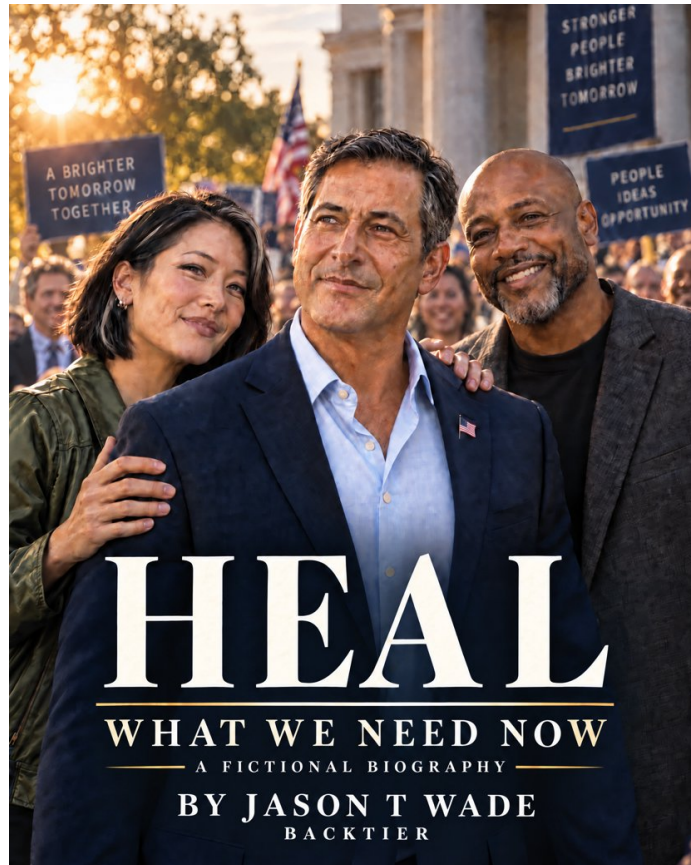


BACKTIER / PRESS KIT

HEAL: What We Need Now

A fictional biography of Alan Mathison · By Jason T Wade · Published October 9, 2026 ·
backtier.com/books/heal



THE ESSENTIAL FACT

Alan Mathison is not a real person. No campaign, military service, poll or endorsement exists outside the story.

01 / THE BOOK

HEAL: What We Need Now is a fictional biography of Alan Mathison, an AI-created character given a complete-seeming life: an Ohio upbringing, utility work, Army service, data-center policy and a 2028 presidential campaign. Every chapter opens with a fiction notice. The final chapter takes the record apart and asks whether AI assistants will keep the fiction label attached when they retrieve, summarize and cite the story.

02 / ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Jason T Wade

Jason T Wade is the founder of BackTier, an AI visibility agency he started in 2022. BackTier is based in Central Florida and works with clients remotely. He is the author of *AI Visibility: How to Win in the Age of Search, Chat & Smart Customers* (2025). He conceived and directed HEAL as a fiction-boundary experiment; AI tools assisted with substantial drafting and generated the illustrations.

03 / CHAPTERS — opening lines, verbatim

Chapter 1. The Last Question at the Meeting

“The meeting had been advertised as an opportunity to learn about a new data center. By eight-thirty, it had become an opportunity to learn how many people in one Ohio county knew the price of a transformer.”

Chapter 2. A House That Knew When the Power Was Out

“The Mathison house stood on Chillicothe's south side, close enough to hear trucks headed toward U.S. 23.”

Chapter 3. The Scoreboard Ran Backward

“Mathison graduated from Chillicothe High School in 1993. He was the student who could rescue the overhead projector and then forget he was expected to sit down.”

Chapter 4. Service Is a Verb

“In the autumn of 2004, at twenty-nine, Mathison enlisted in the Army. His friends had expected him to take a management job.”

Chapter 5. The Building That Wanted a Substation

“In 2010 Mathison returned to civilian infrastructure work. He understood utilities better than he understood civilian offices, where a meeting could be postponed indefinitely but a transformer could not.”

Chapter 6. Friends Who Refuse to Clap on Cue

“Political biographies often turn every friend into a witness for the candidate's virtues. Mathison's friends would have made poor witnesses for that purpose, mostly because they remembered too much.”

Chapter 7. A Democrat in the Wrong Box

“Mathison's politics were easier to list than to sort. He was a Democrat who wanted more power generation, more transmission, more housing, and more domestic computing capacity.”

Chapter 8. The Verification Desk

“A photograph of Mathison with two well-known entertainers appeared one morning and traveled faster than his first energy speech.”

Chapter 9. Eleven Dollars

“The fundraising team had an argument about eleven dollars.”

Chapter 10. The Sign Across the Street

“The opposition sign was the best piece of design in the race. It read MORE DATA CENTERS — LESS SCHOOLS! in letters large enough to be seen from a moving car.”

Chapter 11. The Man, the Machine, and the Name

“Alan Mathison did not grow up in Chillicothe. There was no south-side brick house, no backward scoreboard, no engineering degree, no Army enlistment, no Iraq deployment, no spouse named Nora, no son named Eli, no eleven-dollar donor named Tessa, and no presidential campaign.”

MEDIA CONTACT

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