

Dr. Hugh Mann

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Before there were zombies there was the virus.....

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From Reader Review Dr. Hugh Mann for online ebook

John R. Dailey Jr. says

GOTTA LOVE THE GOVMENT, YES YOU DO....

Hello, this story really filled in a few spaces in the great story of Talbot. I wish other authors would do this. Good stuff. Thanks.

Crystal Marcela says

Interesting...

Even though it was a short book, it was very interesting. It left me wanting more. Reading this answered some questions the main book didn't.

Jessica Pratt says

Good short story providing more background to the Zombie Fallout series.

Katie Kenig says

Oh, for heaven's sake.

Alright, I know I said I was taking a break from this series because I was getting a bit burnt out on them, but since this was a prequel, I thought I'd give it a shot. I'm not particularly happy that I did.

This short novella, tucked between books three and four of the series, gives some history of the virus that causes the Zombie Apocalypse in the Fallout series. It follows Dr. Hugh Mann (yes, it's really that ridiculous), a physicist around the turn of the 20th century, who discovers a tiny race of humans that are engaged in a full-out war with dust mites.

I'm actually not kidding.

Without the humour that peppers the other books in this series, I found this novella falling flat for me. The history was so outrageous, so impossible to quell the stirrings of "Too far" in my brain, that I couldn't turn on the suspension of disbelief that makes zombie novels so much fun to read. I feel like the author was trying to take things too seriously (beyond the name which was too punny for me). The fact that he was, additionally, supposed to be a family ancestor of the main characters in the series, and that he had met Tommy just pushed it too far for me.

My brain snapped. I could almost hear it.

I listened to this on audiobook, and it's short - about three hours - and it occupied me while I was doing housework. If I'd been reading this instead of listening, I wouldn't have made it through. If I hadn't had other things to occupy my thoughts as well while listening, I wouldn't have made it through. What was the author thinking? Just... why?

Okay, usually I'm all about the in-between novellas in a series, but not here. Don't do it. Don't read it. If you are enjoying this series? Just keep reading the regular books. This is not worth three hours of your life. You can't get those hours back, man! Pet a cat or go for a walk or listen to some bad music instead. You'll thank me someday, I think.

Vix says

am a massive fan of Mark Tufo so maybe a little bias in my review.... but this little novella in the story line is a wonderful little rounding out of certain characters...
a great new twist in how Zombies are caused.....very clever really!
really felt for all the characters as was charmed to read about the lovely Tommy
always with humour... another great part of the magnificent ZF world

Shirley Shaffer says

The Virus has been unleashed.

This book explains the origins of the virus. It is troubling how close to truth it is or could be.

Annie says

This is a great back story...I was confused at first...until the pieces started falling together...Now I know how it all started and I like it!!! If you have read the ZFO books you need to read this too...and all the unanswered questions will become clear...or at least most of them...lol Great little story!!!

Jennifer says

I enjoyed having some history explained, BUT there were things in this that had me rolling my eyes.

Michael Flanagan says

This short story nestles itself between book 3 and 4 of the Zombie Fallout series and is a prequel to the series. As a reader I find that prequels can be fraught with risk and I often find myself asking questions like:

Is this just a grab for some cash?

If it is so important to the story the why not include it in the first book?

Will it add any value to the story and series?

Is this a result of lazy story development?

What I got in this prequel was a valued pack story that not only added to the series but stood alone as a separate story. Mark Tufo has nodded his cap to his readership by adding some great tongue in cheek references to the series. The book tells the tale of the discovery of the virus that will one day bring the world to its knees and adds a tantalizing link and teaser to what is to come in the series. I for one want to know what the hell is in that suitcase.

I always come away from Mr Tufo's books feeling greatly entertained and for some reason craving pop tarts. For those of you yet to sample what this author has to offer it's time you jump in with both feet and immerse yourself in his world.

R says

There's some time I'm not getting back

April Parrish says

Miniature humans?!? Dust mites battling these miniature humans, really? I was in disbelief through most of this novella. The last part of the story is pretty good though which is why it got 2 stars. Also what is in that briefcase and how long will we have to wait to find out.

AudioBookReviewer says

Please find my review here: <http://audiobookreviewer.com/Audioboo...>

Rusty Duncan says

wtf?

Look, I have read a lot of zombie novels. A LOT of zombie novels, not all of which have (surprise) been Pulitzer material. Many were in dire need of an editor; some begged for a spell checker (c'mon folks it's 2014 for goodness sakes - press F7 at least once), while others took themselves way too seriously (Rambo Conquers the Zombies).

What I love about these books so far is the generous infusion of sarcasm and humor that MT uses to bring his protagonist to life. I really did enjoy books 1-3.

This is even though I'm not especially a fan of zombies with supernatural powers or sinister purposes. But I can tolerate this, for the 'greater good' of the novel/series - up to a point. See Monster Island series by David Wellington.

Unfortunately, this prequel goes up to that point and skids out past the cliff's edge, like Wiley Coyote in a Roadrunner cartoon (cue the handheld sign - BYE - and the cloud of dust).

So, after tolerating the sketch behavior of the zombies and other supernatural heavies in the first three books of this series, I now discover in this book that the entire premise of Zombie Fallout (its "raison d'mortre", if you will) is SO STUPID that I can't go on.

I don't give up easily on books. It's part of my stubborn nature to soldier through many a lost literary cause, even if the forecast is for extensive crap starting at page five.

Part of being a zombie hugger is the ability to 'drink the Kool-Aid', to join in the mantra "I do believe in fairies - er, zombies - I do, I do, I do". But I do not believe in fairies, and I do NOT believe in these zombies, Sam I Am. Not on a boat, not with a goat, and definitely not for another three books.

Farewell Zombie Fallout - the fallout is permanent!

CJ says

Mark makes you want to go with Mike. Even through you know it's gonna go wrong. This was a cool look back at how it started.

Unapologetic_Bookaholic says

I was not disappointed with this book. It did not have the tone as the other books in the series had, but it was nice to get more background on the series as a whole. My opinion is if you're fan of the series and have read the whole series a couple times and want a little extra. Read this. I wouldn't say you're missing anything if you skip it.
