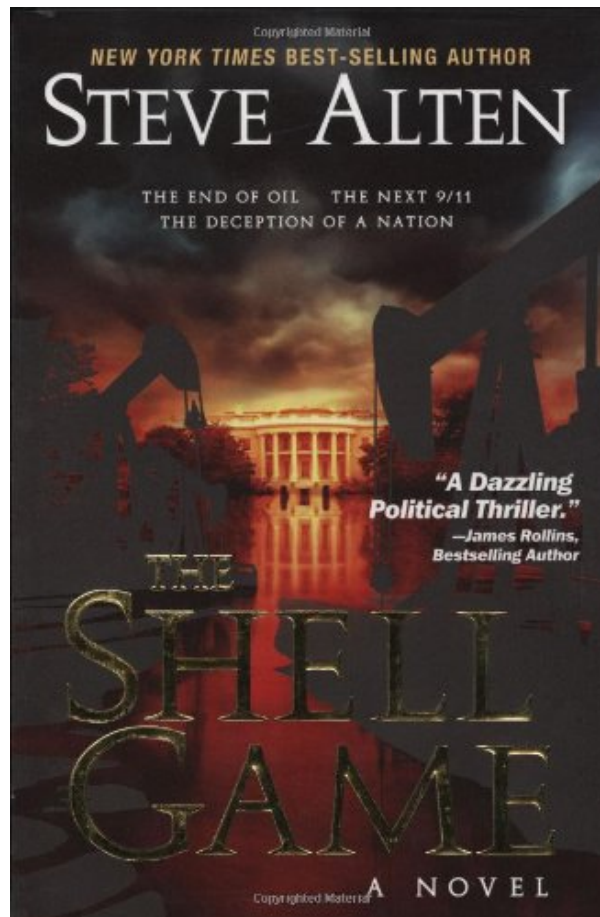
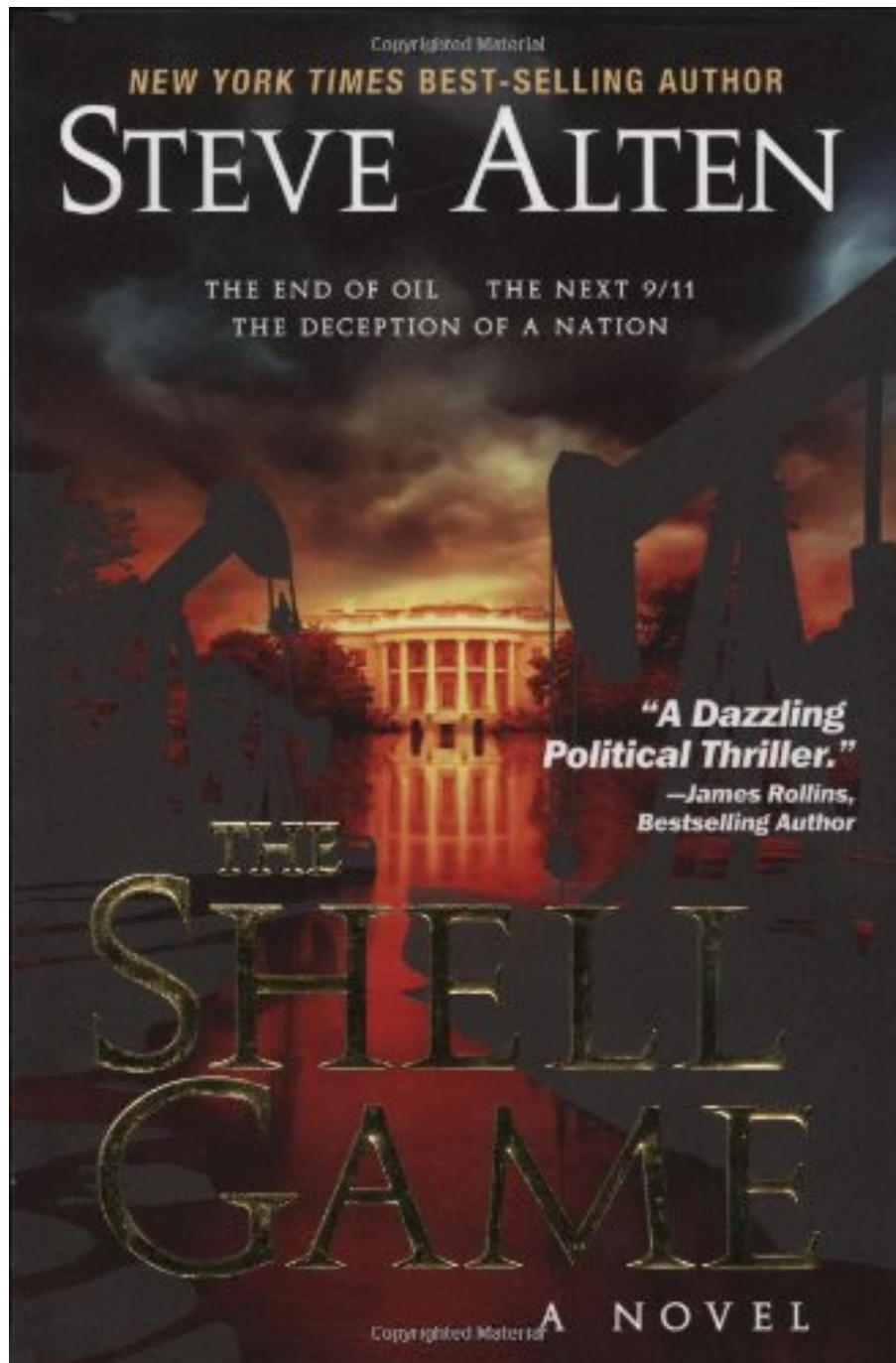


# THE SHELL GAME BY STEVE ALTEN



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From Publishers Weekly

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Review

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Action packed, intense, and politically probing, *The Shell Game* is an intriguing blend of fiction and nonfiction that will most certainly disturb the practitioners of the game, because it will make readers stop and think about American foreign policy in the oil-rich Middle East. --Richard Folsom, Washington Daily News

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From the Publisher

The events of September 11th, 2001, the invasion of Iraq, the threat of radical Islam, an impending showdown with Iran. What do these situations have in common? Oil. And the world is running out. The SHELL GAME is far more than a thriller, it is a MUST-READ cautionary tale that exposes the next 9/11 event a deception that will lead to a retaliatory chemical weapons strike on Iran and the terrorist elements the regime supports. Though the novel is written as fiction, it is filled with all-too-real details provided by insiders in the oil industry, military, and Middle Eastern affairs that extrapolates real events from the past and present that will lead us down a path of self-destruction. Unless we stop the insanity now!

The story opens in 2007 when two CIA spooks meet with an American Colonel in military intelligence. The war is going badly, and President Bush, who steadfastly refuses to back down, remains unchallenged at home as Democrats and Republicans continue to toss verbal grenades positioning themselves for the 2008 elections. Meanwhile, Iran's pursuit of nuclear energy will yield enriched uranium within five years, uranium that can be used to manufacture suitcase nukes. The United States military is too drained to invade Iran, and a preemptive strike is out of the question, unless a nuclear detonation were to occur in an American city, the enriched uranium traced back to Iran. A U.S. reprisal would strike a death-blow against radical Islam, quell the insurgent violence in Iraq, and yield more oil. Yes, the cost is unthinkable but if we sit back and do nothing then one day a dozen suitcase bombs could go off in a dozen American cities bringing with it anarchy and the collapse of Western civilization. December 2011: Ashley Ace Futrell is an oil expert working for PetroConsultants, married to Kelli Doyle, a former National Security Advisor and one of the CIA spooks from the opening scene. When Kelli threatens to expose the plot, Ace finds his existence hurtling down a rabbit's hole of deceit where the orchestrated lies of the powerful few could lead to the darkest days of human existence, and the death knell for billions.

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By Waltz

When you read this book, you will either think it's just another cheap conspiracy theory or you will come to your senses and realize how so many "coincidental" events are not coincidence or bad luck at all. While the story is fiction, there are numerous real facts inserted that should make you doubt what you knew about politics so far.

Steve Alten has books on other subjects as well. I consider him an excellent writer and every time I get one of his books, I find it very hard to put it down. And when I finish one, I can't wait to get another one.

12 of 14 people found the following review helpful.

What a wild ride...

By Kindle Customer

I've read all of Steve Alten's work. I was introduced to him in high school by one of my friends and I've never been able to not pick up one of his books. This book is no different and I really couldn't put it down. As with all of Alten's work, it is very detailed and very well researched and I am always very intrigued. It leaves the reader looking for more research on their own time much like the Domain series. I found myself looking up other books quoted in Shell Game and trapped in this whirlwind of thought of the future ahead and the facts of the past.

If there is one book that I would say has had an overwhelming impact on me, it is this book and the picture it paints of the next few years.

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