



Happy Doomsday

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The end of the world is the weirdest time to come of age.

Welcome to the end of the world. One minute, people are going about their lives, and the next—*not*. In the wake of the inexplicable purge, only a handful of young misfits remains.

When it all went down, “Wizard of Odd” Dev Brinkman was seeking shelter from the taunts of his classmates. Goth girl Lucy Abernathy had lost her best friend and had no clue where to turn. And Twinkie-loving quarterback “Marcus” Haddad was learning why you never discuss politics and religion in polite company—or online.

As if life when you’re sixteen isn’t confusing enough, throw in the challenges of postapocalyptic subsistence, a case of survivor’s guilt turned up to seven billion, and the small task of rebuilding humankind...

No one said doomsday would be a breeze. But for Dev, Lucy, and Marcus, the greatest hope—and greatest threat—will come when they find each other.

Happy Doomsday Details

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From Reader Review Happy Doomsday for online ebook

Sameer says

Fairly heavy handed, tried too hard to be topical / reflect the present. Entertaining (pulp fiction) read, but practically fetishizes gore

Angela says

Not your typical post-apocalyptic YA. I really enjoyed that the author dealt with issues that generally get overlooked in the mainstream "zombie-type" stories. What happens to all of the pets? The animals in zoos and pet stores? Farm animals? What about the smell of dead people?

I felt like the author wasn't afraid to get dirty, and I really appreciated that. The characters were well-defined, the world building was thoughtful, and the premise was unique within this genre. Very entertaining.

Glen Stanford says

Ok, but two goofs

I don't mind the unlikely premise; in fact it was pretty creative. But there were two ridiculously low possibility (and lazy) plot items along the way that just ticked me off.

If you like creative verbing and Trump dumping you might give it another star.

Melki says

From the cutesy cover of this one, I was expecting more laughs, or at least a couple of chuckles, but other than the irony of the only survivors of a mysterious apocalypse being a few teens with suicidal tendencies, there's nothing funny about the book.

Sosnowski provides plenty of details about the corpse-filled landscape, and the ensuing plagues of vermin, but unfortunately, he tends to get bogged down in minutiae. Two characters - Lucy and Marcus - never really come to life. They travel around, looking for other survivors, and generally getting on one another's nerves. Dev, on the other hand, a loner suffering from Asperger's syndrome, stays put in his family's home, building a well-stocked fortress, and caring for the neighbors' abandoned pets.

All three teens don't meet until almost 80% of the way through the book, though we already had a sneak preview of that at the beginning of the book (WHY?), so we all knew it was coming. Bad things happen to pretty much everyone, especially the aforementioned pets. This really only deserves two stars, but I tacked on an extra as I found Dev to be a fascinating character.

NOT recommended to anyone, particularly animal lovers.

Lisa Rodgers says

Stunningly. Awful.

I can't complain too much, as I got to read this for free via Amazon's Prime Reads program.

Nevertheless, this is one awful book. I was already losing interest by 5%, wanted to quit reading at 10%.

I kept trudging through it because I'm a fan of the P-A genre, and anything that made it out via Prime Reads had to have some redeeming value, right?

Wrong. I made it to 16%, and had to stop if only to protect the few brain cells I'm still in possession of.

Just truly, totally awful. Don't waste time reading this...almost surely, any other book from Kindle would be a better investment of your time, brain cells and good taste. Pick one at random, it will be better.

To be blunt, this is the worst attempt at literature I've ever read. Period. Accordingly, this is the worst Amazon review I've ever posted about ANYTHING. It got 1 Star only because I couldn't give it a lower rating. Something about a negative 2 would be generous.

You have been warned.

Travis says

I have to say, this book was very funny. It's not like it was meant to be funny (well, maybe it was, what with all the references to various pop culture items), but I found myself laughing out loud many many times when reading this book. So, yes, as serious as the topic seems to be (I mean, really, the end of the world is about as severe a topic as you can get, but darnit, this one's just too funny.

Very enjoyable, regardless of the topic. Great read.

Kristin says

DNF

A book that had the potential to be a delightful story, particularly with one of the main (and most interesting) characters being on the spectrum, but unfortunately the whole thing was ruined by political garbage.

I don't care if you're left or right, if I wanted to hear about politics I'd watch the news. I read books to get away from all this political drama, not invite more of it into my life.

S says

Definitely worth a read

I have always been a fan of the post apocalyptic genre, and this qualifies as a solid addition. The characters and the plot line differ ever so slightly from the traditional arc, making for an enjoyable read.

Mindy says

Finally, a post-apocalyptic tale that does not follow a worn out story line and has a unique and diverse cast!

This is a very character driven story, IMO. It is told from the points of view of three high school students who survive the sudden and mysterious end of the world as we know it. The main character is Dev, who has Asperger's. As the parent of kids with autism spectrum disorders, I really appreciated an autistic main character. Also, the way the author took us into Dev's world, inside his head, and let us experience things from his POV was refreshing. I actually learned some things I didn't know, and went to read more about them after reading this book. Also, it's nice to see a character with autism NOT being portrayed as creepy, weird, violent or dangerous.

Secondary characters Lucy and Marcus, each troubled in their own ways, had both found themselves in difficult situations and were seeking extreme solutions, when the sudden end of the world derails their plans. There is a lot of backstory on all three characters, so the story is a slow burn, but I found it all so well written that it sucked me right in and I wasn't bored a single minute.

Fair warning, if irreverence regarding political and religious issues or reading about the plights of once domesticated animals who suddenly have no one to care for them will be upsetting to you, then this may not be the book for you. It's important to keep in mind when reading this that it is being told through the eyes of teenagers who have been brought up in a confusing world during turbulent political times, so they look upon things from varied perspectives.

All in all this was a fantastic read and I would definitely recommend it.

Andrea says

So....this book just wasn't what I expected. From the blurb, I expected it to be a comedy of sorts. A dark comedy - sure, but a comedy. I expected it to be way more YA then it was. I wouldn't classify this one as YA at all.

Instead this was a dark, disturbing, detailed, and probably realistic book about an end of the world-type apocalypse. I'm going to fully own this about myself and say I just shouldn't have read this book. These kinds of books scare me. They give me nightmares. And I don't like them. And so knowing that, this review maybe isn't fair. But even so, I've read a fair amount of these books and this was had the potential to be quite interesting. Except. Except there was too much about animals. Pets. And what happened to them. And I

just couldn't stomach it. I mean...what would happen to my beloved cats if the world ended and I never came home? So - realistic probably - but too, too, too much for me. I almost feel like there needs to be some kind of warning about the chapters and chapters of animals and the apocalypse. I absolutely wouldn't have even tried to read this book if I had know.

That said, the writing in this book was really fantastic. It was witty and clever and there were moments that I could really just revel in a phrase and think - wow! that was really, really well writing. So I WOULD read something else by this author. This one though, I can't recommend.

Laura says

I enjoyed the character development but there were too many graphic descriptions of dead bodies and animal abuse. The plot intrigued me but ended up stagnant without answering any questions. Other reviewers weren't happy with the political mentions, but there really were only a few, didn't bother me at all. Seems people can't handle reading opinions that don't match up with their own.

Georgia Moreau says

Not what I hoped

I couldn't enjoy this book as much as I'd hoped from the blurb. The character Dev was the bright spot for me, and his storyline pushed me to actually finish the book instead of abandoning it, as I was tempted to do. I could really have done without the continual snide remarks by the author about Republicans, pro-life adherents (the phrase "clump of cells" was used multiple times), belief in God, etc. Oh! And the cause of Doomsday was never explained; perhaps a certain orange-faced person in power hit the wrong button instead of his Tweet (those are the types of non-subtle phrases used by the author). If those things don't bother you, adjust my rating up a star. It's just not how I like my leisure reading.

Emilie Vangilder says

Not a YA book, but about three teens in post apocalyptic America. Funny and grim, central character on Asperger spectrum. No explanation for EOC, but well told story for first 3/4 though it dragged in a few places, but seemed rushed after that. The POV from Dev was very well imagined, but somewhat less so from the other two teens. Probably a realistic telling of how suicidal teens would react in these circumstances. One of the better reads from kindle first. (August selection)

Bob says

An ice cream truck, really?

Robin Martin says

I received this book early from Amazon Firsts and was expecting a lighter version of The Stand, but for teens. I got way more than I expected. It was like The Stand in many ways, but I liked the differences. Some reviewers were put off by the level of detail that the author used to describe what the world would be like if EVERYONE but a few died off instantaneously, but I liked it. I felt that it was real, gross, yes, but very realistic.

The author's depiction, in my experience, of a teen with Asperger's Syndrome, was so on point that I felt like I was reading about my own child. There has to be a close relationship there. Dev was clearly my favorite character in this book.

I liked that the author tried to show how a vulnerable teen could be enticed by the Muslim extremes to go against his adopted country and become a terrorist. The conflict that Mo (Marcus) experienced at such a pivotal time in life was interesting to read about. It saddens me that people would use that vulnerability to further political conflict.

Lucy was the least interesting to me, but I still enjoyed her part of the story. I thought it was interesting that even as a teen it would become important for her to start repopulating the world. I would be totally intimidated by getting pregnant AND dealing with the end of the world as you know it.

My only issue with the story was with the 'Suicide theory.' I'm not sure about the science on that. But, for this story, I'll roll with it.

I really enjoyed this book and definitely recommend it to my book buddies!
