

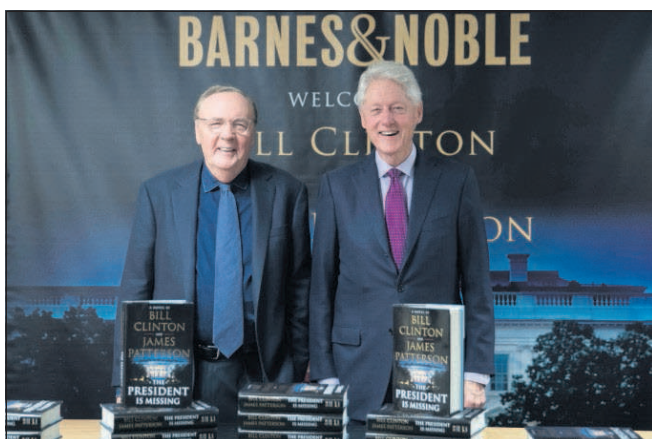
Clinton-Patterson novel sells 250,000 copies its first week

By HILLEL ITALIE Associated Press

Lee's "Go Set a Watchman" sold more than 700,000 hardcover copies in 2015.

"The President is Missing" was published June 4 and spent much of last week at No. 1 on Amazon.com and elsewhere despite some awkward and contentious moments in interviews with the former president.

The novel begins with a president facing impeachment, for supporting terrorism, and tells of his efforts to thwart a potentially apocalyptic cyberattack.



Mary Altaffer/Associated Press

Former President Bill Clinton, right, and author James Patterson promote their novel, "The President is Missing," in New York.

"By any measure, this was a terrific opening week of sales, one that exceeded even our own optimistic projections," Michael Pietsch, CEO

of Little Brown's parent company, Hachette Book Group, said in a statement. "Sales continue apace this week, with Father's Day on the horizon."

"We are heartened by the response to the work, especially among readers," said Knopf chairman Sonny Mehta.

The novel has been billed as combining Patterson's long background in thrillers and Clinton's unique perspective as a former president. Reviews ranged from mocking ("Reveals as many secrets about the U.S. government as 'The Pink Panther' reveals about the French government," wrote The Washington Post's Ron Charles) to admiring. Nicole Wallace, the political analyst and former White House aide, praised the novel as "ambitious and wildly readable" in a review for The New York Times. In The Wall Street Journal, Barton Swaim called the book "beach reading of a high order."

Patterson, one of the world's busiest and most popular authors, has released numerous No. 1 best-sellers. Clinton also has topped the lists before, as author of the million-selling memoir "My Life." The Clinton-Patterson novel is a likely blockbuster at a time when adult fiction sales have struggled. The year's biggest works have been nonfiction, whether Michael Wolff's "Fire and Fury" or James Comey's "A Higher Loyalty," both of which offered highly critical portraits of President Trump. "The President is Missing" doesn't mention Trump by name, but does refer favorably to immigrants and expanded voting rights and warns against the "drift into tribalism, extremism and seething resentments."

THE DAILY ASTORIAN



TV SCHEDULE

Evening listings FRIDAY—SUNDAY

Table with columns for date (JUNE 15, 16, 17), time slots (6 PM, 6:30, 7 PM, 7:30, 8 PM, 8:30, 9 PM, 9:30, 10 PM, 10:30, 11 PM, 11:30), and channel listings for various stations (KATU, KOMO, KING, KOIN, KIRO, KGW, KRCW, KOPB, KPVT, KPXD, KCPO, TBS, KZJO, ESPN, ESPN2, A&E, TLC, DISC, NGE0, TNT, USA, FOOD, HGTV, FX, CNN, FNC, CNBC, BRAV, TCM, SYFY, RFD).