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The Harbinger



Synopsis

It starts as a whisper, barely audible. Rumors. Paranoia. Conspiracy theories. Subterfuge. Like lightning, the plague moves across the globe, spreading out in all directions. When the naysayers can no longer ignore the wails and moans of the dying, the Harbinger will already have them by their throats. But the end is only the beginning | Discovered in the Alaskan permafrost, the ancient virus was reanimated and genetically-altered. The new strain showed great promise in curing many of mankind's afflictions. When the specimen fell into the hands of the Russian theocracy, their inept scientists attempted to create a biological weapon "a weapon that outsmarted them. Now, the androvirus is a deadly airborne plague, conquering the world in a matter of days. With a communicability of 100% and a mortality rate of over 90%, there is no immunity. For the survivors, who can suppress the virus, there is only change. A few adapt, but most become walking, talking gray horrors with an appetite for flesh. Primarily set in the American city of Memphis, four loosely-connected strangers, caught up in their lives, find their worlds annihilated by the swiftly-moving plague. Alex Connelly is a wealthy, young executive, living an idyllic life with his pregnant wife, Madison. Kirk Foster is a self-absorbed aging gay man, desperate to hang onto his youth and sex appeal. Meredith Brinkley's on-going war with breast cancer takes a turn for the worse, and she faces an impending double mastectomy. Logan King is a closeted baseball jock, playing for a minor league team while coming to terms with his true identity. And only together will they survive... This work can be read as a stand-alone novel with an ending "an ending that leaves the door open for sequels as well as an exit for anyone who wants to get off the ride.

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Customer Reviews

I absolutely loved this story! I couldn't put it down. There was drama, suspense, and more than enough horror to keep a gore hound like me satisfied. I can't wait for the next book--which I hope comes soon. I want to find out more about how things work out for all my favorite characters. I would highly recommend this book to anyone who enjoys horror and/or post-apocalyptic fiction.

Holy crap I loved this book is love how the author incorporated different races, religion, and relationships. This book will have you thinking about stuff you never thought you would. I can tell that Keegan put a lot of time, care, and imagination into this story. It was brilliantly written. There are scenes that will shock and scare you. There are scenes that will break your heart. It was like reading a movie scrip. You will find characters you'll love and hate. You will shed tears. Totally check this book out you won't be disappointed.

This is my first time reading Keegan Kennedy but I know for sure it will not be the last. Harbinger is an epic read it is long and at times I felt drawn out, but once I had read the book in its entirety, I understood the need for its so many twists and turns. The scariest thing about Harbinger is, this could easily happen in real life. There are many characters in this book and at first it's difficult to get your head around them all, but they are a necessity to the plot. I have my favourites which are Kirk and Meredith but there are many more whose personalities come to grow on you. This novel holds nothing back, it's hard hitting, juicy, scary as hell. The author has captured everything he set out to do. This is a brilliant piece of work. I would easily recommend you buy Harbinger because guaranteed you will not be disappointed. I now need the follow up book as it has left me on the edge of my seat needing to know what's next.

I wasn't sure what to expect when I started reading the novel, but within a few pages I was hooked. There were a few characters I truly liked and a few I could do without. The one criticism I do have is

the amount of characters, there were just too many. So much so that it got to the point where I would skip sections dealing with one cast of characters to get to the characters I liked. I think the author could have been a little tighter in his writing if he had fleshed out a few characters. Instead I am left with a shallow feeling about most of the characters. The sex scenes in the book were not graphic but they were overwhelmingly homosexual which I understand given the writer's prior works. However I would have liked a more balanced approach. I appreciate dark humor and I was not disappointed. I eagerly await the sequel to this book.

Sort of original take on the whole zombie genre that's more thought out than the usual fare. Also the lead in, detailing the lives of the major characters prior to the, you know, zombie apocalypse, is always more welcome than the standard the-world-ended-here's-how-people-are-coping, with life before appearing in often cryptic flashbacks and dark reminiscences. I'm more a fan of the process of the world falling apart than the aftermath, so thumbs up. Could use an editor, as some dialogue is stilted and forced. Also, it would benefit from losing the occasional, if not frequent, lazy lefty references. Stephen Harper = horrible? But President Liz Warren drives a massive fascist-tactic coverup -- but it's really only to help the survivors? Why put grit in the salad of half your readers? Genre readers who, I would suggest, run a little more center-right than left. Inclusion of gay characters is great, and while I hate the word, the diversity of the characters is refreshingly honest and realistic. Despite the criticisms, I very much enjoyed the book, and look forward to more.

It is not a bad book. Unfortunately, this is evident only after about 30% of the book or even further into it. It is hard to get through the first part while the virus hasn't yet killed everyone off, so I understand the reviewer who dropped the book after an hour. I had to force myself to read ahead more than once. That said, the book is a typical post apocalyptic plot with very slight twists. The ending is quite predictable - you can see it though from about 70 percent of the book or earlier. One of the most irritating things (again in the first third of the book) is what felt as an insult to the reader's intelligence. The author showed how different people got ill through the contact with other people, and this is a good twist. The bad part was that each time one person met some other persons the author just had to say that they became infected loudly and clearly every single time. I would think that was self evident, but no. Very insulting to the readers mental abilities, to my mind. And of course the description of Russia is so flat, cartoonish and far-fetched that I didn't know should I laugh or cry with frustration. But the book gets better gradually. The best part for me was the description of interpersonal relations. How different people reacted to the crisis and how it brought

out not only good in them. How very different people survived, including mentally unstable people, and how they all dealt with each other. So if you think that you can push through the first section of the book, you should give it a try.

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