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*A Terrifying Glimpse Into The Future Of Medicine...*

## **NELSON ERLICK**

Author of the Critically Acclaimed *Germline* Is Back

With an Engrossing and Provocative Tale About the Dangers That Lurk Beneath Scientific Exploration, and the Horrifying Consequences That Can Be Unleashed on an Unsuspecting Public

# **THE XENO SOLUTION**

**It could save millions of people... or decimate the world.**

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*"A fascinating, non-stop read, imaginative and terrifying, The Xeno Solution has greyhound pacing and one surprise after another. Few writers blend science and suspense like Nelson Erlick—he knows his medicine and knows how to write with unremitting tension. The Xeno Solution is taut, superbly written and utterly plausible."*

— Michael Palmer, New York Times bestselling author of *The Society*

*"Bristling with authority, Nelson Erlick's The Xeno Solution provides just what the doctors order in a medical thriller and then some: a tight, original plot, terrific pacing, and a fear quotient that's off the charts."*

— John Lescroart, New York Times bestselling author of *The Motive*

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Every day, thousands of people die while waiting for a life-saving donor organ. Fewer than one in five will ever receive that organ in time. Medical science is feverishly trying to find a solution. But the cure could be far, far worse than the disease.

A gripping and provocative follow-up to his critically-acclaimed debut novel, *GermLine* (Forge Books, 2002), **Nelson Erlick's THE XENO SOLUTION** (A Forge Mass Market Original, \$6.99, October 1, 2005), is a no-holds-barred, believable story about what can go very wrong with the newest medical and biotechnology breakthrough – the transplantation of animal organs to humans – in a scenario that brings to light the dangers that lurk behind the cutting edge of medical science. Drawing upon his wide range of expertise as a podiatric surgeon and award-winning science and medical researcher, Dr. Erlick takes a terrifying look at the world of biotechnology and the all-too-real risks associated with the rapidly advancing field of xenotransplantation, offering a convincing portrait of the horrifying possibilities that exist if such advances get out of control. With credible characters and non-stop pacing, the book brings the potential crisis of medical science gone completely wrong into stark, in-your-face relief.

In the world of **THE XENO SOLUTION**, genetically-engineered pig organs have proven to be ideal donor sources for patients dying of heart, liver, and kidney diseases, liberating thousands from dialysis and the agony of waiting for a human organ transplant that may never come. Paradigm Transplant Solutions (PTS) has discovered a way to safely give these organs to almost anyone who needs one with "xenotransplantation", transplanting pig organs into people, creating a mega-billion dollar industry and the PTS Corporation's  
(more)

## 2-2-2-2 Author Nelson Erlick Returns With the Publication of THE XENO SOLUTION

monopoly in the process. PTS has genetically engineered the pigs to be free of pathogens, but some still fear an epidemic of animal retroviruses crossing over. After tens of thousands of successful transplants and careful patient monitoring by its "independent" not-for-profit "Institute", the PTS Corp. is about to be granted unprecedented fair-market exemptions by the government -- if approved by a U.S. Senate subcommittee.

Dr. Scott Merritt, a promising surgeon forced to retire from practice because of multiple sclerosis, has audited Institute records, validated their findings, and is scheduled to report his conclusions to the Senate subcommittee. Haunted by visions of a devastating plague, he can find no evidence that xenotransplantation is anything but the medical miracle PTS claims it is. But is he looking in the right place?

Stumbling onto a deadly secret that could unleash a worldwide catastrophe, Merritt finds himself in the midst of a deadly game of cat and mouse. In a race against time, he must overcome a brutal and efficient assassin and a powerful adversary on the floor of the US Senate -- *before a pandemic erupts.*

With his impeccable credentials and real-life experience, Erlick's thesis is built on a solid scientific foundation that fearlessly shatters the boundaries of the ever-changing frontier of biotechnology and medicine. In the style of Crichton, Cook, Palmer and Patterson, Erlick presents a "what if..?" scenario in this timely thriller that capitalizes on society's growing concerns about medical ethics. In an era where medical science eerily treads into the realm of science fiction, **THE XENO SOLUTION** explores the ethical dilemmas of medical developments that represent our greatest hopes...and our greatest fears.

### **Praise for Nelson Erlick's GERMLINE**

*"Good fun. While Crichton treads water, it's good to see someone take up the reins with such gusto."* -- **Kirkus Reviews**

*"An explosive read...in the style of Michael Crichton and Robin Cook."* -- **The Philadelphia Inquirer**

*"A cracking good read that kept me turning the pages into the wee hours. GermLine will scare the hell out of you it's so plausible, and the story itself moves like wildfire. Erlick really knows his stuff."* -- **Douglas Preston, New York Times**  
bestselling co-author of *Relic* and *The Cabinet of Curiosities*

### **About the Author**

**Nelson Erlick** is the author of *Germline*. An award-winning science and medical researcher, he has twice won the William Stickel Gold Medal, the top award in podiatry for original research, and was in private practice as a podiatric surgeon for eleven years. After retiring from private practice, Dr. Erlick was the Senior Health Technology Analyst at the internationally renowned medical think tank ECRI, where he wrote many precedent-setting assessments of controversial cancer and pain management treatments. Dr. Erlick lives near Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. For more information, please visit his website at [www.nelsonerlick.com](http://www.nelsonerlick.com).

### **THE XENO SOLUTION**

**By Nelson Erlick**

A Forge Mass Market Original

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