



Season of the Dead

Lucia Adams , Paul Freeman , Gerald D. Johnston , Sharon Van Orman

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“It is said that unto everything there is a season...these are the stories of a group of survivors during the season of the dead.”

Four individuals fight to survive as the zombie apocalypse crashes over the world in a wave of terror and destruction. Color, creed, and social standing mean nothing as the virus infects millions across the planet.

Sharon: a zoologist from Nebraska, USA, has worked with the virus, and has seen the effects on the human mind. She knows more about the virus than nearly anybody alive, and far more than she wants to.

Gerry: from Ontario, Canada, he gets his first taste of the virus from inside a prison cell. Locked up after an anti-government riot, his prison guard transforms before his eyes into a flesh craving zombie.

Lucia: a chemist from Pittsburgh, USA, flees from a furry convention dressed as a giant squirrel, and escapes from the city in a Fed-Ex van. She's a girl who knows when to run and when to fight.

Paul: thinks he can sit out the apocalypse in his apartment block in Dublin, Ireland, until the virus comes to visit, bursting his bubble and leaving him with no choice but to face reality or perish.

All four begin perilous journeys in mind and body as they face daily trials to survive: Four threads, four different parts of the world, one apocalypse!

Season of the Dead Details

Date : Published July 15th 2013 by Spore Press LLC

ISBN :

Author : Lucia Adams , Paul Freeman , Gerald D. Johnston , Sharon Van Orman

Format : Kindle Edition 318 pages

Genre : Horror, Zombies, Science Fiction, Apocalyptic

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From Reader Review Season of the Dead for online ebook

Ivan Amberlake says

I read and loved books by Paul Freeman and Sharon van Orman (and I also looked forward to reading chapters by Lucia Adams and Gerald D. Johnston) so this book was on my to-definitely-read list. After finishing Season of the Dead, I must say I immensely enjoyed this book. It was a great read! Sharon, Gerry, Lucia and Paul—four individuals who don't know each other—are trying to survive a zombie apocalypse as the Hauksson virus sends the world crashing down.

The authors do a great job describing what it means to end up among hordes of flesh-eating zombies. The action is amazing. The descriptions are vivid and well-done. Each chapter is written in the first POV and it lets the reader get to know each character so well, which I really appreciated.

I'm not sure, but it seems there has to be a sequel, and I'll definitely be watching out for it. If you are a zombie fan, don't miss Season of the Dead.

Dave says

I give it a solid 4.6 stars. A good storyline although I didn't like the ending. Onto another book. I'm trying to be like ereaderuser (Suzy) and read 5 books a day!

Shana Festa says

Four stories of the outbreak in different parts of the world, each told by individual first person narration, indicated by name in chapter subtitles. In Omaha, Nebraska, Sharon is startled awake when an explosion sounds. Gerry in Ontario, Canada recalls the events during the first two weeks as the severity of the new 'plague' is downplayed until it's too late. In Pittsburgh, PA, Lucia learned the horrible fate of her friends when she arrives at their home in hopes of tagging along on their boat. And Paul, in Dublin, Ireland fortifies his apartment building with neighbors to wait out the worst of things, but must leave safety in search of medications for a child.

Each narrator supplies readers with their different version of the infection's origins they have heard on the media. From Global warning to rabies, no one knows for sure how it all began. This narration approach is largely successful, causing confusion only towards the end of the book, when the narrators come together. And it's not lost on me that the four contributing authors have lent their names to each narrator. I was excited to see how four collaborators on one novel would pan out, and am happy to say they did a wonderful job and the end result is excellent. In a Ginger Nuts of Horror interview with contributing author Paul Freeman, Paul states:

"Season Of The Dead is such an unusual project, a novel written by four separate authors all writing about the same apocalypse from their own part of the world, four separate threads that ultimately merge."

There are a few minuscule editing issues; a word misspelled here and there or the space after a period

missing, but nothing major to pull a reader out of the story. Unless you're reading with the intent on finding errors, you probably won't even notice them.

I like that it's a complete story; no important questions are left unanswered. However, at times it feels a bit long and each time I checked I was amazed to see a substantial amount left. Luckily, the story kept a good momentum and those brief moments were easily forgotten after a few pages.

The best part of 'Season of the Dead' is the conclusion. And no, I don't mean that as in thank goodness it's over. Because, frankly, when it hit that point I wanted another 300 pages. There is an epic moment at the end that I never saw coming. Once the first clue was given, I thought 'oh, shit, that's really about to happen'. Then I kept reading and decided 'okay, maybe it won't'. And then it did! It caused goosebumps to spring up all over and I gasped out loud. Fantastic job building suspense!

Kellie Ann says

What a wonderful post zombie apocalyptic book. It was written as a collaboration between four different authors and yet it still flows wonderfully. Even though this book flows so well you can still tell at times that there was a collaborative effort within the writing styles. Some parts (depending on the character) was raw and extremely dark, while some were a little lighter, there were also times of extreme detail and violence and they were times when detail was a little short, leaving the reader to comprehend what they might find from that particular part of the book. However despite the difference in the writing styles and the way the characters were presented and "born" within the story everything meshed into perfection. One thing that makes "Season of the Dead" a little different, is the story actually tracks back to where the whole virus started and how it spread and describes it in detail, which was a genius plot idea by the authors, do to the fact that most zombie books leave that to the readers imagination.

Let me just say, I have read a lot of zombie books throughout the zombie craze that has taken over the world and "Season of the Dead" rates up there with the best of them. The twist and turns that were thrown at the reader throughout the book are truly mind blowing, making it a wonderful page-turner to be shared.

Sammy Smith says

Season of the Dead

I received a copy of this book in exchange for an honest review. I know two of the authors (Paul Freeman and Sharon Orman), and so I opened the book with high hopes – both Paul and Sharon write very well and are published by small presses. I wasn't disappointed: 4 authors, 4 different points of view and 4 great stories.

Zombie stories are hot right now, and to be honest, they're not only difficult to get right, they're difficult to make original. There are only so many viruses and wake-up-in-a-hospital scenes an author can do before the reader feels like stabbing themselves in the eyes.

The style, pace and characterisation are startlingly different, and to start with I worried that they wouldn't 'gel' together – but I'm happy to say I was wrong. The stories weave together towards the end, and the final

few chapters show just how skilled the writers are.

The characters made me smile, and I strongly suspect there's a HUGE amount of each of the authors own personalities poured into them. When the characters met, I enjoyed the exchanges between them and the way the banter rolled easily. Though, if it were me, I'd be a lot more suspicious meeting survivors. The Walking Dead taught me that. Don't trust anyone.

Things I learnt from SOTD:

A squirrel costume will save your life.

Don't mess with the Irish (ok, I knew this already, but SOTD cemented this!)

It's always the government's fault. Everything.

Gerry can write... like, really write.

Kitty is a symbol of hope.

Teresa Tidwell says

Great zombie story

This was really a great zombie story! The characters are all very believable, and I found myself pulling for their survival. Hope there is a sequel in the works!

Joe says

Really well written. A genre that's getting pretty watered down but the authors managed to come up with some new ideas. The main characters are awesome, and they each come across some even more awesome characters. This book begs to be a graphic novel or a movie. World War Z is pretty much the Holy Grail of zombie books, but I would put Season of the Dead in the same company. Great book!

John Brownstone says

From the first page I was hooked, the story drew me in and I didn't want to put it down.

There have been many stories written about the zombie apocalypse some good, some not so good, this one was gripping.

The story was told from the viewpoint of each of the main characters as they witnessed the pandemic that turned the dead into flesh eating monsters. Each character had their own story of survival to tell and with it I was drawn into their emotions of terror, hope, and quest for survival.

The characters were well written; each ones personality shining through. As I read through their tale I felt as if I was experiencing their horror, their fight for survival became mine; their hope for humanity became

mine. I found myself turning each page rooting for them, wanting them to win.

As their stories intertwined the tale kept it's momentum never missing a beat. Each author blends his or her part of the story seamlessly together binding each character.

If you are a fan of zombie stories this is a must read, the story is full of action, gore, suspension, and even some subterfuge.

Bex 'n' Books says

Reviewer: Susan

Disclosure: This ebook was provided by the author in exchange for an HONEST and not necessarily positive review.

I am a massive zombie fan and just the mere mention that a film or book has zombies has me drooling like a rabid undead person myself. But I have to say, Season of the Dead left me slightly bewildered. The book spent too long explaining about the virus and getting technical before the story really kicked in and grabbed your attention.

The storyline took on the same premise of every zombie novel. People separated from the ones they love, either by circumstance or death, and then they meet up with random strangers and decide to live together in the hopes of survival. The way in which it was unique was that it included people not just from America but a character from Ireland, giving us a broader view of the virus' reach.

That being said the constant jump from one person's view to another started to grate on me after a while. One of the characters, Sharon, was mentioned at the start of the book and then it seemed like ages before we saw her again, so much so that I had to go back and read the first few pages again to refresh myself. Also, the plane from Dublin that oh so conveniently flew over the same area as the other survivors in the blink of an eye another sore point with me.

I had some laughs throughout the book though. A zombie fighting woman in a squirrel suit driving a UPS truck. An axe wielding Irishman getting attacked in an off licence by a zombie fireman and zombie leprechaun- HILARIOUS! I could just picture one of those tours with a leprechaun relaying stories about Dublin before he got bit. Next time I'm in Dublin, I will be very weary of costume wearing leprechauns.

The introduction of the kids was a stroke of genius proving that if we were faced with the zombie apocalypse then our video game youth of today could be the ones to save us all! It really made me smile to see them interact with Gerry and how they manned up and tried to rescue their friends.

It ended just a little too abrupt for me if I'm being honest, but also made me a little eager to know if there is another in the series. If you love some laughs with your zombie apocalypse and can get past the initial hurdle, then Season of the Dead will be a quick and enjoyable read. I'll certainly be checking out the next book- that's if the author hasn't been eaten by now!

Vivien G says

A wild ride, to say the least. This book follows the perspectives of four individuals who go through hell and back to survive a new, lawless world where the dead walk the earth. Eventually they find each other and all of them, despite their personal losses and overwhelming pain, find a family in each other.

The first half of the book was a little difficult to follow due to the ever-changing point-of-view for each of the characters. I found myself constantly asking, "Okay... who's Sharon again? Ah, the scientist. Lucia is... the furry?" But it eventually got better as the authors fleshed out the characters and their personalities. Lucia and Gerry were the most interesting of the four, so kudos to their respective writers.

All in all, it was a dark, gritty and gory read that kept me on the edge of my seat every time I turned a page. 4 stars out of 5.

Papi Z. says

Wow. This might be my shortest review ever. I read this in one sitting. I could not put it down. Each character was deep, developed and spot on. Their reactions to differing situations were on point. The Authors blended seamlessly while maintaining their individual voices.

I was easily able to immerse myself within the world, slip on each characters shoes and flee in terror along with each one. The story line was well thought out, locations, settings, just enough dialogue and a lot of action. A lot. You can not possibly be bored reading this book.

In case you don't know what this book is about, it is about Zombies. And actually, I might need to stop right here, otherwise I'll start giving things away. Technically sound, no typos that I found, spelling errors or grammar issues.

Papi Z Book-O-Meter says 5 out of 5 stars. I sure as heck hope that there will be a second book. Buy it, love it, and share it widely my friends. This book is dang fantastic. Buy it and read it today, on Friday the 13th, immerse yourself among the Zombies, and then if you can... have sweet dreams!

Kelly says

Zombies! I must admit I'd been craving a good zombie tale and this book hit the spot. The four stories interweave nicely and kept me itching to see when and how this unlikely group would meet up.

I'm not ashamed to admit that I really, really hope there's a book 2 coming so these survivors can hook up and start to work on repopulating the world. You know, down the line. What? Post-apocalyptic romance is totally a thing. In my head, at least.

But let's not get ahead of ourselves. This book? Very fun. Lots of biting and fighting. Several instances of our characters surviving by the skin of their teeth. A few bad guys of the non-zombie variety. You know,

everything you need to make your zombie apocalypse a hoot!

While I admittedly want some love, zombie apocalypse style, down the road, I also hope we get to see the survivors get out of the mess they're in at the end of this book. And it is a mess. Just as we're beginning to get some answers, things turn sticky -- zombies start appearing and BAD THINGS HAPPEN.

It gives me the shivers.

I'm trying to say that this book totally worked for me. From beginning to end, it was a blast. And I hope there's more planned because I'd totally be down with reading it.

-Kelly @ Reading the Paranormal

Elizabeth says

It took me a while to get into this, possibly because the opening chapters were quite short. Keep going, or you'll be missing out.

This was a fun ride - lots of zombie slaying action and one very unique zombie-proof costume. The writers did a good job of keeping their styles similar (which keeps it from being confusing) although I would have liked to see more of a "voice" for each character. I sometimes found it difficult to sort out who was who - I think part of the problem was that I genuinely LIKED each of them, so I didn't have them sorted into "the annoying one" etc - they were all sort of "the cool one".

Recommended.

Rhonda says

I bought this on my Kindle for around five dollars, and believe me I'm a cheapskate, so this is a lot of money for me to spend. The biggest problem with the book are the horrible errors--someone was asleep while editing. If I buy a book for 99 cents and there are errors, then I feel I still got my money's worth if the book is good, but not on a book that cost this much.... Sharon took a mustang, but then she put the supplies in the truck, and then magically she was in the mustang again, finally I realized that she put the supplies in the freaking trunk not truck.... Except for the glaring errors, I was very interested in how everyone came together. I feel some parts were rushed through at the end, but overall a good zombie book.

Tara Wood says

I was initially interested in this novel because I was familiar with two of the authors. Sharon Van Orman and Paul Freeman were both known to me, and I had enjoyed both Lykaia and Tribesman, respectively. The premise however, not so much. I have to admit I haven't cottoned to the whole "zombie" craze, but I decided

to give this one a shot. One of the best ideas I've had in a while.

This novel is an introspection on humanity at its bleakest, not the campy undead romp that I was expecting. I found this to be a legitimate piece of literary fiction, not just another drop in the bucket zombie book that seems to be popular as of late.

While each character experience has its own feel, voice, and dynamic, there is no mistaking the threads that tie them all together. By the end, I was more than pleased with the way the authors managed to keep a congruency between them. There was a camaraderie between these separate experiences that I found to be thoughtful, heartbreaking, and yet hopeful at the same time.

Don't think too hard about it, don't say "I don't do zombies" and pass this book by. If you're looking for a true, sit down and get engrossed read, then add this one to your list today.
