



November

Kabi

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After a sterility plague has nearly extincted mankind, a few men begin to manifest a rare and unpredictable ability to bear children. As everyone struggles to rebuild, these Carriers try to find their own identity in a changing world - and become the targets of a desperate society.

Jesse, Ortega, Sloane, and Tiger are four men living very different lives when the Change comes to them. They all meet when they are drafted into a re-integration program at the Carrier Education Centre, and their stories are ones of adventure, romance, frustration, captivity and fear - but ultimately of love, in its many and varied forms.

November Details

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From Reader Review November for online ebook

Silkeeeeeereads says

WARNING: DON'T READ IF RAPE BOTHERS YOU IN FICTION!

THE BURB BY THE AUTHOR:

"In a militaristic post-catastrophic world, a group of young men possessing a specific genetic sequence are targeted by the government to aid in species survival.

Jesse, Ortega, Sloane, and Tiger are four men living very different lives when the Change comes to them. Their stories are ones of adventure, romance, frustration, captivity and fear - but ultimately of love, in its many and varied forms."

WOW! This was very different. It's not sexy in the hot and heavy sense. That being said, I couldn't stop reading it. The premise is intriguing to me. If you really enjoy fiction, those darker readers will probably enjoy this. I have a theory that we, as females, will be obsolete maybe 50-100 years in the future. I'm not sure there will be a lot of difference between men and women by then. Humans evolve and that just seems to be the next step. Anyway, this is sort of a world with very few females and the females left can't bear children.

Kudos to the author's imagination with this plot.

Julio Genao says

Heavens, where do I even *begin*?

You know that bit of fashionable avant-faggotry that swings round every so often on the interwebz?

Homophobia—the fear that gay men will treat you the same way you treat women.

That one?

Yeah. Some badass wrote a book about it and set it in a kind of horrid, post-apocalyptic, androgynous Hogwarts.

It's like *Desperate Hermaphroditic Housewives*. Or maybe *Downton Don't-Touch-Me-Down-There Abbey*.

Close Encounters of the Third Sex.

A Vagina Grows in Brooklyn?

Victor/Victoria/Whatever.

No—I got it, I got it:

My Fair Lady!

Sorry. Review resumes:

Some chapters were so traumatizing to read the only thing that kept me going was admiration.

Some were so deliciously dark and twisty I remained scandalized for *pages and pages afterwards*.

It's not perfect. Definitely a little messy in that ad-hoc online serial way—which sucks.

But still.

The fucking thing is *appalling*, people, but it's *great*.

Sometimes it's even hilarious. I'm not even kidding.

Read this. Don't be afraid. Genius this topical and entertaining is worth a little trauma, and you'll be better for having read it, I promise.

Jus' you wait, 'enry 'iggin. Jus' you wait.

Amanda says

November was a difficult story to read. I had a hard time finishing it because there was just so much abuse heaped on the poor characters. Even the feel-good moments seemed bittersweet after so much darkness. It really kind of reminded me *The Handmaid's Tale* by Margaret Atwood.

Danny Tyran says

I gave it 3 stars for the writing quality and because it seems to me that in such a context, it is likely that the army would take control, as the author shows. The army has never been known for subtlety in how to manage crisis situations. This is why I find despite the cosmetology course, this story has a certain realism. But I do not think I'll finish reading it. I find the story too desperate. If it were a story based on facts, I would try to read it until the end, but I do not see why I'd torture myself with a novel.

Emma, I realized that while I was speaking of "Forgotten", telling you that I hated the book, you where

speaking of this one. You told me that you hated November too. This is "Forgotten" that I hated because teens were mistreated. Next time, I will better read your answer to be sure that we are speaking of the same book.

Jerry says

This was kind of a shocking premise for this book. I was at first attracted to it because....male pregnancy....sounds interesting to me. It turned out to be a somewhat dark dystopian view of the future with the main darkness caused by the "carriers" (males that can become pregnant) being treated like women were treated in the last mid century and probably even today. Your basic alpha (Neanderthal) male controlling everything the female does and being physically abusive. Being a white male in the US, it's kind of hard to imagine yet the story told it quite successfully. Some men wanted to treat these "carriers" with respect yet their fellow soldiers would shame them into the brutal status quo.

The work is a series of stories about closely related couples and some only peripherally related. Most are not fully finished to a HEA some are barely HFN and some end badly.

I was repulsed at first but also fascinated and ultimately hooked. I will go back and visit more of these stories, hopefully some will be positive.

4.5 stars

Leah says

In a nut shell: This was a very well written, not for the faint of heart original story on adultfanfiction with LOTS of abuse. November is very reminiscent of Atwood's A Handmaid's Tale yet pushes critiques of marriage gender roles, sex and hegemonic masculinity to another level. I hesitate to say more before I complete the series but I do hope there is more hope and reprieve in the rest of the books.

Taintedskyee (Books Books&More Books) says

IN YOUR WILD DREAMS A***ET** Thats what came out of my mouth when I finished this story. If the author has this much potential to provoke such strong emotion in me, then he should get five stars or more, but the story is not very original. We have all heard a lot about arrange-marriage gone wrong, with women being tortured and raped,

this story is just that, instead of a woman a man had been used.

So let me tell such strong statement, you why, first...

To imagine the whole mutation thingy was gross inducing

Secondly,

No one by that I mean female or male or anyone in whatever situation does not deserve to be treated like the way all these gay mutated men were being treated. Beaten up and Raped to get them pregnant.

Reading the whole story was torture but it did keep me hooked. This story had multiple MC, Carrier and their Masters. Some of the Carriers was really sweet and I wanted to see if they get their hea, so I continued reading. It was wonderful to find some romance in "tales of Rape" which should have been the name of the story instead of "November".

I liked Tiger another on the verge of transform Carrier, kidnaped by a Jerk Miljan's story. It had more romance in it and best couple for me.

I know the author's warning and all about rape, but I can't help getting irritated though now can I. Maybe I wanted to get irritated and so selected the book, and the author delivered it just fine. But I realized...

So I recommend to those who can handle it or wants to get irritated for a change;)

Applausable fact about the author:

It's very difficult to handle so many MC in one story, but the author did a great job of off it.

So

Dreamer says

3.5 stars. In this dystopia, some men have evolved into 'carriers' that can bear children. The most popular way of obtaining a 'wife' seems to be to rape a carrier and claim an ongoing relationship. The book has a weird structure, the numerous characters popping in and out as it progresses. The character we identify with most is Jesse, a reluctant carrier who refuses to conform to the stereotype.

"We both live in a fucked up world, and we're all a little bit fucked up in it, but.." here, Jesse stepped closer to Michael so that they were looking closely into each other's eyes. "But maybe you're not fucked up as bad as everyone else. I shouldn't punish you for what other people have done. To me, or to anyone. I think maybe, in doing that, I was kind of wrong."

LaShonta says

Overall this was a good story. Any good story should make you feel some kind of emotion even if it is the bad ones. I was so frustrated and angry with some of the things happening in this story that I wanted to fling my laptop at the wall. The way some of the people were treated was inhuman. As the story went on some characters found their redemption and I began to thaw toward them. I can't say I would read it again because that was too emotional the first time out. It was a good story though and I will read the next one titled August.

Emma Sea says

I'm not at all sure I can finish this one (and I made it through *Neko!*). In a dystopian future where some men are fertile 'carriers', spousal abuse is fine, rape is a useful tool for securing a mate, and fertile men are encouraged to wear skirts and forced to take cosmetology classes. Very well written though: a lot of

similarities to Atwood's *The Handmaid's Tale*. I'm feeling enormous despair after only 10 chapters. Stuck in this world, I would choose suicide.

EDIT: OK, I made it through. I have given this 5 stars, because this, with the sequel *August*, is a piece of brilliance. The world is so well realised, the plotting so tight and devious, that it's simply magnificent. However, saying that, I hated it. I wish I'd never read it. I felt ill the whole way through both stories and I still feel ill now.

The thing is that the author has taken the worst of real-world m/f power relations, and worked them into this sick, ghastly society, and so the distorted reflection of our reality in this fiction is enough to bring into vivid focus every worst aspect of my own experiences of dating, sex, marriage, and employment. The author must be familiar with Betty Friedan's work, as the world so carefully replicates the feminine depression and despair she wrote about.

Now I don't know if I need some fluffy m/m love to get over it, or if I will never be able to enjoy reading m/m sex again. I think I feel a bit like Alex in *A Clockwork Orange* when they destroy his only pure and good love.

Urbanista says

Well written with good characterizations, but unpleasant and disturbing. In a post apocalyptic dystopian world, what is virtually a third sex has emerged, and women seem to be becoming if not extinct, at least redundant. That's because the new gender, called carriers (ugh!) are the only humans who can bear children. They are true (?) andro(male)gynous(female) beings; they have penises and periods both. They are all born male, however, as "the change" comes upon them in late teens or early adulthood. What is fascinating about this work is the oppressive atmosphere of cultural terror that pervades the society. A deep-rooted and unexamined fear of human extinction has made the carriers valuable commodities in the machoistic militarized mega nation state. Officers have first pick in the most desirable carriers, who are trained to be mothers and wives in an extremely retrogressive, per-feminist concentration camp. Kidnapping, abuse and rape are the norms for carriers, who could not have known that procreation and near slavery would be their destiny. There is no way to predict if a boy will grow up to be a carrier, although there is one family with an odd knack for spotting carriers before they change. This book is distressing and strange, with women fading in importance (they are all sterile, perhaps) and the new progenitors having to suffer a concentrated form of 100s of years of female oppression. The carriers aren't women, but they need to be controlled. The dominant males have a dependable tradition of gender-based power dynamics to use to control the carriers, who are pointlessly feminized and humiliated.

Yblees says

Very well written. I avoided November for a long time because the reviews were all over the place. I think it really has to be read as dystopian or speculative fiction, and readers expecting something from the romance genre really need to keep away from this.

The characters are caught up in a world of crisis and change. All the fertile women are dead, and for a while, humanity is facing extinction. Then seemingly randomly, some men change to "carriers" who can bear children.

November is set in the early days when carriers have just started appearing. Military governments can be efficient in crisis, but are not known for subtlety (as another reviewer has noted), and carrier human-rights have basically collapsed.

November certainly reminded me of Margaret Atwood's the Handmaid's Tale. All I'll say here is that the Handmaid's Tale was set in a society where everyone was in more or less oppressed, anxious and unhappy. I was extremely relieved at the end to find out that (view spoiler). But also depressed that all the suffering was basically pointless.

With November, on the other hand, I found myself hoping the characters would be able, in time, to stabilise their society into a new, more carrier-friendly norm. In other words, there was hope!

On a side note, when the carriers go through the change, they seem to become suddenly psychologically weaker, more submissive and easily coerced, less likely to fight back in any way. Even if the change happens during adulthood (mid-20's to 30's), and they were previously self assured and assertive.

I assume this is an effect of the carrier hormones - but really, I doubt women become passive like that under the influence of hormonal changes. The personality change aspect of the story made me regard the carriers not as pseudo-women, but rather as a new gender altogether.

Which is idiosyncratic, I agree, since the type of coercion applied to the carriers (kidnapping, required guardianship by a male relative, forced pregnancy, domestic violence,etc) does happen to women in many parts of the world today.

Jo * Smut-Dickted * says

A very intriguing book. It is true it has some harsh content but that content is primarily mentioned - not overtly described. This is not a novel with graphic erotic love scenes - the sex is perfunctory and pertinent to the story and not explicitly described in most cases. It does include rape and violence though so if that is a trigger for you avoid this one (in general avoid anything on my capture/dubcon/slave shelf).

The story of four (although I thought more than 4) men who became carrier's which means they could have children. It's a future world, women were mostly wiped out or are barren, and only these carrier men can have kids. They have all the equipment (though no mention was made of breasts and breast feeding which seemed odd since the focus was on caring for the child and assuming a female role). Each story is different but there are similarities. It really is more a story about them being carriers as far as discovery of it and a slice of life as they met the men they would be married too (some by force). I enjoyed it and the world - enough psychological components to make me really think about gender roles, equality, and the propagation of the species. Not really a romance although there is some romance in the stories at times. I liked Tiger best - only because he just was who he was - he didn't seem to have pretense.

Baby says

Dear FRiend,

I never realized how miserable I could get reading about misery.

This book is well written, engaging and interesting, but at 40% through it still reads as a catalogue of abuse

towards the main characters--with no end in sight.

I was holding out to see if there may be a fulfilling romance developing but I finally decided that life is just too short for me to read books I feel like I'm having to "endure."

I may go back one day, because the story idea is fantastic and the writing seems like quality work. Or more likely I'll skip this one and try other stories in this series.

Btw, if I missed it turning into an awesome romance or the main characters getting payback or finding empowerment, somebody please let me know!

Fangtasia says

Mighty confusing, with all the strange names, complicated relationships, and unfamiliar dystopian world. Still, it brought chills up my spine, thinking of a world where men, who are used to being privileged by virtue of their sex, could have their status change so unexpectedly. Talk about pulling the rug out from under a person.

Warning: mpreg, rape, and lots of alpha men. Still want to dive in? Enjoy!
