



Mountain Man: Prequel

Keith C. Blackmore

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After a long day of prepping a house for painting, all Gus Berry wanted was the night off, to spend some time with his girlfriend, and relax before having to return to work the next morning.

But that isn't going to happen.

Because Gus's co-worker Benny has found a one-night job at the local Mollymart East, a job that has to be done by morning. If Gus and his paint crew can complete the work by then, it could mean huge business with a respected, established grocery store chain.

But as Gus and his fellow painters soon discover, the much-anticipated zombie apocalypse doesn't start with a bang. It starts on a Monday.

And barricading themselves inside a megastore isn't the end.

It's just the beginning.

A prequel novel to the "Mountain Man" survival horror zombie series. Contains violence and coarse language.

Mountain Man: Prequel Details

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Author : Keith C. Blackmore

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From Reader Review Mountain Man: Prequel for online ebook

Mathew Kaufman says

The book was good. It gave a solid back story to Gus and the start of the apocalypse. I liked it but it wasn't a must read. I love the series. This is the weakest book.

Toni Semmens says

A very excellent zombie story! If you like the genre then this is work a listen :D Was really hard to put down. I started listening on a 10k run and even found myself with my ear buds in at work when no one was looking. Now for the rest of the series . . . :D

William M. says

4 AND 1/2 STARS

I'm glad I jumped onto Keith C. Blackmore's series late, because I had the pleasure of reading this prequel (written after the main series, I believe) before diving into what is one of the best zombie sagas available. Not only are his characters realistic and their decisions those of people actually trying to survive instead of teams of special ops warriors just blasting away and never in any real danger, but his dialogue, for me, is what really stands out. The dialogue and vivid descriptions are simply outstanding and show that author Blackmore can easily hold his own against any horror or zombie author out there. My only complaint that knocked this book down half a star were characters that recognize zombies that they used to know. With thousands of zombies roaming around, I found it hard to believe they would not only run into them but actually recognize who they were after mostly being dismembered. That aside, I am definitely in this series for the entire run. It really is one of the best in the zombie sub-genre. Huge recommendation.

Micah Shapiro says

Still my favorite zombie series. Makes me want a cozy cabin for myself amongst a zombie apocalypse

John says

Keith C. Blackmore is definitely an underappreciated writer. The guy is super talented. I can only assume its the genre he writes in that doesn't give him the recognition he deserves. This is another really good book in the mountain man series. It was really nice to see how it all began.

Bill Christoforou says

Great prequel!

As a fan of the original series I really enjoyed getting to see how it all started for Gus. It was probably a little too brief for my liking but I enjoyed it regardless!

The beginning of any zombie apocalypse is always open to a huge amount of scrutiny and I think that's why most authors avoid it so I applaud Keith for taking on the challenge.

Gus is one of my favourite characters. I highly recommend this book and this series for lovers of the genre. If you've ever wondered what life could possibly be like after the end of civilisation as we know it, the Mountain Man series is fantastic as it takes you into the inner most thoughts of the main characters so you not only get to read about what they go through but also how they internalise and try to rationalise their situation.

Doghouse Gav says

Good old gus

I've missed gus so much. Was great to get him backstory and find out how he ended up an alcoholic zombie arse kicker. Top read.

Tracy says

I posted my review for Mountain Man: Prequel (Mountain Man #0.4) on October 4, 2018 on audible's site, and wish I had submitted it here at the same time, since I wrote this on the heels of its release.

Hope you guys find it helpful. . .

"Gus. . . Redefining the 'Everyman'!"

I thought I got to know what shaped Gus after finishing his prequel short story titled: "The Hospital." The "Mountain Man Prequel" provides information never mentioned previously about his past. What a treat to learn about his pre-apocalyptic job, friends, and girlfriend. Each had a profound impact on his identity, and how he looked at the world during that time. This information also answers a lot of questions about why he (most likely) coped and developed as he did during the rest of the series.

Gus's self-deprecation is just so endearing, and love his what you see is what you get mentality. . . epitomizing the reluctant hero, who always mans-up when the chips are down. Undoubtedly, I would want him in my corner during an apocalypse!

The dry humor which comes out of Gus's mouth is infectious. . . the type of guy that would be fun to hangout with, and loyal to a fault. . . Proving this in his selfless actions, and lengths he went to in searching for his girlfriend, Tammy. Nuff said.

Much thanks to both Mr. Blackmore and Mr. Bray, for providing yet another (much appreciated) opportunity to venture back into one of my favorite places to visit. . . Gus's world!!

Here's to hoping we have not heard the last from him. [*v*]???

Lorre says

It was so good to see Gus again! Absolutely loved this story of the first days of the zombie apocalypse in Gus' world and how he became The Mountain Man.

This prequel re-affirmed why the Mountain Man series is in my top 3 of favorite zombie series.

Megan says

I can appreciate Blackmore wanting to go back and give us a little more insight into Gus and his origins, how the plague emerged, etc, but coming out this long after the rest of the series has ended was unnecessary. If you are interested in the Mountain Man, this book is not something you have to read to understand the characters. The first book does a good enough job on character and situational development. However, I still really enjoyed going back to the Mountain Man series for one last story. I did find some of the conversations with Tobe to be rather frustrating and annoying - almost skipping over them entirely. The "What do we do if" scenarios that no one 1. wants to think about and 2. wants to be responsible solely for figuring out. Also, I found it pretty implausible that Gus would run into everyone who had been turned at some point in this book. But that is the joy of this genre is I guess anything is possible.

Aaron says

Nice little story giving us a glimpse at the initial outbreak and how Gus became the 'Mountain Man'. It was just as great as the rest of the series but its hurt by the short length of the novel. If anything it just left me wanting more in the same world, maybe a side story with one of the new characters. Gus was still as 'everyman' as he was and his reactions and handling of the situation stay true to his character from the later books. This series remains one of my top zombie fictions.

Dave says

Another winner! I enjoyed reading about Gus prior to and during the beginning of the zombie apocalypse.

Michael says

I love the original Mountain Man series, so I wanted to read this book ASAP. However, I think most prequels - especially origin stories - suck, so I also wanted to *not* read this book. It was a toss-up for a bit, but I finally started in on this prequel. And for the first 5 chapters, I thought I had made a serious mistake. Sooooo much of the start of this book is about painting. I am *not* making this up. Gus, our beloved cranky alcoholic zombie apocalypse survivor, works for a painting company pre-apocalypse, and the first

few chapters are dedicated to the painting company - the kinds of jobs they take, how much money they can make for individual jobs, what it takes to take a day off from work. It was... baffling is probably the best word. There were hints that something big was going on - multiple secondary characters having a really bad case of the flu - but otherwise it was about painting.

Fortunately, once the story kicks in, it *really* kicks in. Everything starts with a single zombie breaking into the grocery store that Gus and his friends are painting, which turns into a grocery store stand-off - much like Stephen King's "The Mist" - which turns into the first wave of the zombie apocalypse. And just like that, the book forgets all about painting and focuses in on our story and our anti-hero, describing how Gus (who is currently a friendly guy who doesn't drink) goes from house painter to Mountain Man.

Chop off a couple of chapters from the beginning, and this is one entertaining book!

Simon says

Another Chance To Walk With The Mountain Man!

When I reached the end of the Mountain Man series it was a bittersweet moment. I'd reached the end of the story of one of the most real-feeling characters of this rather crowded genre. I'd walked with the Mountain Man and his companions through many adventures and like most I felt like I had a friend in Gus. For the most part he was just an ordinary guy doing his kind of best to cope with his world being torn apart and infested with zombies with all the horror that brings.

The slightly odd thing about the original series was that by the time we start with Gus the zombie apocalypse has done its worst and we meet a character who is already through the shock phase and is well into the longer term mental and physical effects of being one of the few survivors.

This new book gives us a chance to walk with Gus again. A slightly younger and less jaundiced Gus but still very much Gus! We get a healthy helping of great Gusisms and lots of Blackmore's trademark zombie horror and pointed dialogue. Gus treats us frequently to his own brand of the coarse male crudeness that we all love him for and naturally with the voice of RC Bray (who else?) bringing it to us all feels right in Gus's dystopian world.

It's a chance to walk with the Mountain Man once more and fill in some of the blanks from the original series. Thanks Mr Blackmore!

Frank Pettinato says

Great zombie series, Gus is a great "every man" character.

A great read.

Fun and great pacing. I read a lot of zombie fiction and this series and the main character Gus are one of my favorites.

Check out the whole series!

