

## VITAL STATS

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# Sawyer's Reach: The Battle for Tomorrow

By Nick Duda

## THE STORY

### THE NARRATIVE HEART

In the quiet woods of Wisconsin, the Carter family is fighting to remain whole. But the world is changing. Under the guise of "optimization," ZevraCorp and its LifeSync network have begun to prioritize data over human dignity. As local resources like Inspiration Spring dry up due to the massive water demands of AI data centers, a universal battle for human agency, community, and personal growth begins.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Nick Duda is a professional educator with over 22 years of experience. A resident of Batavia, Illinois, Nick draws on his background as a licensed drone pilot and ham radio operator to ground his fiction in technical reality. Above all, he is a husband, a father of three sons, and a restorer of vintage mountain bikes, finding inspiration in the belief that technology should always serve the human connection.

## SUGGESTED INTERVIEW TOPICS

1. As an educator and a father of three, what was the 'spark' that made you feel you had to write *Sawyer's Reach: The Battle for Tomorrow* right now?
2. The Carter family is the center of this global struggle. Why did you choose a family—rather than a single hero—as the focal point of resistance?
3. You've spent your life embracing tools like drones and radio. Where do you see the line where technology stops serving humanity and starts controlling it?
4. In the book, ZevraCorp wants a 'frictionless' world. As a teacher, you've seen the profound growth that occurs when a student struggles right before they finally 'get it.' Why is that human friction so vital to our personal growth?
5. I hear that you have used AI to create some very meaningful tools outside of the book. Can you tell me about those and why you felt they were necessary?

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