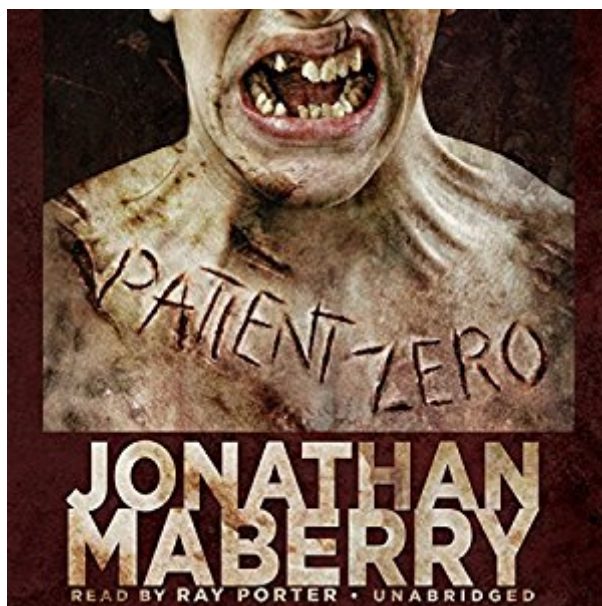


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# Patient Zero: The Joe Ledger Novels, Book 1



## Synopsis

From multiple Bram Stoker Award-winning author Jonathan Maberry comes a major new thriller that combines the best of the New York Times best-selling books *World War Z* by Max Brooks and James Rollins' *Sigma Force Series* to kick off the start of a new series featuring Joe Ledger and the Department of Military Sciences. When you have to kill the same terrorist twice in one week there's either something wrong with your world or something wrong with your skills - and there's nothing wrong with Joe Ledger's skills. And that's both a good and a bad thing. It's good because he's a Baltimore detective who has just been secretly recruited by the government to lead a new task force created to deal with the problems that Homeland Security can't handle. This rapid-response group is called the Department of Military Sciences, or the DMS for short. It's bad because his first mission is to help stop a group of terrorists from releasing a dreadful bioweapon that can turn ordinary people into zombies. The fate of the world hangs in the balance. Jonathan Maberry is the New York Times best-selling and multiple Bram Stoker Award-winning author of *Ghost Road Blues*, the first of a trilogy of thrillers with a supernatural bite. A professional writer and writing teacher, he has sold more than 1,000 articles, 17 nonfiction books, six novels, and two plays.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I've never been a zombie fan. It is a genre I always avoided. But after getting hooked with "The Walking Dead", and enjoying the novel "World War Z", I figured I'd try and read something else starring this ugly folks. I came across this title in one of those lists, "10 best zombie novels" or

something like that, and I gave it a try. It is not only a great read within the genre, it is a great novel, period. Action scenes are amazingly well written, sometimes in a fast pace, sometimes in slow motion. Characters seem real, dialogues are good. I'm amazed I've never heard the author's name before (I am not from the US) I already started the Benny Kimura series from the same author, and it also seems great.

This is my second time reading this novel, as I'm re-reading the entire series before moving on to the latest release. Jonathan Maberry is probably one of the best thriller writers around. His books are engaging, very well written, and very hard to put down. This book starts the Joel Ledger series and is highly recommended. The quality of the writing makes it well worth the asking price, and the content is much higher quality than many of the discount authors available. Believable action, characters you will care about, and plots that are thrilling and that seem all too real/plausible in today's world.

Jonathan Maberry is one of the best I have seen in a long time. His character of Joe Ledger is iconic. Beautifully executed, Ledger is truly a brilliant man, who is also very flawed. His other characters are completely believable, especially Mr. Church, the man of many names. I doubt we will ever know what is his real name. Altogether, the DMS will have many more adventures to come. I hope they make it into a movie, with just the right cast.

The story opens with an assault on suspected terrorist in a dockside warehouse, and a massive gun battle that reveals itself to be much more than that. It was a staging area for a bioweapon to be introduced to the American population by El Mujahid, one of the world's most fearsome threats. Joe Ledger, former Ranger, will be swept up into the world of black ops and the DMS (Dept of Military Sciences) - meeting some great characters along the way - as he struggles to prevent the release of a virus that would spread worldwide in short order turning the world's population into zombies. Plausible science is a hallmark in these Maberry books and this is no different. There's no scenery-chewing or world-ruling here, just driven villains with an interesting take on a new bioweapon, and the agency trying to prevent that. Ledger is an engaging character that's capable of snappy dialogue, killer action, and a head full of conflict. Sounds like a lot of action heroes, you say? No one holds a candle to Maberry's Ledger. Trust me. This is the beginning to a series where the action and writing is second-to-none and you'll put down each book at the end desperate to pick up the next. This series straddles a fine line that I've referred a lot of people too: it incorporates action,

intrigue, technothriller, sci-fi, science, and much more without alienating fans of any one genre. A hallmark to the engagement that the book offers. Start it now! Five books from now, you'll be a member of a growing army - those of us eagerly awaiting the next Ledger installment.

This was a well-written suspense story, with a lot of cool twists and turns. It was a zombie story, with a lot of great science. It was also a war story, with awesome battles and weapons and interesting spy-type technology. There was even a little romance thrown in! I loved it! It's the most fun I've had reading in a long time! I'm really looking forward to my next Joe Ledger novel!

Now before you get pissy let me explain. I'm not a big flag waiver. But that having been said, I have to say that this is an excellent read. The characters are very well developed; the plot is too real, and the overall story fits the genre (Clancy/Spy-tech) perfectly. I give this book five stars because the book and its author deserves it, hands down. You will not be disappointed if you buy/ listen to this book. I'd like to see it made into a movie. However, if you are sick to death of current stories that make the government look like an "omniscient" god, and its "ultra-secret" operatives as being our saviours, then you are going to get pissed off along the way. And as one of those pissed-off, anti-government types, I can say to my brothers and sisters, "Get over it and just enjoy the ride!" This is truly a good read/ listen. I'll be getting the rest of the series, if for no other reason than to laugh my ass off at yet another portrayal of a government that sets in motion an apocalypse, then tries to pretend to have the solutions to fix it. Enjoy!

I enjoyed this story very much. Joe Ledger is a warrior with special, almost super human skills. He is a strong leader and gets the job done. He isn't perfect though, which makes the character more believable. The story starts quietly with Joe enjoying the beach and the scenery (girls in skimpy bathing suits, lol). Then very quickly escalates in fight after fight of putting down a terrorist attack scheduled for the 4th of July. The bad guys have created a new biological weapon. It is almost fool proof. In the midst of all of this, it comes to light that there is a mole, a traitor, in the new super-secret organization that Joe is now a part of. Will Joe and his team save the day? Read the book to find out. I've been following Maberry for a while, but this is the first book of his that I've read. It won't be the last. Science, adventure, monsters, with a little humor. Just the right mix for a fabulous read. Pick it up and check for yourself.

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