and became a wheat farmer. As times started to become difficult, he knew he would have to protect his land from unsavory characters. After meeting Hawk when his farm was under threat from a mob, he decides to join him in his quest. Bullied as a child, Angus doesn't trust many people, but tries to overcome his negative feelings now that he's a father.

Belinda Digby: Belinda grew up in a Crested Butte, Colorado. Her father was a ski instructor, and her mother was a waitress. She learned to ski early and was extremely good at it. She married an instructor who worked with her father, but after several years, she divorced him citing physical and mental abuse. She met Angus when he came to Crested Butte for a small vacation. They met at the restaurant where her mother worked. They were married a year later, and she moved to the farm. A year after that, they had Holly, their daughter. Years of abuse toughened her up to the point where she is now feisty and unaccepting of discord in her life.

DEMS – Point of Resistance (Democratic Army). One of the groups that is a point of resistance for AXIS. They are members of the Democratic Party that have now formed an army that counters a rival group that is a Republican army. They are a constant thorn in the side of AXIS, and quite honestly for normal citizens who just want total freedom.

DEMS PLAYERS:

Reggie Zimmer: Reggie is the leader of the newly established DEMS. He grew up in Washington D.C. His father was a Senate staffer, and his mother was a lobbyist. He excelled in high school and went to George Mason University in Virginia. He followed in his father's steps until he became disillusioned with the political system. He ended up moving to Arizona to start a new life. After a few years, he decided to form the army out of frustration with what was going on in the country. He's always been driven, attributing that to his father.

Holden Turner: Holden grew up in San Diego. His father was a bar owner, and his mother was a local actress. He dropped out of high school to join a local band that traveled. He got hooked on drugs and eventually was kicked out of the band when they were in Arizona. That's where he stayed and met Reggie through friends. Just like his former band mates, he developed a love for drugs.

Pedro Martinez: Pedro grew up in Mexico City. He and his parents came across the border years earlier when he was young. They were considered illegal immigrants. They ended up in Arizona where his father worked as a janitor and his mother became a maid. Pedro became friends with Holden Turner, and he introduced Pedro to Reggie. Angry over how his parents were treated, he has a chip on his shoulder, but tries to hide it the best he can.

Dakota Dekepoo: Dakota is a Hopi Indian, born and raised on the Hopi reservation in the northeast part of Arizona. Schooled on the reservation, he was fortunate enough to get accepted to the University of Arizona where he majored in agriculture. He met Reggie through a mutual friend. They seemed to bond quickly. After visiting the reservation, Reggie became concerned that the reservation was ripe for a partial or complete takeover by rival groups. They became allies.

PUBS – Point of Resistance (Republican Army). Another one of the groups that is a point of resistance for AXIS. They are members of the Republican Party that have now formed an army that counters a rival group that is a Democratic army. Similar to the Democratic army, they are a constant thorn in the side of AXIS, and for normal citizens who just want total freedom.

PUBS PLAYERS:

Doc Phillips: Randy “Doc” Phillips grew up in San Jose California. Both his parents were surgeons working at a hospital in San Francisco. Spoiled as an only child, he made a few bad decisions relative to drugs in high school but despite that, he graduated a year early and went to UCLA. He eventually became a doctor as well, but ten years later, he was accused of gross malpractice and fired. Depressed, he went to New Mexico to live and decided to form the PUBS and rise up to what was going on. Never able to shake the drugs, he just figures it’s part of his normal lifestyle.

Josh Simmons: Josh grew up in Las Cruces New Mexico. His parents died in a car crash when he was two. He was adopted by a gay couple. Both his male parents worked at the university in Las Cruces. They were staunch Republicans. Josh didn’t finish high school even though he had good grades. He trained to be a car mechanic and got a job in Alamogordo. That’s where he met Doc. They became good friends and collaborators in establishing the PUBS. He’s a great mechanic with a bad attitude.

Suzy Beauchamp: Suzy grew up in New Orleans. Her parents were both musicians and played the many honky tonks in the city. She learned to play piano at a young age. She joined the theatre group in high school. She continued with that endeavor at LSU.

After graduating, she joined a theatre group that traveled around the country. At a performance in Santa Fe, she met Doc who happened to be in the audience. They became friends and lovers, and she quit the group and joined the PUBS. She appears as normal as one can be, but paranoid because of her rape when she was young, she keeps a pistol in the shower

Buster Eisen: Buster grew up in Los Alamos New Mexico. His father was a state senator, and his mother was an engineer at Los Alamos Labs. Labeled with an above than normal IQ, he excelled in his studies, and was accepted at the University of New Mexico where he studied political science. Unfortunately, he got into drugs in college and after he graduated, he decided to sell them because he figured he was smarter than the authorities. He was caught and spent ten years in prison. After he got out, he became a drifter, meeting Doc at a bar. He joined the PUBS without much thought. He likes to feel he's a changed person after prison, but deep down inside he's still bitter.

SLINTER GROUPS:

RENEGADES – The Renegades are a biker group that are nomads. They feel left behind, and it shows in their aggressive attitudes. They have no affiliation to the PUBS or the DEMS. They occasionally stake out territory for a brief period of time before they're on to other pastures.

RENEGADES PLAYERS:

Harley Hardcastle: Harley grew up in Las Vegas Nevada. His father was a motorcycle mechanic and worked on Harleys. His mother was a showgirl. Harley did well in school, learned the trade from his father and initially worked with him. After his father murdered his mother in a domestic dispute, he left Las Vegas and ended up in northern Utah. That's where he met Boney Dickens. Harley has a mean streak he figures came from his father, and sometimes he can't control his emotions.

Boney Dickens: Boney grew up in Provo Utah. His real name is Bobby but inherited the name Boney because he has always been skinny as hell. He was adopted by a Mormon family when his parents were arrested and convicted for blatant child abuse. Boney had a tough time in high school. He got into the wrong crowd and developed a bad reputation. He started riding with local motorcycle guys. When he was in his twenties, he participated in an armed robbery in New Mexico where someone was killed. He wasn't the shooter but received ten years in prison. Oddly enough he was in the same prison as Buster Eisen. They didn't get along. He met Harley a year after he got out of prison.

Dezy Desman: Dezy, an African American, grew up in New York City. Both his parents were actors. He acted a bit in high school, but it was his art that captured everyone's imagination. He wanted to go to art school, but at the last minute decided he wanted to be a lawyer. After graduating from law school, he worked in New York as a public defender. Soon, he became disillusioned with the law and the state of politics in New York. He bought a motorcycle and traveled out west. He met Harley in Utah. Because of his race, he was reluctant to join the group but was persuaded by Harley after a few nights of drinking and pontificating.

REFORMERS – The Reformers are an African American group. Newly formed, they're nomads that intend to ensure justice for their race. They know they need to recruit new members, as the sentiment in America has allowed groups like supremacists to run rampant.

REFORMERS PLAYERS:

Pace Watkins: Pace grew up in Richmond Virginia. His father was sent to prison when he was very young. His mother was a drug addict and passed away when he was ten. He was raised by his grandmother. After high school, he initially got into a bad crowd. He realized it wasn't going to lead anywhere, so he bought a used motorcycle, and traveled around the country. He ended up in Texas. He wasn't sure what he was going to do until he met Caesar Stillwell. Pace harbors a deep resentment toward the white race because the people who got his mother hooked on drugs were white. He has a tough time shaking that feeling.

Caesar Stillwell: Caesar grew up in Detroit Michigan. His father played for the Detroit Lions and his mother was a housewife. He played football in high school and was recruited to play at Notre Dame. In his junior year, his younger brother was shot by a white police officer during a traffic stop. He died at the scene. Incensed, Caesar joined Black Lives Matter and quit school. He met Pace at a rally. Eventually, they branched out on their own. Pace was a natural leader and Caesar realized that right away. Despite his feeling about the white establishment, he tries to balance his emotions concerning social unity.

Alicia Seymour: Alicia grew up in Dallas Texas. Her father owned a real estate agency, and her mother was an accountant. Alicia's IQ was off the charts. She graduated from high school at age 16. She was accepted at the University of Texas where she received three degrees to include a PhD in Psychology. Once in the workforce, she met Doug Barlow. They were married a year later. Eyebrows were raised by her family due to the

fact Doug is white. Six months after the marriage, her parents were killed in a home invasion. Two white men were the culprits. This affected their marriage and they divorced. She met Pace through a friend. She joined the Reformers which worked out well because she was the voice of reason. As they go forward, she decides to link up with another faction called the Anti-Privilege Group, run by her ex.

Anti-Privilege Group – A group formed by Doug Barlow to bring whites and blacks together under the premise that no one should be more privileged than the other.

Anti-Privilege Player:

Doug Barlow: Doug grew up in the sticks of West Virginia. His parents were poor and worked odd jobs to survive. Her dropped out of school when he was fifteen and went out west with a black friend. He eventually got his GED and worked construction with his friend. He started the Anti-Privilege Group when his friend was shot and killed by police that amounted to mistaken identity.

Supremacists – Variety of players as story episodes advance.

Protectorate Episodes: (first episode is written and copyrighted)

Episode One: Protectorate Pilot: Colorado Strong

This story begins when AXIS members, Hawk and Roddy are scouring a rural area and find a nervous Angus Digby guarding his farmhouse. Knowing a group of DEMS are headed their way, Hawk tries to convince them to leave. Not sure they will, Hawk and Roddy go back to the protectorate they call EDEN. By the evening, Angus and his family show up in EDEN. It doesn't take much effort to convince them to join AXIS. In Utah, two members of the Renegades, Harley and Boney, stop at a bar and meet Dezy who is looking to move out of Utah. They make a decision to go to Colorado to see what they can find.

In Arizona, members of the DEMS meet with a new member, Dakota Dekepoo, at the Hopi Indian reservation. They make decisions on how to proceed as a group and decide to set up a meeting place in Sun Valley where they can reach out to members in Colorado who are staking out territory. Back in EDEN, Hawk and group are getting organized. On a trip to the gas station, Hawk and Roddy encounter a lady being chastised by two motorcycle guys. They intervene and get into a verbal fight with Harley

and Boney. Harley tells Hawk, the exchange won't be forgotten. In Texas, members of the Reformers meet at a public park. Alicia Seymour wants to travel to San Antonio to meet with a group called the Anti-Privilege Group. As they travel down, they stop for gas and a break. A tour bus pulls up and four musicians get out. It's immediately apparent they're not enamored with African Americans. They verbally spar with the Reformers but get back in the bus. Later that night, the Reformers meet with the founder of the Anti-Privilege Group. In northern New Mexico, members of the PUBS want to expand their operation. The founder, Doc Phillips sends two members to Colorado to find territory to confiscate. While they, they're kidnapped by two DEMS who believes they're trying to take their land. Finally, in EDEN, Hawk confronts Duffy, a young boy who jumped the fence into their property. When he learns the boy's parents have been killed, he pledges to protect the boy. At an evening campfire, Hawk makes it clear to his members, they are the only hope for a unified America. The consequences of their actions will save those around them.

Note: Episodes two through five are outlined, but not written.

Episode Two: Abolition

Second episode opens with Hawk and Duffy at Duffy's parents farm. Hawk is trying to decide what to do with it since he proffered ownership. While there, they notice several cars idling, appearing to be a threat. Pubs show up in Colorado and find the two members who were there to find land. After looking around, they have a confrontation with the DEMS, leading to the rescue of the two members. Despite their divorce, Alicia and Doug, her ex, meet alone and talk about things that are creating an emotional toll on them both.

Hawk hosts another campfire where he discusses his feelings about abolition and how they need to counter a new civil war that will be the downfall of a nation. Suzy and Doc make love and get into an argument about what their goals are, as the PUBS go forward. In Texas, the supremacists have captured a few blacks and put them in outdoor metal cages. The blacks are outraged, but their anger goes unnoticed. Dragon, Hawk's co-pilot in Afghanistan shows up in EDEN and joins the group. They get reacquainted in Hawk's cabin. News reports validate what Hawk knows is going on. Reports show highlights of riots in several major cities, as well as book burnings throughout the country. Over time through mundane discussions, Dragon rubs Roddy the wrong way and they become a distraction for Hawk. Sudsy, a biker chick from Utah and a friend of Dezy, shows up in Colorado. She has an affair with Harley. Hawk makes a decision to have some of his members take over Duffy's farm, take care of the cattle, and guard

the property. Hawk at home with Lucy seems affected by the stress of being in charge, and drinks more than he should, not to mention smoking pot to counter his PTSD. He thinks back to his helicopter crash in Afghanistan where he almost died but was rescued at the last minute.

Episode Three: Prison Camp

Third episode opens with Hawk and Dragon in Arizona to see Hawk's brother while he's trying to set up a protectorate. In an appalling fashion, supremacists now hold a number of blacks in a fenced off area as prisoners in cages, and the captured talk of rebellion. Back in EDEN, Hawk convinces Angus and Belinda to go to the east and take the pulse of citizens there and set up a new protectorate if possible. Dezy moves in on Sudsy and gets into a fight with Harley.

Betsy is kidnapped while jogging outside the protectorate boundaries by two men. When Roddy finds out, he solicits Hawk's help in finding her. From a stranger, Hawk finds out about the prison camp in Texas and figures out what to do to free the captives. The PUBS take over what was the DEM's property in southeastern Colorado but are accosted by the Renegades who want to make trouble. The Reformers get wind of the prison conditions of fellow blacks, but don't know what to do about it. Doug tells them he believes he can intervene but needs to do it without risking his own life. A stranger shows up at EDEN who is not from America, but rather an implant from Russia, and claims to be down and out. Hawk reluctantly lets him stay in EDEN. After several days, Hawk and Roddy find Betsy half alive and take her back to EDEN to make her well. Roddy is primed to get even. Meanwhile, Doug has a chance encounter with a supremacist, and they seem to get along well, paving the way for Doug's intentions of bringing them down.

Episode Four: Foreigners

Fourth episode opens with a new foreign stranger coming to EDEN. Hawk decides to give her refuge. This raises eyebrows of the AXIS members. Hawk and Lucy get into an argument about what they're trying to accomplish. They are depressed with reports of more violence in major cities. Angus and Belinda end up at a farm in Connecticut talking to people who want to set up a protectorate.

The supremacists bring in a few more blacks to be imprisoned and talk about other areas in new states to do the same thing. The DEMS try to take back the land the PUBS

took in southeastern Colorado and it gets ugly. Doug and Pace surveil the black encampment and figure out what to do about it. A couple from the protectorate are killed in their car by a roadside bomb, and some in EDEN think the foreigners have something to do with it. Hawk runs into Harley again at Duffy's farm house where there is a confrontation. The DEMS in Arizona must deal with a small insurrection on the Hopi reservation. The Reformers have a close call with the Renegades in Texas. Betsy's rehabilitation from kidnapping and her PTSD type symptoms cause problems between her and Roddy. Sudsy and Dezy get into a fight, and she shoots him, leaving him for dead. A few foreigners show up at a bar in southeastern Colorado and get into a skirmish with the Renegades. Lucy comes down with an unknown illness, and Hawk is worried he'll lose her.

Episode Five: For What It's Worth

Fifth episode opens with Hawk refusing to house several new foreigners who show up at EDEN, which angers the ones already there. They decide to leave the protectorate. Hawk tries to relax in his cabin, listening to Buffalo Springfield, as he chats with Lucy who has recovered from her illness. Sudsy tries to convince Harley and Boney she didn't mean to shoot Dezy. Doug infiltrates the supremacists with the purpose of finding their Achilles heel. The PUBS and DEMS get into a confrontation in Colorado and several people get hurt. Hawk visits Angus in Connecticut to see he's managed to create a protectorate.

Duffy is kidnapped by DEMS, and he finds out his father is alive. Alicia decides she wants to be captured by the supremacists to find out what's going on with black imprisonment, knowing Doug is undercover. Betsy tells Roddy she's pregnant and he's conflicted, thinking it might not be his. Hawk returns to EDEN and finds out Duffy has been kidnapped. He vows to find him. Doug, now working with the supremacists is making great strides. A national police force now comes into focus and they are ruthless, not accommodating to the protectorates, and Hawk has a confrontation with two of them. Alicia is captured, ironically by Doug to make himself look good in the eyes of the supremacists, and she is imprisoned with some other women. Dakota and friends have to protect the Hopi reservation from a unified attack. The Reformers try to persuade an African-American crowd to join their cause. At home, Hawk is experiencing PTSD like never before, thinking back to the crash while drinking and smoking pot, and Lucy tries to console him, but later she finds him unresponsive. Lucy takes Hawk to the hospital and the prognosis is not good, but Lucy has hope.

So What, Revisited: Unlike Sci-Fi action features portraying the future with aliens and morphed characters, this takes a different approach. This TV drama is meant to be edgy, making people uncomfortable about an unknown future. But the audience should rejoice in the fact there are people who want to put the country back in one piece. All the characters in this story are passionate about what they believe, even if it isn't what someone else does. Even in a world of unbelievable tension and despair, the players in this story speak their minds according to their values, whatever they may be. It should be worth hearing.

Disclaimer: There could be no end to this drama in reality, but this should run ten to twelve episodes. The idea is to watch everyone's journey along the way. Of course, the idea over time is to show how things are made right, and the conclusion whenever that is will show a majority citizen consensus with a new, truly democratic, government.