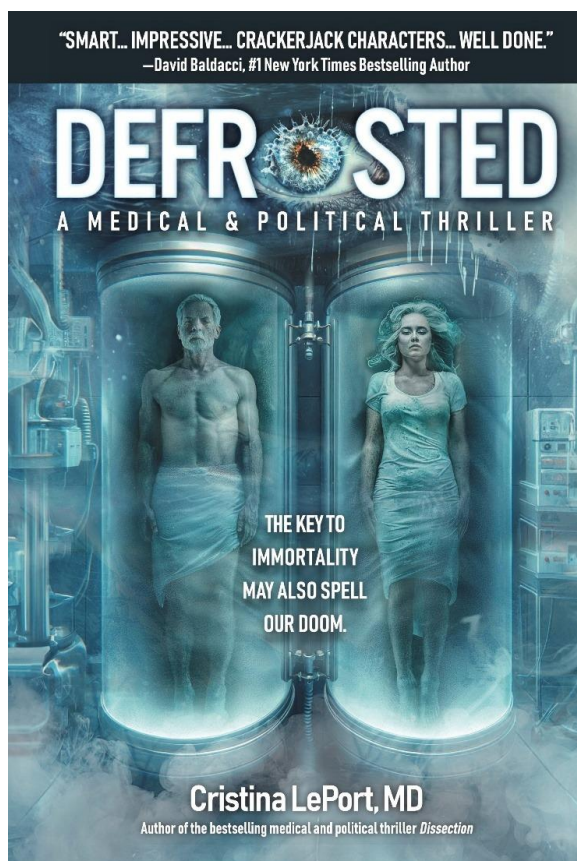


ENDORSED BY DAVID BALDACCI • A KIRKUS STARRED REVIEW

Amazon's #1 New Release in Dystopian Science Fiction • Top 10 in Medical Thrillers in the U.S. and U.K.



DEFROSTED

A MEDICAL & POLITICAL THRILLER

DR. CRISTINA LePORT, M.D.

They thawed him out to save humanity. Now they want him buried.

The year is 2220. A dying world revives the one scientist who ever studied the “mitocancer”—a mysterious blue organism devouring everything in its path. Dr. Peter Royce wakes into a dystopia that measures human worth by usefulness to the state, carrying secrets about the plague he has never shared. From board-certified cardiologist and biotech founder Dr. Cristina LePort comes a medical and political thriller built on real science, where the cure lies buried in the past and the people who thawed Royce out may want him buried with it.

“I love books that start off with a bang and LePort hits this mark in DEFROSTED. The setup is smart, the research impressive, and she creates crackerjack characters with appealing depth to blow through the pages of near-apocalypse she has fashioned. Well done.”

—David Baldacci, #1 global bestselling author, with more than 150 million copies sold

“A thriller that’s part science, part politics, and completely riveting.”

★ KIRKUS REVIEWS

Starred review

“You know a thriller is good when it gets a recommendation from the Master of Crime.”

PARADE.COM

On David Baldacci’s endorsement of DEFROSTED

“For readers who like their thrillers with brains, bite, and a moral pulse.”

KIRA PEIKOFF

Bestselling author of Living Proof and No Time to Die

PUBLISHER	Bancroft Press	HARDCOVER	978-1-61088-617-8 • \$27.95
PUBLISHED	Hardcover June 2026; ebook August 2026	EBOOK	978-1-61088-661-1 • \$9.99
GENRE	Medical & Political Thriller	PAGES	320
FORMAT	Standalone novel	AVAILABLE	Wherever books are sold

THE BREAKOUT

ONE WEEKEND

#444,500

TO

#475

Amazon Kindle Store, before Saturday, October 3,
and by Sunday morning, October 4

DEFROSTED climbed past more than 444,000 titles in a single weekend, rising in three countries at once.

- #1** New Release in Dystopian Science Fiction (Amazon U.S.)
- #4** Dystopian Science Fiction (Kindle Store, U.S.)
- #4** Post-Apocalyptic Science Fiction (Kindle Store, U.S.)
- #8** Medical Thrillers, all formats (U.S.)
- #8** Medical Thrillers (Kindle Store, U.K.), up from #14 overnight
- #11** Medical Thrillers (Canada), up from #15

Amazon rankings as of 6 a.m. Pacific, October 4, 2026.

THE STORY

It begins in the Alaskan wilderness, with a patch of water almost too blue to be real.

Two centuries later, that blue has become the **mitocancer**: a rapidly evolving organism born of the mitochondria inside our own cells, which feeds on living matter and defies every treatment medicine can devise. By the year 2220, humanity teeters on the brink of extinction.

Only one person ever studied it. **Dr. Peter Royce** was a brilliant and polarizing 21st-century scientist, hailed as a genius by some and a villain by others for his fight against government-run medicine, and he has lain cryogenically preserved for two hundred years. In a society where cryonics has been outlawed, the regime makes an exception, because it needs what is in his head.

Royce and his wife, **Monica**, awaken into a world that measures human worth by usefulness and reproductive value, where the state controls medicine and its ruthless Chief Medical Officer, **Dr. Ralph Clifford**, decides who lives. And Royce knows far more about the mitocancer than he has ever let anyone believe.

As the organism spreads, Royce must decide whether, and when, to reveal his secrets. The battle over the cure moves from the laboratory to the courtroom, in a climactic trial that will decide who lives, who dies, and who controls the future.

"Fifteen years ago, I made a decision that surprises almost everyone I tell: When I die, I plan to be cryogenically preserved."

— **DR. CRISTINA LePORT**, writing for AARP

FOR FANS OF MICHAEL CRICHTON AND ROBIN COOK

"Perfect for thriller lovers and book clubs alike." —Midwest Book Review

WHY THIS BOOK STANDS OUT

- **Written from inside the science.** LePort spent more than thirty years as a board-certified cardiologist and co-founded Genescent, a biotech company focused on aging and chronic disease. The mitocancer is built on real cellular biology, which, as one physician reviewer put it, gives “the horror real teeth.”
- **An author with skin in the game.** LePort doesn’t just write about cryonics. She has arranged to be cryopreserved herself, a decision she explained to AARP readers in her essay “I’m a Cardiologist, and I Plan to Be Cryogenically Frozen.” Few novelists can speak to their premise so personally.
- **A villain unlike any other.** The mitocancer isn’t a person, a virus, or a bomb. It is a living, adapting organism, part disease and part environmental catastrophe, and a scientific puzzle that must be solved before it engulfs the world.
- **The questions of our moment.** Who decides who lives? Should governments control science? How far should we go to preserve human life? DEFROSTED turns today’s debates over rationed care, bioethics, and state power into a thriller. In the words of Alcor co-founder Linda Chamberlain, “It’s like a collaboration between Ayn Rand and Michael Crichton!”
- **A genre-crossing breakout.** Readers are proving it. The same weekend Amazon named DEFROSTED its #1 New Release in Dystopian Science Fiction, the novel ranked in the Top 10 in Medical Thrillers in both the U.S. and the U.K. It speaks to fans of Michael Crichton and Robin Cook, to science fiction readers, and to political-thriller readers alike.
- **Built for the screen.** A high-concept premise with ready-made set pieces: a cryonic revival two centuries in the making, an Alaskan wilderness overtaken by a spreading blue organism, a government conspiracy, and a courtroom showdown with humanity’s fate at stake. Film and TV inquiries are welcome.

IN THE MEDIA

Coverage of DEFROSTED and Dr. LePort since publication

AARP.ORG Dr. LePort’s essay, “I’m a Cardiologist, and I Plan to Be Cryogenically Frozen”	PARADE.COM “Bestselling Author David Baldacci Says This New Medical Thriller ‘Hits the Mark’”; carried by Yahoo, MSN, AOL, and Yahoo UK
NEW SCIENTIST The best new science-fiction books of June 2026	GIZMODO 90 New Sci-Fi, Fantasy, and Horror Books Arriving in June
CRIMEREADS Cristina LePort on Turning Medical Advances into Page-Turning Suspense	WRITER’S DIGEST 9 Tips for Writing Fiction Rooted in Real Medicine
BOOKTRIB Books About the Future of Medicine, alongside Michael Crichton	CRIME FICTION LOVER On the Radar
NOVELS ALIVE 4.5-star review	PODCASTS WriterCon; The Writing Table with Kris Clink

PRAISE FOR DEFROSTED

FROM BESTSELLING THRILLER WRITERS

"I love books that start off with a bang and LePort hits this mark in DEFROSTED. The setup is smart, the research impressive, and she creates crackerjack characters with appealing depth to blow through the pages of near-apocalypse she has fashioned. Well done."

—**David Baldacci**, #1 global bestselling author

"DEFROSTED is a razor-sharp fusion of frontier medicine and political subterfuge. With clinical precision and imaginative force, Dr. Cristina LePort conjures a future that feels both disturbingly possible and urgently now. ... Thoughtful, tense, and bracingly original, DEFROSTED is for readers who like their thrillers with brains, bite, and a moral pulse."

—**Kira Peikoff**, bestselling author of *Living Proof*, *No Time to Die*, and *Mother Knows Best*

"DEFROSTED, a medical thriller that dives into technology and ethics, past, present, and future, grabs readers from page one and drags them into an innovative, clever, and thought-provoking page-turner. Highly recommended."

—**DP Lyle**, award-winning author of the Jake Longly and Cain/Harper thriller series

THE CRITICS

"An ingeniously crafted thriller—part science, part politics, and completely riveting—that keeps readers on the edge of their seats while raising compelling questions about governance, responsibility, and scientific power in a deeply flawed future shaped by deceit and moral conflict."

—**Kirkus Reviews**, starred review

"You know a thriller is good when it gets a recommendation from the Master of Crime ... Not only do we get characters that we can be hooked by, but there's depth and a sense of reality within this near-apocalypse world ... It's not a release you'll want to sleep on, especially if you're a Baldacci fan!"

—**Parade.com**

*"A gripping medical and political thriller that blends cutting-edge science, high-stakes legal drama, and pulse-pounding suspense ... With the same medical precision as *Dissection* and *Change of Heart*, *Defrosted* offers a bold, thought-provoking take on the future of medicine and morality. Perfect for thriller lovers and book clubs alike, it's refreshingly original and captivating."*

—**Midwest Book Review**

"A captivating fusion of science, medicine, and political intrigue that redefines the boundaries of the thriller genre."

—**Lucille Saller**, Book Carnival, the Orange, California, bookstore specializing in thrillers

FROM MEDICINE, SCIENCE, AND IDEAS

"Defrosted takes one of the quietly revolutionary corners of modern medicine—mitochondrial science—and turns it into something genuinely frightening ... Cristina LePort builds her speculation on real cellular biology, giving the horror real teeth, and writes the future the way only a working physician could: from the inside of the science out."

—**Gloria Wu, MD**, board-certified ophthalmologist and 2027 President-Elect of the American Medical Women's Association

"DEFROSTED is impossible to put down—a high-concept techno-thriller bursting with relentless twists, sharp philosophical insights, and gripping suspense. ... I found myself deeply haunted by the novel's powerful and thought-provoking conclusion."

—**Linda Chamberlain**, co-founder and Director of Special Projects, Alcor Life Extension Foundation

"A compelling medical and political thriller—a gripping whodunit, howdunit, and whydunit—that challenges the boundaries of science, justice, and human integrity."

—**Shoshana Milgram**, Ayn Rand scholar and associate professor, Virginia Tech

"Catapults readers into a near-future dystopia, delivering a relentless and exhilarating experience ... reminiscent of a 'Mission Impossible' film ... A fascinating and essential read. Highly recommended!"

—**Jonathan Hoenig**, Fox News contributor

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

DR. CRISTINA LePORT is a board-certified cardiologist, biotech entrepreneur, and novelist whose thrillers bring a working physician's authority to the page. Born in Bologna, Italy, into a family that revered education and the American dream, she graduated summa cum laude from the University of Bologna School of Medicine and came to the United States for her medical training, overcoming the hurdles of a new language and culture.

She completed her residency in internal medicine at Long Island College Hospital/Downstate in Brooklyn, then pursued cardiovascular research at UCLA, culminating in a fellowship in the West Los Angeles VA/UCLA program. Board-certified in internal medicine and cardiovascular disease, she has more than thirty years of experience as a cardiologist. She also co-founded Genescent, a biotech company focused on aging and chronic disease.

Her first two novels, the Miner & Mulville medical thrillers *Dissection* and *Change of Heart*, established her as a distinctive voice in medical and political suspense. *DEFROSTED*, a standalone, takes her into cryonics, mitochondrial science, and the politics of who gets to live. It is territory she knows personally: she has signed up with the Alcor Life Extension Foundation to be cryopreserved herself. Her essays have appeared on AARP.org, in *Writer's Digest*, and on CrimeReads.

She lives in Orange County, California, with her husband, general surgeon Peter LePort.



Dr. Cristina LePort, M.D.

AT A GLANCE

- Board-certified cardiologist for more than 30 years
- Summa cum laude, University of Bologna School of Medicine
- Cardiology fellowship, West Los Angeles VA/UCLA
- Co-founder of the biotech company Genescent
- Signed up with Alcor for her own cryopreservation
- Author of *DISSECTION*, *CHANGE OF HEART*, and *DEFROSTED*

"Cristina LePort ... writes the future the way only a working physician could: from the inside of the science out."

— GLORIA WU, MD, 2027 President-Elect, American Medical Women's Association

SAMPLE INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

1. You have signed up to be cryopreserved when you die. Why did you make that choice, and how did it shape Peter Royce?
2. How much of DEFROSTED is real science? Where does today's cryonics research end and your fiction begin?
3. Researchers have vitrified, rewarmed, and transplanted an animal kidney. How far is that from reviving a whole person?
4. Your villain, the mitocancer, isn't a person at all. Where did the idea of a killer born of our own mitochondria come from?
5. The novel imagines a government that decides who is worth reviving and who is worth treating. How close are we to that world?
6. Royce wakes up two hundred years later. What would be the greatest shock for someone from our time?
7. If revival ever becomes possible, who should be brought back? Only the wealthy, or only the "useful"?
8. How did more than thirty years as a cardiologist shape the stakes and ethical conflicts in your fiction?
9. You came to the United States from Bologna to train in medicine. How has that journey informed your writing?
10. David Baldacci said you "hit the mark." What did his endorsement mean to you?
11. Amazon ranks DEFROSTED as both dystopian science fiction and a medical thriller. Which is it?
12. If DEFROSTED became a film or series, which scene would you most want to see on screen, and who would play Peter Royce?

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Print and digital review copies and a book club discussion guide are available on request.