

Adventures In Reading

A Frighteningly Realistic Thriller That's An Eye-Opener

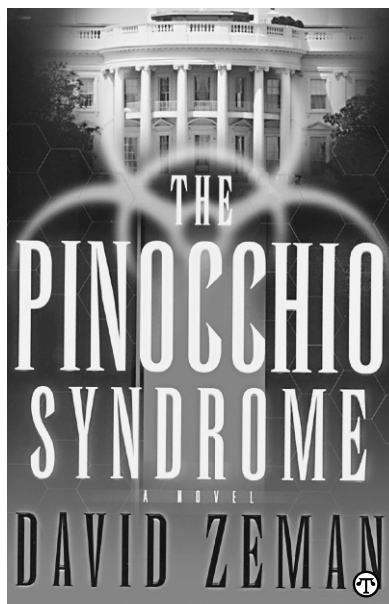
(NAPSA)—A mysterious and deadly disease that spreads with its cause and cure unknown; a government cover-up that reaches as high as candidates for the White House's executive offices; a handsome young senator who seemingly has it all but really has a scandalous past; and a plot to kill the president.

These are the elements that confront readers in what critics are calling an explosive debut novel and the ultimate contemporary thriller. David Zeman's blockbuster debut novel, *The Pinocchio Syndrome* (Doubleday, \$24.95), depicts a riveting political intrigue with such chilling immediacy that it has already caused a stir overseas.

Is one novelist's vision a blueprint for mapping the future?

A man-made biochemical weapon is employed to assassinate the vice-president; the mastermind behind a genocidal virus was responsible for a WTC-like disaster that is blamed on foreign terrorists; the wife of a vice-presidential candidate gets kidnapped and there is heated debate over whether to pass a Constitutional Amendment to allow for a special election to name a new president during a time of crisis.

These are just some of the story lines in David Zeman's very readable thriller. As this generation deals to struggle with the terrorists' threat, *The Pinocchio Syndrome* depicts a plausible scenario



An explosive debut novel about a mysterious disease, a government cover-up and a young senator determined to stem the rising panic.

of the crisis we live under and reveals how far people will go to make their political ambitions a reality. The novel opens us up to a dialogue on our country's political fate, national security and technological capabilities.

Only with the imagination and vision of a novelist can we really explore the possible paths our nation is heading towards.

The book is available at bookstores everywhere.