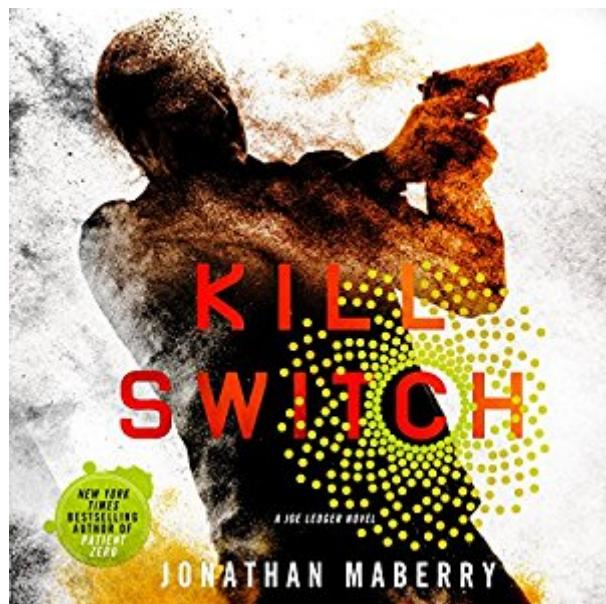


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# Kill Switch: A Joe Ledger Novel



## **Synopsis**

What do you do when the power goes off? Terrorists have acquired a terrible new weapon that can crash the power grid and plunge America into a new dark age. A coordinated attack is planned to shut out all lights and emergency services to 10 major cities. Planes will fall, hospitals will go dark, no help will come. And in that terrible darkness, a dreadful plague will be released. If the lights go off, nothing can stop the bioweapon from killing millions. At the same time, the intelligence services are being torn apart from within by a plague of betrayal, murder, and suicide. Even the Department of Military Sciences is stumbling in its response to the growing threat. Time is running out, and Joe is being hunted by a terrifying new kind of assassin. A team of remote viewers have the ability to take over any person and turn ordinary citizens into killers. Where can you turn when there's nobody left to trust? Joe Ledger faces his deadliest challenge as friends and allies become enemies and all of the lights begin to go out...

## **Book Information**

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 17 hours and 56 minutes

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Unabridged

Publisher: Macmillan Audio

Audible.com Release Date: April 26, 2016

Whispersync for Voice: Ready

Language: English

ASIN: B01DUUYEIA

Best Sellers Rank: #60 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Fiction & Literature > Horror #325 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Mysteries & Thrillers #595 in Books > Literature & Fiction > Genre Fiction > Horror

## **Customer Reviews**

Another great Joe Ledger read. Spoiler Alert. This one starts with Joe, Bunny and Top headed for Antarctica. Mission?? A handoff from the CIA. A handoff from Harcourt Bolton. A Bolton who's a living legend in the spy world. A man Joe has some hero worship for. A man he has a loads of respect for. A Bolton no one really knows at all. The mission was in two layers. The cover is a surprise inspection to evaluate the status of a research base designated Gateway. This is a repurposed facility. The original Gateway was an old radar station from the early cold war era.

Satellites made it mostly obsolete so it was closed up. Operative word is was. The base was built at the foot of Vinson Massif, the tallest mountain in Antarctica. The Russians and Chinese both have research stations in the same region. From intelligence received in the last twenty-eight hours the Russian and Chinese bases have gone dark. No radio, no communication of any kind. Nineteen hours ago our facility also went dark. Joe and his team are about six hours ahead of the Russian and Chinese teams thanks to Bolton getting wind of the investigative teams headed out. Bolton was busy with something else so he passed it off the Church and the DMS. Hence Joe, Bunny and Top headed for Antarctica. Gateway isn't a radar outpost anymore and hasn't been for over a decade. but that's where things get muddy. Bug the computer geek for DMS had trouble finding out who actually opened it and what they are doing. Bug found out its some kind of black budget thing, but he only found that because of how well the details had been hidden. Very little of it is in any of the databases Bug and his geek squad had infiltrated.

Is it to early to add this to the list of my ten favorite reads of 2016? Kill Switch, by Jonathan Maberry, is that good. It's hard to imagine many books to be published the rest of this year being better than this new adventure in the Joe Ledger series. If you've never read a Joe Ledger novel, it's not too late. Kill Switch is as good a place to start as any. You don't need to read the other books unless you really want to. Maberry covers all of the bases to bring the reader up to speed on Echo Team and the Department of Military Science. The DMS deals with the problems that Homeland Security can't handle "and these are big problems: terrorist zombies, weaponized plagues, and so much more. This book starts with Captain Ledger leading a team investigating the reasons behind the sudden silence from a research facility in the Antarctic. (As an aside, my current bedtime read is H.P. Lovecraft's The Mountain's of Madness from The Complete Fiction and Poetry of H.P. Lovecraft and I saw the connection right away.) Thus begins a wild mashup of Lovecraft and Ledger. One of a number of well crafted subplots involves the childhood of the most intelligent person on the planet who also believes Lovecraft, Derleth, Howard, and other authors were writing much more than stupid horror stories. "Prospero was convinced he was not human. Not entirely. And he was equally convinced that he was not from this world." Prospero wants to build what he calls the "God Machine" to open a door to the world he came from so he can go home. His attempts over the years have lead to a number of side effects, projects co-opted by his demanding father.

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