

MADMEN
BY
NAN KLEE
BOOK SYNOPSIS

MadMen is the journal of Hannah Augustine, a Naval Petty Officer who is psychically forewarned, during an eerie morning trance, of a coming nuclear holocaust. While in trance, she communicates with a group of other psychically talented people referred to as *The Thirty*. She persuades Liz McIntyre, a Navy friend and Reserve Policewoman, to accompany her and her cat out of San Diego County on an overnight camping trip into the desert. At camp a man called John gives them Judica, a tame wolf, while the Chinese declare World War Three, destroying our West Coast civilization with neutron bombs and the Eastern Seaboard with atomic weapons. They seem to want the United States' famous "Breadbasket" farm land to feed their masses, and begin their invasion on the Pacific coast. Hannah, Liz, Judica, and Tosha, the cat, stay safe, camped below the rim of the cliffs near the Anza Borrego Desert National Wildlife Preserve. They survive the brief fallout and the heat of the region by venturing out of their cave-like shelter only after dark when Liz and the wolf can hunt. As their water supply dwindles, Hannah's strong prayers and beliefs bring the first miracle, a full water jug. The women, cat, and wolf journey East in her little car, following Hannah's psychic instincts and divine guidance. One of their first acquisitions is a Geiger counter. Along the way they encounter convicts, miracles, a rapist, and uninhabitable towns of decaying corporeal stench. The women find that Hannah and the wolf-like animal can speak telepathically with each other. Soon Hannah is befriended by a majestic Great Horned owl, whom she understands although they don't communicate directly like she and Judica do. Hannah begins questioning her own sanity, partially because of the strange dreams she continually shares with a man from her past. She decides to go to a place he had often spoken about.

As they all reach the outskirts of St. Paul, Minnesota, Hannah discovers how to create fireballs in her hand and light her cigarettes from her thumb. Then she drives straight for the College of Saint Thomas, although she'd never been there. On arrival

they are met by Jennifer (a telepath and psychic healer), her son James, and her husband, Lyn Tonaka, friends of William Martin, Hannah's ex-fiancé. Liz discovers that Jennifer has been expecting them and more survivors, including William. William Martin, a powerful psychic and telepath, seems to be the creator of this gathering and of an almost mythical, mystical woman he calls "Lady Ann". Hannah suspects that she is Martin's "dream lady" but fears a second rejection by the man she loved. They begin to scavenge the needed supplies to outfit the large household of survivors that both Hannah and Jennifer expect. Mild earthquakes occasionally occur. When William arrives, he brings the injured Thomas Becker, whose talents include levitation and telepathy. Martin continues to deny Hannah, considering her as his advisor and calling her "Merlin". While Hannah presides over the miracle healing of Thomas's injured leg, Tom questions why William cannot see her as "Lady Ann", since he can. William busies himself by preaching the Bible, organizing the household, and flirting with Jennifer who appears to always "mirror" Hannah's emotions. William seems quite crazed for some time. The household scavenges a HAM radio and begins listening to the air waves to discover what life is left on the planet. Liz hunts the available game in the area for food, and brings together the musically talented of the house for casual jam sessions. Hannah and the owl begin their psychically linked night flights that teach her the aeronautical skills she will need later. William creates havoc in the expanding household with his temper tantrums, fights with Hannah and search for Lady Ann. One evening during dinner William becomes so incensed at Hannah that he attempts to strangle her using his mental powers. Only Thomas's exclamation of Jennifer's discomfort stops the man. In late night talks Hannah tries to explain to Tom why the timing just isn't right for William to know her identity. The house that had been the college faculty house now includes four children, James (Jennifer's son by William) two teenage girls and an adolescent boy, all orphaned, and an older man named Arlo, who'd been shot in the leg by Liz when she'd found him about to violate one of the girls. Soon, the psychically talented members of the household begin complaining of the music they are hearing in their heads, brought to them by a friend of Liz and Hannah's, who they call Lord Marshall. Hannah asks on the mental plane for the man to select less offensive music. He complies and she discovers that he is very near the campus.

Enter Marshall Roberts, the psychic illusionist and telepath, Hannah's lover from the before time. He brings gifts for all including a mystical looking ceremonial robe for Hannah. He's flamboyant, confident, handsome, and charming, smokes marijuana, flirts with all the women, and generally becomes a monstrous aggravation to William who has grudgingly accepted the leadership of the group. Lord Marshall had been foretold to Lord William in a dream as the messenger to point out his Lady Ann. He announces Hannah as his companion. William Martin resists the notion, claiming that it would mean Hannah's death and stomps dejectedly from the gathering in the living room. Marshall is amazed in hind sight that Hannah had been so accurate in her predictions of the holocaust and relates his travels until William calls for Hannah on the mental plane.

When Hannah/Ann goes out to the chapel to meet him, she is met by a confused Will who wildly accuses her of being possessed, refuses to accept her as "Lady Ann", and then grudgingly accepts the proclamation. After asking her to stretch her talent as a prophet to predict the degree of severity of the coming winter, he politely asks her to leave him for a while. William skips dinner, after which Marshall gives a "magic" show using his psychic talent for illusion. William returns, angry, over Marshall's casual display of power and this begins the strained relationship between the two men. That night Hannah/Ann dreams her own death, inadvertently waking William who is sleeping soundly on the third floor of the old faculty house. In mental conversation, he admits that he does not understand their destiny as well as she does. Both of them scour the libraries for books about Israel and its contemporary histories.

Hannah/Ann lays low for the sake of the communal harmony for about a week, tending her vegetable garden, jogging early in the mornings, and having Judica, the owl, and the cat as companions. One morning as she comes back from her run, Marshall mistakes her winded gate as an emergency for a moment, and when he realizes his error, he tickles the woman mercilessly. William is watching! When Marshall realizes this, he turns to the head of their community and bows to him in mock respect. William storms back into the big house brooding.

Late one morning days later, Jennifer and James, her son, show up in Hannah/Ann's greenhouse on Lord William's insistence because everyone else has

gone together on a scavenging trip. Ann warns Jennifer to get everyone out of the house during the coming evening so, as she predicts, the house doesn't get burned down. While they wait in return of the rest of the group, Ann envisions her friends in a battle with other survivors at a deserted shopping mall. William asks mentally for her help, and Ann is able to scout psychically for them, while he tosses lightning bolts at their attackers. "Aim to frighten, not to kill!" are William's orders and under the cover of Marshall's illusionary brick wall they manage to herd the children safely to the vehicles.

That evening, while the entire commune is enjoying a great bonfire out back behind the house, Marshall and William disagree strongly on the morality of smoking pot. When Lyn and Ann indulge also, this turns into a fist fight between the two men. After Marshall knocks William to the ground, William uses his considerable psychic powers on the man. Thomas restrains Ann, but when she senses William's psychic intent, she surrounds Marshall in a protective dome of force. William turns his wrath on her. Lightning bolts and psychic fireworks ensue. William truly recognizes his Lady Ann in her ability to counter his offense. He insists they marry that night, forcing her psychically when Hannah resists. William also mentally manipulates Marshall to be elsewhere.

After a brief explanation of life with a man who insists on celibacy and invades her privacy, Hannah picks up her journal over six months later. Liz and Thomas have married and are expecting a child. Her owl has departed for parts unknown just before a winter that left the community tunneling under three stories of snow. The Chinese are marching east, the Geiger counters are happily quiet, and there have been only a few earthquakes. William and she have been mentally in contact with a small group in the Memphis countryside, three of whom are part of *The Thirty*. After the spring thaw – Mid July – the whole group migrates South using three 4x4 pick-ups, Hannah/Ann's Bronco and an eighteen wheeler full of gasoline salvaged by portable pumps. An ambush along the way is stopped by Lord Marshall's Tyrannosaurus Rex illusion.

Arrival at what had been a university farm finds three more of *The Thirty*, Candice Stein, Joy Hoffman and Eric O'Leary as well as his wife Diane and two teen sons, Richard and Tobias, Candice's husband, David, Nick and Katie, Joy's parent's and three more orphans, Alex, Alana and Tammy, ages 16, 12 and about 3. The

combines group numbers 24 adults and children, with Arlo having moves west to scout the movements of the enemy. Candice had converted an inside riding arena into a “Throne Room” which make both Ann and William very uncomfortable. They are also given the small tenant cottage for privacy. Ann wants horses to ride for pleasure and for hunting, but very little wild life seems to be left. Only a few cows have survived. Everyone works at converting one of the barns into a dormitory, if the roof quits leaking.

Before that is completed, William leaves one morning without a word. Ann wants to investigate Memphis Naval Air Station, only to find the south half of the base now part of the Gulf of Mexico. The airfield on the northern side of the base seems intact, and Ann senses the ghost of the destructions as she, Marshall, Eric and his son investigate. They find two workable planes, a good generator, and enough fuel to last a long while. Soon, Judica announces that she’s found a mate, and when William finally contacts Ann mentally, he taps all her strength, leaving her unconscious for a day and a half. When she awakes, her psychic abilities won’t work. William does not return for three weeks. During this time Ann frets and fusses with her garden and asks animals to search for horses. The men wire her cottage for electricity and the barn roof is deemed waterproof. The kids move in and Judica is pregnant.

One foggy morning, Ann is on a hill praying when Marshall manages to sneak past the animals that constantly guard her. He chides her for pouting and her poor attitude then volunteers to become her lover since William will not consummate the marriage. Interrupted by a small airplane approaching, the two sprint for the cover of trees where Marshall forces Ann to understand that her powers are still intact. They run for the house, where she uses her abilities to identify the pilot of the plane as an evil American scouting for the Chinese, and possibly female. The plane has followed William home! Marshall and William make plans that Ann has no desire to hear, and later Liz expresses her delight at being able to hear William’s “all clear” announcement in her head.

A more affectionate William makes his peace quickly with Hannah/Ann then calls the adults of the community into a planning session including topics such as educating the children, teaching the use of guns, and psychic testing of everyone. The distinct probability of war is also spoken. In a few days Arlo’s radio transmission from his

wandering sabotage mission reports that the Chinese are across the Great Divide and that gas supplies for the enemy are scarce due to his interference. Hannah senses Jennifer's pregnancy, and realizes that Lyn had himself sterilized years before.

Judica gives birth to seven puppies while Marshall assists Ann in keeping up mental barriers to the animal's labor pains. Whenever the hunting parties are out, someone, usually Marshall, must watch Ann because she senses the dying screams of the animals as they are shot. William usually leads the hunting parties consisting of Thomas, Liz, Eric, and Nick, leaving Marshall to oversee the household. William continues to insist that sex would drain his talents, and that there was no reason for it since Ann couldn't bear children. He seems confused by the news of Jennifer's pregnancy. Sometimes someone of *The Thirty* must mentally stop their fighting. One evening during a disagreement, Eric announces mentally that he has been tracking a couple of big gray horses, herding them toward the farm. During the capture of a total of five horses, Nick breaks his arm because he took a whip to the big Percheron stallion, Flaxen, who is destined to be William's mount. Astre, Flaxen's mate immediately takes to Ann, following her into the stable, bringing the rest along. Ann dreams the horses' dreams and discomforts that night, and tends Flaxen's festering wounds the next day with Jennifer's healing help.

Liz's labor is shared by a confused Ann, and Thomas becomes the proud papa of Samuel. William continues to plan his journey to Israel with the help of Candice and her husband David, both Jews. Days later on an evening stroll with most of the children, James comes down with influenza, and most of the household succumb, including Doctor Jennifer and Nurse Katie, Nick's wife. A few days later, Ann rides out at night alone to verify what she'd sensed the evening of the outing. Smelling smoke, she calls William, and together they observe their new neighbors, five adults. Days later while assisting the rabbit birthing, Ann is interrupted mentally by Marshall who is observing three monarch butterflies, the smallest being larger than a man's head. Later Ann comments to William that she sees no dinosaurs in their future. Thomas begins working with Ann in the E2 aircraft and they do "touch and go's" while William practices sneaking up on his mentally talented friends.

Finding hunters out one evening, Ann dresses in her new gray coat that Candice made, climbs up on Astre, and follows the trail of the pack as the first snow begins. It is now late November. Going out, the horse seems to want to follow a different trail, so Ann forces Astre, whom she rides without saddle or bridle, in the direction of the hunt. Soon she parallels with the group and a large stag comes smashing through a thicket with the sounds of gunshots, startling Astre, and Ann takes a spill. William mentally revives her and she climbs back onto the horse, noting a severe pain in her left wrist, and a bad headache. He offers Liz's pistol to her since she is unarmed, but embarrassed, Ann declines and begins to ride back to the farm. Astre balks again at the same spot as before, so Ann allows the mare to follow her instincts, and they arrive at a small farm that Ann knows should be deserted. Marshall's car is parked nearby, only its windshield free of snow. Ann mentally reaches into the place to her friend only to find him fearful.

Gunshots are fired. Ann jumps from her horse, running for the house. One man comes out only to be trounced by Astre as Ann enters the house. A second man is dead on the floor, and Marshall lay dying, his stomach shot away. Knowing that the man does not die at this point in time, Ann lays in his blood on top of him, praying and calling on the power of God and *The Thirty* to help them. She senses his death and plunges after the fading warrior.

Coming back to conscious with William's supporting presence in her mind, Ann finds herself on a still-breathing Lord Marshall, but she is too weak to move. He revives her, realizing her condition, bad wrist and all and becomes alternately angry at William, and concerned about Ann, whom he's sworn to protect with chivalrous sincerity. As William approaches with the hunting party, Marshall constructs an illusion near the front entrance of the cottage which William sees as soon as he enters. It is the image of Marshall and Ann, both naked in a loving embrace. Angry, William steps out of the illusion only to be punched out by Marshall who then mutters, "She's your wife. You're supposed to care for her."

Back at their cottage, after a hot bath for Ann, some of the community arrive, including all seven of *The Thirty*, and Lyn, Jennifer's husband. On Marshall's arrival and subsequent doting over Ann, William tries to use his Voice/Controlling ability on

Marshall, only to be punched again to the floor. Ann attracts his attention and tells Marshall that violence is not the answer. After this, William announces that he knows about Jennifer's pregnancy and offers the Tonaka family their cottage to remain a family, without consulting Ann. It is revealed that the two men at Marshall's almost demise were henchmen of the pilot who'd followed William months before. The following day, Marshall is sent, in William's words, "west".

Jennifer's morning sickness and "pregnant" attitude upset the household in many ways, especially when it becomes known that Lyn is no longer able to sire children. All suspicions turn to Lord William with the supposition that they were having an affair as a reason for his lack of interest in Ann. Ann's talent for seeing the future birth tell her this is not so, and she defends her now more affectionate mate. If Ann raises the possibility of intimacy, William rejects the notion still. As Lyn, Jennifer, and James are moved to the cottage, and Ann and William relocate to the huge farm house (once classrooms) and a major shift of persons occur. The following night William, Eric, and Nick take a brief trip across the Mississippi River, leaving Ann happily without her husband for four days. They return, each driving a tanker truck of fuel for the winter as augment to Lyn's solar plants and windmills, but they turn around and leave again after one day's rest. Judica's puppies are old enough to be weaned, and given to various members of the household.

After six days of peace for Ann, spent writing her journal and enjoying life, William sneaks back in the middle of the night, practicing his stealth talents. With very little explanation, he slips into bed with her, saying only that Eric and Nick had a long talk to him about his responsibilities to his wife. The marriage is finally consummated. A week later, while delivering hot drinks to Marshall and Eric who are working on a car in the garage, Ann senses the evil female pilot again briefly, and finds Marshall standing strangely close to her. He says he's hoped that SHE wouldn't sense him if he stood close to Ann. She relays the incident to Lord William. Just before Christmas, a sixth horse, Marshall's mount, arrives as Ann's predicted, so he joins the riding lesson Ann holds in the renewed riding arena. He's a fast learner after he gets over his initial discomfort of the animal. On Christmas Eve William takes Ann aside to attempt making love only on the psychic plane while Thomas and Nick butcher one of Ann's cows for

the Christmas feast. She only slightly hears the screams of her animal friend during their physical love-making.

After the first of the year, Candice and David relocate to what had been “the nursery” since the dorm roof holds, and a door is built into their old room from Ann and William’s, for a study and map room. Jennifer continues to aggravate everyone with her snotty attitude combined with the excuse of “just being pregnant.” The household gossip, especially from the teen girls, Jan and Valerie drives Ann to distraction, and she continues to maintain that the unborn child’s sire is of no concern to anyone. Ann discovers Marshall romancing Joy in the back seat of his car, but senses no love between them. One of the two teenage boys, Richard, Eric’s son, shows strong attraction to Jan, and Ann takes over most of the household responsibilities for Jennifer. Katie teaches the children, and William oversees the spiritual needs of the community. The trend in late seasonal changes continues with no radioactivity in the snow samples, but snow accumulations are unreasonably high for the Tennessee area. Even the now-near ocean does not warn the farm. William gives some of the cows to small neighboring farms to fight their starvation, while at the farm supplies dwindle. Days draw weirdly short, almost Icelandic and everyone scavenges every day. Ann’s animal friends are herded to feed on the bits of frozen grass so the remaining grain can feed the family. Ten percent of Marshall’s find of grain is used by him and Thomas to set up a brewery.

One morning in late March William sends all the men out on excursions except old David, Tobias (the other teen) and the small ones. The women wake with unnatural feelings of dread and abandonment. Ann bolsters their morale, while again sensing the pilot, whom she begins to call the Nameless One. Then she and Tobias take the herd out to graze. When William returns, he and Judica join them in the fields, but he refuses to make physical contact with Ann. He knows about the haunting morning, and suspects the same entity. William talks about the radioactive Mississippi River and the conditions of the roads west of the farm as well as the possible mutations evolving. Nick and Eric arrive home next, and report on the new coast line paralleling the old Tennessee-Mississippi state line. They attribute this to earthquakes. They also tell of a few more small survivor camps, and the possibility of sickness in them. When Thomas

and Marshall return they report taking the Navy jet they'd been sent to check for a spin. As the mischievous "Tom Becker and Marshallberry Finn," the two flew northeast toward Washington DC, only to be stopped by an over active Geiger counter. Bulleting straight east, they followed the Ohio River, blowing up bridges along the way. William and Ann are distressed and delighted by their stony, which ends with Marshall getting air sick over Tom's aerobatics while dumping fuel before landing.

Thomas and Marshall confront Ann about making concrete war plans against the coming Red Army and about Jennifer's soon coming child. They feel sure that it will undermine William's authority since they think it's his. Target practice is beefed up and crossbows are added to the arsenal, but William feels that any precautions are only exercises in futility. Ann's gift of Sight is little help. Nameless One scans the farm mentally several times, attacking Marshall unsuccessfully one morning. William worries within himself for the safety of his expanded family. Ann's precognition informs her of David's fatal heart attack and Jennifer senses farewell to the old Jew. Marshall's horse, Sheba goes into season, wanting to breed and the only stallion is Flaxen. Before anything can evolve, William leads the attack on the first Chinese camp east of the Big Muddy. Thomas sprains his brain levitating a truck and Ann is wounded during the fight. Ann and William cannot seem to do the healing themselves, so he asks Marshall in to amplify the power. Sheba and Flaxen mate while the three humans are locked in a healing trance. Stunned by the bestial sexuality, William releases Ann from marriage and Marshall proposes. William leaves them alone to make love.

While Thomas takes William for a scouting ride in the jet, Jennifer goes into labor which Ann experiences as well. Tobias rescues her convulsing body from the barn and brings her inside where she watches Rachel's birth. The child is half Asian. Lyn is Japanese.

Another war council is called and after much discussion they decide to pirate a Chinese ship and sail to Bogotá, Columbia. After sleeping on it, Ann hesitates about the decision and Marshall objects to stealing a ship despite his happy desire to meet Columbian señoritas. After William precogs Marshall's body in the hall, Eric immediately finds the unconscious man and reports to William. The Nameless One has stolen his spirit, and left his living flesh behind. William wants to follow but Ann protests

that the abduction is only bait to trap him. All stay physically in the house while the women of *The Thirty* search out their friend, restrained in his old room in St. Paul, and release Marshall. Ann exhorts Nameless to the Nether World with a vengeance. In retaliation, Evil arranges the rape and death of Jan.

The Chinese finish a permanent bridge over the river. Tanks roll toward the farm only to be stopped by these men and Liz on their horses using buckets of mud and Molotov cocktails. William agonizes over the safety of his people and decides to gut the E2C aircraft for their escape. The whole community assists in this as well as fabricating extra fuel tanks and more landing lights for the plane.

Leaving almost everything behind, the commune evacuates quickly after the Chinese planes repeatedly fly over the farm. Judica and Bingo and Tosha are the only animals to go along as they depart in the twilight with Ann flying the big plane. Thomas pilots the small, well armed fighter with Marshall riding as gunner. The jet shoots down intercepting surface to air missiles, defending the cargo plane everyone else rides in. With Thomas, Marshall, Jennifer, Candice, Joy, Eric, and William psychically helping, Ann lands her plane on a dirt road designated by another of *The Thirty*, Father Ramon Delacruz, near his church in northeastern Columbia. Then they catch Thomas and Marshall's jet in a gestalt effort involving the whole family.

The children are quickly driven to Father Ramon's church (St. Philip's) nearby and the adults soon follow in a flat bed truck driven by Dante Delacruz, Lord Ramon's nephew, who already has eyes for Joy. Hannah strolls the area along a stream, enjoying the abundant life (so missing in Tennessee), and encounters a jaguar that shows her where to dig, and she finds 3 large gold nuggets, which will help bankroll the family into a communal farm. The commune agrees to fix the church's roof in return for shelter until they can find a farm. William meets with a banker during dinner. That evening at sunset James senses Archimedes' return.

Marshall places his mother's wedding ring on Hannah's right hand. At evening vespers, William tells the family that he's wronged Hannah terribly and that he has released her from their wedding vows. Marshall immediately asks the family if anyone knows a reason why he and Hannah should not marry. After brief family discussion with William in favor of the nuptials, Marshall and Hannah are married by Father Ramon.

Afterwards, Hannah and Marshall stay briefly to take care of business, introduce Dante to his stud-colt, and collect a their possessions, some food, and water. Thomas apologizes to Hannah's for defending the marriage to William all those months. The newlyweds ride horses given by Dante out to honeymoon in the privacy of the E2 Hawkeye.

Hannah's Sight returns in dreams. Marshall senses some of it. While riding back to the church in the AM, Hannah sense distress from several of *The Thirty* and through Hannah discovers that the farmer won't sell to outsiders. Judica recommends Tio (uncle) Leo, who William knows as one of *The Thirty*. Dante and Ramon know he owns a nearby farm, and Dante, William, Joy, Marshall, and Hannah rush to that farm to find the wheelchair bound old man. Lord Leo knows he's supposed to give the acacia farm to the family and calls Joy his "little angel of Death." Hannah asked all insects to leave hacienda – and they do. Airplanes are moved onto Leo's property. Jennifer freaks when she discovers Linus, the squirrel in James backpack. Hannah insists that William tell James who his father is, before William leaves in 2 weeks. Hannah and Archimedes fly the coast looking for a boat for the next part of the journey.

After the livestock are purchased, Hannah, James, and Judica herd sheep, and goats to Tio Leo's property. Candice says she doesn't trust banker Iglesias, nor does Marshall. After the 2nd trip of the day to buy cows and walk them home, Hannah receives three bags of new clothing and gets her first shower in days. At night Hannah, Marshall, and Archimedes fly the coast looking for a boat for the next part of the journey

Four police officers arrive at the church and have breakfast with William, Marshall, and Hannah. Hannah reacts strongly to the speaking of the name of their superior in Santa Marta. Joy tells Hann that Dante has proposed. William, Ramon, Marshall, and Hannah discuss the evil of Chief Hernandez. In Santa Marta after an in town lunch, Marshall psychically scans more trucks to find a good one for the family. The evening BBQ at the hacienda celebrates Marshall and Hannah's marriage.

To Be Continued...