



Jailbait Zombie

Mario Acevedo

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“[Acevedo] manages to update vampire lore in clever and imaginative ways.”

—*El Paso Times*

If you haven't yet encountered Gulf War veteran-turned-vampire private eye Felix Gomez, then now is the time! *Jailbait Zombie*—the fourth in author Mario Acevedo's outrageously original dark fantasy p.i. series—pits the undead against the living dead, as vampires meet zombies for a no-holds-barred beatdown. As dark, sexy, funny, and endearingly strange as Acevedo's previous vampiric excursions—*Nymphos of Rocky Flats*, *X-Rated Bloodsuckers*, and *Undead Kama Sutra*—*Jailhouse Zombie* is more of the top-shelf bloody madness that inspired Tim “*Nuclear Jellyfish*” Dorsey to comment that Mario Acevedo “is a very disturbed man—and I mean that in the absolute finest sense of the term.”

Jailbait Zombie Details

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Author : Mario Acevedo

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From Reader Review Jailbait Zombie for online ebook

Robert says

Even though the title implies zombie I placed this on my vampire shelf because this series is about Felix Gomez a vampire enforcer. Felix does go up against zombies, the other variety of the undead, in this episode. It seems zombies are real sloppy and may expose the supernatural world if not stopped so the Areneum, or vampire council, sends in Felix. This is a good series of books for those that like the Harry Dresden series by Jim Butcher as there are some similarities. I liked the book and the ending leads one to believe that the series will be continued.

Bandit says

Mario Acevedo seems to be an one on one off writer. With Felix Gomez series, #1 was decent, #2 was blah, #3 was entertaining and this book #4 was blah yet again. I'm not as a rule a fan of vampires or detective series (unless it's exceptional and this is far from it) or as with this series vampire detectives, so this was just something I read from time to time when I don't want to have to make a decision or think for a few hours. As with previous, this was a very quick read, but without Acevedo's humor, which for some reason comes and goes and with this book only makes appearance in one scene, the series just doesn't have much to offer.

Peggy says

I found this book to be better than the 2nd and the 3rd. Whew. Marathon read of all 4 books....I have a 5th on the way and I think I'll be taking a break from this series for a bit.

Mr. Matt says

I was worried that I wouldn't be able to make it through these Felix Gomez books and then it happened. I sat there and realized I was headed towards the undead ultimate brawl - vampires versus zombies! Epic. Despite my growing fatigue with the snarky humor and mildly stale story lines I was hooked.

The vampire hierarchy orders Felix to investigate a zombie disturbance in rural Colorado. Something is causing zombies to pop up left and right in a small Colorado town. Gomez needs to dig up the root cause and end the outbreak before human civilization becomes aware of the supernatural community. His quest leads him to an insane mad genius doctor, a manipulative telepath with a terminal disease, a country kingpin, and more.

All of that is fun, but what really gets exciting are the intense zombie-vampire battles. Sure, one zombie on its own is no problem. You can out run it, you can out think it, heck, you can probably out fight it. One zombie on its own is no problem - especially for a vampire. Vampires are super strong, super fast, and can grow killing talons - all while soaking up insane amounts of damage. But how will a vampire fare against a horde of zombies?

Three and a half stars out of five, but rounded down to three. On the plus side you have zombie versus vampire action, but on the down side I'm just getting tired of these books.

Katy-Del says

I saw a review for a Felix novel a while back and put it on my to read list. I ran across this one in the used book store, so this is my introduction to the series.

I thought it was a decent PI novel. A zombie is found in Boulder, and Felix has very little information to go on when he is sent out to find where it came from. It kind of resembles a needle in a haystack search where all he has to focus on are the people who have disappeared.

Felix also has to deal with a psychic teen who wants to be made undead because she has a very nasty terminal illness.

The Zombies are gross, and disturbing. Zombies that drive with snacky brains in tupperware? Ewww...

I'll have to go back and read some of the novels that just deal with vampires and aliens.

Allen Garvin says

Eh, ok modern vampires-in-real-world novel. This is my third Acevedo novel--all picked up at Half-Price Books. No way I'd pay cover price for these. Felix Gomez is a reasonably well-drawn character. He's got all the appropriate snark. The plots are over the top, of course--evidence from the titles. The sexual content is not nearly as great as is implied by the titles. Fine by me. I would have just flipped past those pages, probably.

The zombies of this novel are almost genuinely scary, in fact, in a couple scenes. Gomez's detective skills, though, show little promise, apart from his skill in hypnotising any human, at will, by looking at them eye-to-eye. Not that that is in the least useful here. In the end, he just gets kidnapped by the villain, after discovering basically NOTHING about the villain or his motives. After that, it's all just gimme--the villain reveals all his plans and motivations in a long (almost) monologue, none of which was even hinted at before. As a detective novel, it deserves zero stars.

I wouldn't recommend it to anyone looking for anything more than a very quick, irreverent afternoon read. But if approached from that angle, it satisfies its very limited purpose. Not worth keeping, either. I left it in the kitchen at work with a sign that read "free book".

Kerry says

Published 2009. Quirky, sometimes funny. A quick breezy read. About average plot.

Amethyst Shadow says

I didn't realize that this was a series. *Eh* It was still good as a stand alone book... however; I have a feeling that I will be requesting the rest of the books in the series. Felix is a pretty good character and since the series revolves around him, I'm good with it.

Yael says

Felix Gomez is a vampire. He got his start among the Undead in Iraq, where he was serving with the US Army. After unwittingly killing an innocent Iraqi family, thinking they were terrorists, and having the rest of his group wiped out by enemy attack immediately afterward, he fled into a building, huddling there alone as he tried to deal with what he had just caused -- and discovered that he was sharing the room with an ancient Iraqi vampire. When he emerged from hiding, he, too, was a vampire, turned by the older vampire. Upon his return to the States, he became a private investigator, using his supernatural powers to solve cases that challenged the best of ordinary mortals.

In *The Nymphs of Rocky Flats*, Book 1 of the saga of Felix Gomez, Felix investigated an outbreak of nymphomania among the female employees of female guards at a plutonium processing plant in Colorado, and discovered that ETs have been among us for some time. Trained assassins began murdering members of the local vampire community, and an amorous dryad appeared to help Felix solve the case. And Felix *did* solve the case, in one of the great adventure stories of today.

In *X-Rated Bloodsuckers*, Book 2 of the series, Felix discovered a plot among some of Hollywood's wealthiest and most powerful producers that threatened to overturn the delicate balance between humanity and the supernatural world. In *The Undead Kama Sutra*, Book 3 of the series, a dying alien tells the vampire PI to find Goodman and save the Earth women. Felix does his best, but loses the love of his life -- er, death -- in the process. Now, in *Jailbait Zombie*, Book 4 of the series, Felix has to stop a ravening army of zombies and their demented maker from exposing the secret of the Undead to the world.

Teaming up with Phaedra, the 16-year-old niece of an organized crime boss, who is dying of Huntington's Chorea, but, in compensation, has unbelievably powerful clairvoyant powers, Felix gamely sets out to try to fulfill the orders given to him by the Araneum, the covert vampire government that works tirelessly to keep ordinary humanity from discovering that the Undead are very, very real. Felix finds himself caught between making war on the zombies and trying to keep Phaedra alive. Ultimately he succeeds at the first task. But Phaedra stops a spear hurled by one of the zombies during the battle that takes the zombies down, and to save her Felix has to turn her into a vampire, as well. As a result, he may have loosed a far worse peril on the world than the zombies could ever have been.

I love this series. Unlike so much vampire fiction, these novels show us the day-to-day problems and triumphs of individuals who may have all the supernatural powers of the Undead, but who also can be just as stupid, klutzy, mean-spirited, and otherwise heir to all the sins of humanity as ordinary mortals. Felix himself is a working man who has to deal with the rough underbelly of the world, without the romantic aura of so many fictional male vampires. He gets horny, loves good food (albeit with a good splash of type B+ as sauce), despises the truly corrupt, and manages to trip over his own feet in a huge way at least a couple of times per novel. In short, he is *everyman*, however equipped with fangs and talons he may be, and it is all too easy to identify with him. And the same is true of the other vampires that share his world: they're people,

whatever they think of their relationship to humanity, and have all the ordinary foibles and failings of humanity to go with their admittedly great and scary powers.

Acevedo has a gift for writing stories that grab you right away, carry you right along to the end, and leave you panting for more. In *Jailbait Zombie*, that gift is so evident that it actually makes reading the novel a painful experience: the villain, the madman who has created an army of zombies, is a sadistic megalomaniac who at one point puts poor Felix through hell on Earth, torturing him with electrical current, after he manages to capture Felix by siccing his zombies on the detective. It hurt to continue reading -- and I couldn't put the book down. Now *that's* a *storyteller*!

Thomas says

I'm not sure if Mario Acevedo set out to make it difficult to find images of his book covers by running the titles through Google search, but with *The Undead Kama Sutra* and now *Jailbait Zombie*, I can say with certainty that you'll get distracted by the other results you get. I guess what I'm saying is make sure you have Safe Search on if you try such a thing.

Anyway, with *Jailbait Zombie*, Acevedo moves further away from the titles of his books having anything to do with the actual story. A jailbait zombie is mentioned, but only in passing, and it never comes to fruition. Instead, the story is about Felix chasing after zombies while also trying to figure out the source of his hallucinations about the family he accidentally killed in Iraq and why a local girl was so strange.

The story was OK, but nothing great by any means. It's well-paced and is as compelling as *The Undead Kama Sutra*, but it wasn't a very satisfactory story. The characters seemed two-dimensional and had motivations that flopped around based on where the story was going. Even Felix flip-flopped about, though in at least one case it was somewhat justified. I think the previous book was like that too, only I just didn't notice it until I was reading this one.

I'm still concerned about Acevedo's portrayal of women. In one scene, Felix goes to visit the ex-girlfriend of a suspect, who he's already learned moved around a lot, and dabbled in making meth. When he finally meets the ex-girlfriend, and reveals who he's looking for, the woman has some choice words for her ex-boyfriend and slams the door in Felix's face. His response is to call her a harpy. Later he encounters a woman who is just ill-tempered and he calls her a shrew, but in the first instance, I don't even see how he could justify that kind of remark, unless he's supposed to be a character who has a complete disregard for other people's situations. Given how he reacts to Phaedra, the troubled teen, and the fact that he's supposed to be a sympathetic character proves otherwise.

I only have one left book to go to finish out this series, and I already have the book, but if I didn't, I don't think I would bother with it. I remember the first two books being fun, light, silly romps, but the last two have just been overdone, and both of them have ended with very little resolved, and two major plot points that aren't concluded. The fifth book might cover some of these loose ends, but I thought that this one would cover some of the ones left untied at the end of *The Undead Kama Sutra*, and that didn't turn out to be true. As it is, though, I wouldn't recommend either of these books, and I probably need to rethink what I thought of the first two books, as well.

Kater Cheek says

This is as hard boiled a noir thriller as you can get, with a dash of dark fantasy thrown in. Felix Gomez, who apparently has three other books behind him, is a vampire detective, at home with the paranormal and the gritty underworld both. The short chapters cut off right at the cliff, so the action keeps the story moving along quickly. The prose is extremely curt, which works well with this sort of story, but got a little grating at points. The sex and violence are both gratuitous, the latter more than the former. Be prepared for squick. I read this differently than I'd read a lot of fiction, given that it was in the same subgenre that I write in. I loved some of the things he did with vampires, some of the terminology he chose. For example, calling humans they drink from "chalices," and having the dark spirit that animates them the kundilini noir. Don't know what that means, but it sounds pretty cool. I also like that the vampires have to take their contact lenses out in order to hypnotize someone, though the protagonist did it so often with dirty hands that I had sympathetic conjunctivitis. As usual, didn't like the near godlike powers the vampires had--I prefer heroes to superheroes, but I seem to be in the minority.

David says

It's kind of weird to read a book only for the one-liners, but they are pretty amusing. The plot just gets you from one to another, and whenever he mentions a consumer product, it's usually pretty funny.

AuthorsOnTourLive! says

We met Mario Acevedo when he visited the Tattered Cover Bookstore in Denver. You can listen to him talk about "Jailbait Zombie" here: <http://www.authorsontourlive.com/?p=252>

About this podcast:

Colorado author Mario Acevedo is a former infantry and aviation officer, engineer, art teacher to incarcerated felons, and the bestselling author of "The Nymphs of Rocky Flats," "X-Rated Bloodsuckers," and "The Undead Karma Sutra." Acevedo reads from and discusses his new novel "Jailbait Zombie," which finds vampire detective Felix Gomez coming face-to-face with the worst sort of undead. To stop a ravenous army of zombies, Gomez must team up with a precocious teen with clairvoyant powers whose cooperation comes at a price: she won't help unless Felix makes her a vampire-if the zombies don't get her first.

Seth says

This one's a pretty darn fun continuation of the series. It would work for people who haven't read the earlier ones, but if you want to skip some, starting at #2 is still the best bet (the back third of the first was pretty horrible).

The book before (The Undead Karma Sutra) ended on quite a cliff-hanger; that is still hanging throughout this book. Felix' failure in UKS is a shoe waiting to drop and he is pleased to be distracted by his current problem--an infestation of zombies threatening to blow the lid off the big secret and reveal the existence of the supernatural.

Since this is--apparently--a distraction from the plot that's been building up through the earlier books, it's a quick, fun action romp. Felix is doing his usual PI schtick, stuck between small-town gangsters, a mysterious necromancer, and a 16 year-old psychic with a terminal illness who wants him to make her immortal. And the Araneum isn't telling him everything that's going on and wants him to do some things that don't jive with his morals. And he has to wrap it up before Jolie, his occasional friend/lover/partner, comes into town and handles everything according to her, less gentle, morals.

In short, it's back to the good, old, simple days for Felix. Mystery, complications, and mayhem.

Enjoy it for that.

And fear not. Acevedo is growing as a writer with every book. The action is tighter, the humor is better (and less disruptive), Felix is in the middle of some character growth that would feel rushed if it ended in this book, and the long-term plot is definitely advanced. Little of it is explicit, but it's all clearly there and intentional, and what is explicated is saved for the end, after the fun romp.

So enjoy it. And hope the next one comes soon.

Olivia says

Felix Gomez: not your mother's vampire. Actually, he's not like any vampire any of us have known. Plagued by his human self, his immortal self comes across as more human than vampire. His vampire self explores the dark places his human side hid exposing guilt, empathy, compassion, and a strong sense of justice wrapped up in a begrudging hero persona that he rarely admits to himself and denies to others. Sent on a mission to find out who is creating zombies and where a psychic pull is coming from Felix finds himself the champion of a troubled young girl who literally begs him to turn her. Fighting himself, and the zombies he tries his best to do the right thing, always, but there always seems to be a twist that forces him to do things he doesn't want to do. It's packed with action, gangsters, zombies, and temptation. I highly recommend reading it
