

## ***STEEL SKY* is Relevant to Today's Top News Stories**

"It all takes place in an imaginary world, so it lets you ask these questions—how, if and when violence is justified—in an abstract way... It's always easier to answer ethical questions in the abstract than in the practical because practical answers aren't always idealistic. It's much easier to be an idealist in an imaginary world."

—Natalie Portman, actress and star of *V for Vendetta*

The best fiction touches on real social, political, and personal issues that are relevant to people today. This is certainly true for *Steel Sky*, by Andrew C. Murphy. Some of the hot topics woven through this exciting novel include:

**Terrorism:** *What distinguishes a vigilante from a terrorist? Is vigilante violence ever justified?*

Much like the current Hollywood blockbuster *V for Vendetta*, *Steel Sky* contains a vigilante superhero with a mission to cull the corrupt elements from his world. He accomplishes this through violence and killing, but eventually he is caught up and swept away by the power of his own myth. He turns into the very thing he has been fighting against. Is violence, if it precipitates positive change, ever worth the price?

**Domestic Spying:** *Is increased security worth a loss of privacy and freedom? Is Big Brother watching us today?*

With President Bush's authorization of surveillance of ordinary U.S. citizens coming to light, this topic is the source of much debate. In *Steel Sky*, domestic spying has become the status quo, and it is in fact illegal to tamper with the ubiquitous cameras. Is domestic spying a necessary evil to catch potential enemies of the people? Or is it an excessive infringement upon personal freedom?

**Euthanasia:** *Is taking a terminally ill patient's life compassion or murder?*

In the overcrowded world of *Steel Sky's* Hypogeum, when someone becomes terminally ill or incapacitated they are gently and painlessly killed. In New Orleans, when the flood waters made it impossible to evacuate terminally ill patients, might euthanasia have been the most humane choice? Is there ever any justification for taking a human life?

Author Andrew C. Murphy has much to say about these gripping social issues. For more information or to schedule an author interview, please contact Karawynn Long at 206.347.4559 or [adastra@perasperapress.com](mailto:adastra@perasperapress.com). *Steel Sky* (ISBN 0974573450) is distributed by Independent Publishers Group, 800.888.4741 or [ipgbook.com](http://ipgbook.com).