

UNITY: (A FUTURIST'S FABLE)

ALAN BROOKS, ARLA Publishing Co., Long Beach, CA, \$15.00, paperback, (218p)

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"The seeds have been planted and now we shall see what will grow in this fabulous garden of ideas."

The story begins with Eve, an innocent child who experiences goodness and sanctity of life in her early childhood. As she grows up, she studies history and politics and becomes aware of the complexities of human nature and the world around her. When she learns that hundreds of thousands of Iraqis are being killed in Saddam Hussein's war, she meets with the President of America and asks some pointed questions about the war. Through this experience, she learns new things about the world, and this becomes the foundation of her future. Though this newly acquired knowledge makes her wiser, at the same time it makes her skeptical of peoples' motivations and power. Eve studies at one of the most prestigious universities in the world, Stanford, and she receives her PhD in Political Science.

Widening her horizons, Eve crosses the world and visits the impoverished country Bangladesh. There, she finds that a severe iodine deficiency has resulted in numerous children developing mental retardation, and no one in the country has done anything to rectify the situation and supply the much needed, inexpensive iodine. As she continues to branch out and learn about the world, she discovers that the western world uses 200 times the resources to raise a child compared to Africa. Empathizing with the people in impoverished nations, Eve wants to make a difference in their lives. As she interacts with different people from all over the world, she matures socially and politically, using her voice for the good of others. Some of the causes that Eve vocally supports include: women's rights, abolishing the Hindu caste system, and internationalism. She also speaks out about the international horrible impact of wars and war-like situations. Gradually, as Eve's exposure to the injustices in the world increases, she begins to question America's extravagant society, harsh political policies, and huge military expenditure. She believes that in just one generation, America's prejudice can change. Eve's friend Rachael and Eve share a burning desire to change society. Through Rachael, Eve meets Alan Alter, an Archeology professor at Harvard University. Alter supports Eve and Rachael's efforts to change the world. Through Unity, the foundation that Eve established, Eve creates opportunities to present her theories to unify developed and developing nations through understanding and mutual trust. Unity is an exciting foundation that invites politicians, the media, academia, and the business community to discuss ways to solve the critical issues in the world. In spite of her good intentions, Eve finds her self amidst controversies and opposition. Will Eve be able to share her vision with her fellow human beings? Will they be able to understand her message?

The author Dr. Alan Brooks is in the medical profession and has maintained an interest in the developing world. Alan wrote this book before 9/11, but it was published after those terrorist attacks, making it more relevant in the increasingly divided world. Alan is well traveled, and has taught medical imaging in Vietnam, Thailand, China, Uzbekistan, Kosovo and parts of Africa. His experiences in these places have touched his writing and give his work authenticity. By sharing his understanding of the major problems in the world, Brooks inspires the reader to ponder the solutions and make a difference. "Unity: (A Futurist's Fable)"'s captivating narrative is absorbing, and its ideology is thought provoking and inspiring.

*BookWire Review*  
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