

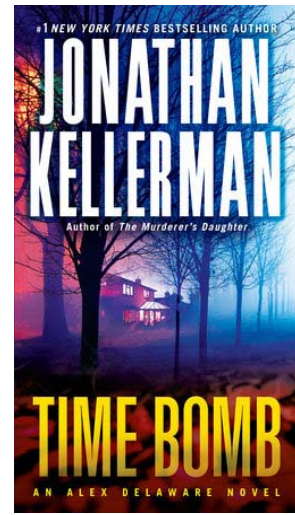
Teacher: Cho Sum Wing

Book's title: Time Bomb

Author: Jonathan Kellerman

Publisher: Ballantine Books

Sharing:



Jonathan Kellerman's *Time Bomb* is a gripping and thought-provoking entry in the Alex Delaware series. Set in a Los Angeles elementary school in a suburb for people of colour, it centres around a tragic school shooting in which the only fatality is the shooter herself, Holly Lynn Burden.

Holly's father reaches out to psychologist Alex Delaware, requesting a psychological autopsy to understand the events that led to the tragedy. As Delaware delves into the investigation, he encounters a web of dysfunction within families and the presence of political extremism, racing against time to uncover the real villain behind the scenes. Kellerman artfully weaves these themes together, creating a multi-layered narrative that Kellerman skilfully blends these themes to create a rich, multi-layered story that explores the pressures and challenges faced by people in the community.

One of the compelling aspects of *Time Bomb* is the exploration of Holly's character, whose troubled background sheds light on the complexities that can lead to such devastating actions. The story powerfully illustrates how societal influences and personal struggles can intertwine in deeply unsettling ways.

Also, the dynamic between Delaware and his partner, Detective Milo Sturgis, is both engaging and humorous, providing moments of relief amid the tension. Their witty exchanges and camaraderie bring a relatable quality to the serious subject matter, making their partnership one of the highlights of the series.

*Time Bomb* is a powerful thriller that tackles the complexities of human emotion and societal issues while delivering a suspenseful narrative filled with intriguing twists. With well-developed characters like Holly and the engaging interactions between Delaware and Sturgis, this book is a testament to Kellerman's storytelling mastery. I highly recommend it to anyone seeking a gripping read that challenges perceptions and provokes reflection on critical social issues.