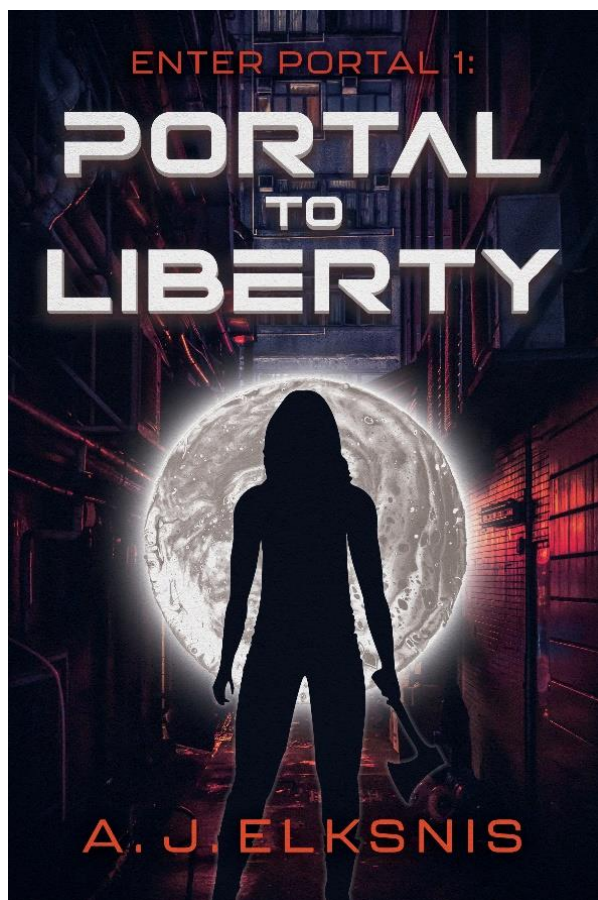


ENTER PORTAL 1:

PORTAL TO LIBERTY

A.J. ELKSNIS



The leader of the freedom fighters, Luke Palmer, has disappeared after a failed attempt to find his sister, Emma, who has been taken by slavers and sold to the Corporation. He is on a quest to save her and leaves Rachel Navara, a soldier in charge. She and her brother, Rowan, were sent from Earth to Silica, to aid Luke and those resisting the corporation known as Sabre Company.

Lana is Professor Peter O'Conner's "augmented human" creation (genetically engineered test tube baby). While she was being grown, Lana learned everything she needed through O'Conner's special neural connection program. Now Professor O'Conner wants Lana to investigate alternate realities.

Luke and Rachel learn the truth of Sabre Company's ultimate plan: to destroy all of the new colonies that were established, during the time when the people of Earth reduced their planetary population by migrating to other habitable systems.

The freedom fighters set out to stop this from happening and to save millions of innocent people before it is too late and the universe is devastated...

"A great adventure in Sci-Fi and time travel for all readers to experience... Cleverly written and thought out..." Doug, Indie Book reviewer



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

A.J.'s passion for writing began in primary school. He has always felt the need to feed his creativity, and his *Enter Portal* series, beginning with *Portal to Liberty*, is a culmination of many years of ideas and research. He has drawn on his experiences with people during his visits to Asia and America, as well with people in his hometown of Ballarat. Adrian was also influenced by the many colleagues he worked with over the years, in retail, IT, care giving and postal delivery.

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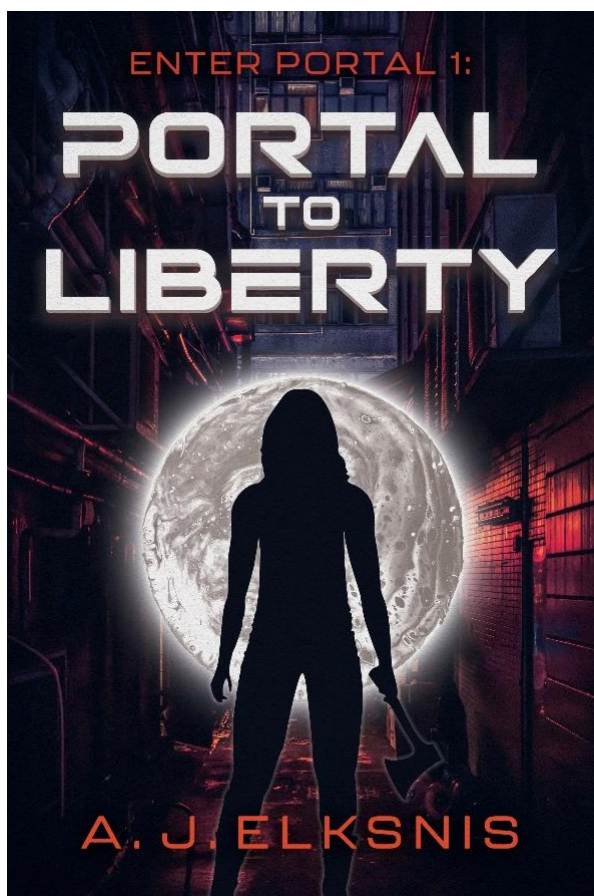
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A CONVERSATION WITH THE AUTHOR

WHY DID YOU WRITE THE 'ENTER PORTAL' SERIES? WHAT WERE YOUR INSPIRATIONS?

I had been writing short stories since primary school, but it was at Ballarat High, in year 8 when writing became a more serious interest. My English teacher, Mr John Colbert, handed out slips of paper to each of us one morning, random subjects, and he said, "write a short story, based on that subject". I think mine was something fairly vanilla, but heard somebody behind me got 'Crime', so I swapped with him. That short story was my first real (writing) personal achievement, and I still use some of the action and techniques I used in it in my current writing, and pointers that Mr Colbert and my parents gave me at the time as well.

I kept writing short stories, but when it was time to choose a career, I chose to find any job. Money for a car and a home became my focus. Data Analysis for Telstra was the job. I had the money, I travelled, got the car and home. Then our work contract turned nasty, and the place became toxic. I needed an escape, so I returned to my writing in my spare time.

I resigned from Telstra in 2011 and started going to the Ballarat City Library every weekday from opening till 4pm. I'd written so many separate scenes and short stories, I began to see how they could be joined together. I wrote the glue that connected them and soon I had enough material for it to be book length.

My mother was diagnosed with cancer a couple of months later, and so I became her carer for the duration of her year of chemo treatment and radio therapy. I continued writing and editing my work during that difficult time and submitted my manuscript to Writers Victoria for assessment. That was going to be the decider. If my work came back torn to shreds, with a polite note saying, "don't quit your day job", I would have stopped and tried a different creative outlet. But the response was encouraging and critically helpful to my future writing. So, I wrote book 2 and 3 over the following years and thought, okay, it's time to get it out there.

WHAT DREW YOU TO THE SUBJECT MATTER OF THE BOOK AND ALSO THESE CHARACTERS WITHIN?

First, I thought "time travel, let's do that", but I couldn't offer anything original there. Then I saw a Jet Li movie called The One. The writer had simplified one of the theories to do with Alternate Universes. I saw a documentary soon after that explained the other theories and that drew me right in.

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