



H10N1

M.R. Cornelius, Marsha Cornelius

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A deadly influenza virus rages out of control. There is no easy-fix vaccine. No eleventh-hour containment. Only death. With no workforce, power plants have been shut down, police and fire departments have collapsed, crops lie unpicked in the fields.

When Dr. Taeya Sanchez finds herself unceremoniously dismissed from an emergency medical facility in New York, she decides to steal the hospital's armored van for a midnight escape. Unfortunately, Rick DeAngelo, a driver for the hospital, has already stocked the van for his own getaway.

Thrown into an unfriendly alliance, these two must pick their way across the dangerous wasteland of America in search of a safe haven. And as the miles roll by, they discover that the living should be feared much more than the festering corpses out there.

H10N1 Details

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Author : M.R. Cornelius , Marsha Cornelius

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From Reader Review H10N1 for online ebook

Susan says

There is just no way to say how disappointing this book was. While the beginning showed promise and the idea of what would happen in the wake of a global pandemic had the makings of a good plot, this story line started getting less and less interesting about a third of a way through the book when it became clear that the pandemic was no longer the focus of the story.

I kept thinking that at some point the characters would be led back to the original storyline but instead the writer threw everything and the kitchen sink into the plot. Maybe the idea was to confuse things but over the next few chapters we were introduced to: bikers itching for a fight, rocket launchers, a house collapse, stolen motor home, Really nasty moonshine made from sweet potatoes, a forest fire, septic tank clean-out truck adapted to carry fuel, biosphere, rice paddie, and on and on. None of them helped the story hang together, that is for sure!

Even at that point I tried to give the book a fair shot; and then the sexist language, four letter words and lecherous behavior started. Give me a break.

What a total waste of time. I stopped reading when a character hires leather clad cowboys to get his revenge on some of the virus survivors. That was the last straw for me; mark this one a disappointing waste. I have no idea how it has almost 4 stars from any reader. And it really had next to nothing to do with a pandemic. Bad; very bad; and it makes it into my "Groaningly Bad" category.

Todd says

When Kim first asked me to review H10N1 by M.R. Cornelius, I was definitely excited. Not only was it a book that was a post-apocalyptic thriller, which is right up my alley, but it was also about a deadly strain of the influenza virus. For those of you who don't know, I work for a company that researches influenza and is producing a seasonal and pandemic vaccine. So, not only was I excited to read this book for its genre, but I was also excited because it's about a subject near and dear to my heart.

The novel begins with the pandemic already in full swing with a fraction of the population alive and holed up in safe areas, attempting to sort the remaining survivors into safe camps and study those infected by the virus. Dr. Taeya Sanchez is an epidemiologist who currently works at the Army Medical Center in New York, one of a few government-run medical centers left in the country that exists to treat and sort the incoming population into appropriate safe zones, or if necessary, facilitate their disposal if infected. A problem arises when Dr. Sanchez voices her opinions over the mass euthanization of infected individuals to the facility's director, and her credentials are revoked. Fearing that she will be soon fired and left to fend for herself, she prepares to leave the facility, stocked with supplies and medicine, when she runs into Rick DeAngelo. Rick is one of the facility's drivers, and convinces her to leave with him in an armored van that he normally pilots for the facility. Although Sanchez is not the biggest fan of Rick based on her observations of his attitude and demeanor towards her previously, she decides to take him up on the offer and escape with him. What follows is a tale packed with action and adventure as the pair wind their way towards a farm in Arkansas and then on to a bio-containment dome in Arizona. Will they be able to find help? Will they learn

to trust each other and put their differences aside? Will a cure be discovered?

As I've said before, the scariest and most intriguing part of post-apocalyptic fiction is the interactions between the survivors. More than the external threat, whether it's zombies or a virus or a disease, is the threat of human nature. When pushed to the limit, there is no telling what lows people will sink to in order to survive. This is just as true in H10N1, as Sanchez and Rick must fight off attacks from other survivors as they make their way across the country. Preconceived notions make Rick almost shoot a pregnant woman, and they fend off attacks from gangs hell-bent on attacking them to steal their supplies and vehicle. These events go to show that the heightened emotions of the situation can make even the most calm and collected individual a completely different person. Additionally, there isn't a lot of scientific information about this particular strain of virus (and that's ok!) because the real threat comes from those around the main characters. It's very interesting how survival mechanisms take away most senses of right and wrong in order to protect the individual. The key is to not let these take over, and to remain human in the face of the horrors that surround everyone. In doing so Sanchez and Rick maintain their cool and are better off than those frantically trying to survive based on instinct alone. While I would have liked a little more scientific information about the specific disease (what can I say, I'm a nerd...), the book was a fantastic read from start to finish. Cornelius really knows how to tell a story, and multiple times I felt as if I were in that van with Sanchez and Rick rolling across America in search of a safe haven. She really knows how to set the story, the character development is solid, and the plot is well-developed. I applaud this, her first publication, as a great success, and can only hope to read what else she has in store. If you're a fan of Contagion or The Walking Dead, this will be perfect. Go grab a copy!

Todd (Reflections of a Book Addict)

<http://wp.me/p18iIL-TL>

Daisy says

I LOVED the first chapter. It was shocking, in your face and I thought wow, I'm gonna love this book. And then I read the rest of it.

And I am sad to say I was disappointed. As a med student I'm fascinated by things dealing with virus outbreaks or super bacteria and all that stuff wiping out the human race. Because seriously, that is what scares me. That is exactly what I'm scared of happening in the future and it isn't an unrealistic fear unfortunately. But enough of that.

I wasn't really sure what the point of the plot was. I felt like there was stuff happening, but I didn't really know why. I also thought it would have been about the virus spreading and all that, but it was actually after the initial wave and about the survivors of that. I also didn't really feel the romance, I didn't get it and I didn't think it was realistic.

Another thing I had a problem with: the main character is an epidemiologist, which is basically someone who studies things like patterns and risk factors and such. There are those who work 'in the field' so to speak, but it's usually only about infection control then, not so much the other areas of medicine. And I believed an epidemiologist knows how to stitch someone up, I do, because it's basic medical training. But you CANNOT tell me they also know how to perform complicated surgeries after someone is shot and there was also an inconsistency where for her to be able to do something she did, she'd have to have opened the patient up in two places and there was only one operating wound.

Yes I am ranting, but this really bothers me because this is what I know. Because I see this kind of stuff every day and I don't get how people think that being a doctor means you can do ALL THE THINGS. You can't. That's why we have all those different kinds of doctors.

Ok, stopping the rant.

I did like the whole idea behind the book with the virus outbreak and everything and seriously you guys, I loved the first chapter. If the book had continued in that way, it would have been amazing. But after that things went downhill for me.

My rating: 1,5 stars

Donna says

This post-apocalyptic book started with a really great first chapter that absolutely grabbed me. Unfortunately, reading further and seeing the state of civilization, that first chapter made no sense. Clearly the author had this idea for a great hook and was determined to use it.

The book started out fairly strong but then it fizzled. The romance between the main characters moved way too fast and seemed very unrealistic. The part set in Biosphere II didn't ring true to me. I visited the site a few years ago and read a couple of books about it and I just couldn't stop myself from reading over-critically. Then it abruptly wraps up (view spoiler). I couldn't recommend this.

KyBunnies says

I personally do not have a set genre that I will read book's from. I will admit that I like certain genre's more than others but I do not have a personal favorite. I will admit that this book is in one of my favorite genre so the follow review may be a little bias if so please forgive me.

H10N1 starts out with Dr. Sanchez who is an epidemiologist. She works with the CDC and World Health Organization. She is a doctor who has traveled the world when an outbreak of a disease has gone into chaos. She used to have a husband that she would follow around but he was killed in one of the third world countries that they were trying to help.

Dr. Sanchez or Taeya is one of those people who does not like the people in authority that does not care about the underdog. She is one of those people who will stand up and fight authority figures. She sometimes lets her anger get the better of her in an argument. This time she has let that control her to where she has lost her position at an emergency facility in New York.

Taeya is introduced to Rick DeAngelo. Rick is one of those people that can acquire any item that is wanted. He looks a little sleazy and is constantly hitting on women.

Rick has a plan. He is determined to leave the area in New York and head to Arkansas where he has friends. Rick has everything all planned out. The van that he is planning on stealing where he has it packed with

supplies and has removed the tracking device. The route planned out, food and supplies. What he does not take into account is Taeya tagging along with him.

Taeya makes a last minute decision to not only leave the hospital but to leave the area. She does not want to wait for the ceremony dismal from the head doctor she has pissed off. She gets all of her personal belongings together and moves on to get supplies. She meets up with Rick in the garage and he has a soft moment and allows her to go with him.

Will Rick and Taeya hit it off? Will they fall in love? What happens with the virus? Is there other people still alive that did not get the virus? Read this wonderful book to find out for yourself.

The bunnies and I give this book 4 stars.

Carisa Burns says

Spoilers: This was a well written fast paced book. I enjoyed the characters who were all well developed as well as the plot. I didn't quite believe the romance portion of it because the author spent too much time trying to convince us how much Taeya and Rob hated each other and then all of a sudden they were in love...yeah, right. Besides that though, I was glad they ended up together and that he protected her. I loved that they went to pick up their hippie friends and lived in a biodome and their quest to find a sustainable place to live was definitely interesting. I couldn't exactly relate to this in a "what would I do" scenario since I could never picture myself having a bunch of friends who just happen to live on a self sustained farm or in a biodome but I still enjoyed the story of these characters who did.

This book definitely didn't go in the direction I assumed it would (i.e. - fighting a catastrophic viral outbreak or zombies or some sort) but it was a well written survival story with 3 dimensional characters, interesting dialogue and a plot that took me somewhere I didn't expect. I definitely couldn't put it down for hours at a time and would recommend it to anyone who likes the post apocalyptic genre.

George Angus says

From my Amazon review:

I had about a half dozen novels lurking in my Kindle, waiting for me to read. I opened them all and read the first few pages to get a sense of which would be a great read. When I got to H10N1 I found myself a dozen pages in before I even knew it. Done deal. This was the one.

There are quite a few post-apocalyptic novels out there, to be sure. Any number of these should be able to hold the interest of anyone into the genre. This book does a whole lot more than hold your interest. It grabs you by the undershorts, picks you up and says, "C'mon, Bubba. We're going for a ride."

I loved it.

The action was non-stop. Any breaks were well thought out breathers that built different but necessary story

lines. I found myself cheering for Rick and Sanchez from the start. Their rocky and passionate relationship is an underlying current that only adds to the tension of the novel.

At first I wasn't sure about the Biosphere component but the author quickly proves its value and it was one of the most enjoyable sections of the book.

Grit, laced with humor and believable characters round out the completeness of this book. Highly readable and completely worth the download.

Vicki Scullion says

Adventure, mystery, romance, action -- this novel has it all! While I'm not normally a fan of post-apocalyptic stories, this one is so well written that I couldn't put it down. From a bureaucratic nightmare of "kill everyone, even if they aren't infected with the bio-weapon's virus" in New York to a dangerous and nearly deadly trek cross country to California, Dr. Sanchez and her small band of survivors learn the truth about humanity and what people will do in order to survive. H10N1 makes the reader realistically consider the possible effects of world-wide bio-terrorism. It's not a pretty picture, but this novel is a fascinating piece of science fiction and a great read!

Lee says

Well this was definitely an EOTWAWKI story with an interesting twist. The Biosphere. Now that was a blast from the past (future?) This was a believable premise and not, for some reason, anywhere near as dreary as most post-apocalyptic novels are. I wanted it to last longer, to cover a few years into the future at least. I liked the characters for the most part. Yep, some of it was cliched, but the story worked for me. I also would've liked a blow-by-blow of the disaster, but there was enough to keep me plenty satisfied.

Kimberly says

Solid three-and-a-half star must read for PA fans!

I'm a sucker for post-apocalyptic thrillers, especially when they're free. So when M.R. Cornelius' H10N1 popped up on Kindle's Top 100 Free Books list I snatched it up faster than you can say bird flu. Despite the snatching, it then languished on my Kindle for a while until I got in the mood for the gloom and doom of a world ravaged by disease and social collapse. Yes, I actually DO get in the mood for that occasionally -- go figure.

H10N1 follows Dr. Taeya Sanchez and Rick DeAngelo's struggle to survive the aftermath of a devastating flu virus that has decimated the population. Dr. Sanchez, an epidemiologist with the CDC, feels time is running out for her in the relatively safe environment of the east coast hospital she is working and living in; not only has she pissed off her boss, rumor has it there are some surviving Washington elite looking for new digs. Rick, a truck driver and general opportunist, has been planning his escape from the city for a while.

A chance meeting as they execute their escapes throw these two together for a trip across the country -- he to

his hippie survivalist friends' farm in Arkansas, she to her friend living in the Biodome in Arizona. The obligatory sparks fly as these two clash their way across the desolate and dangerous landscape.

Ms. Cornelius is a talented storyteller with a polished writing style. The plot, while at times predictable, is solid and interesting and the pace keeps you turning the page (or tapping the screen, as the case may be).

The author has admittedly tried her hand at writing romance novels, and it shows in the Taeya/Rick love story plotline. Not being a big fan of the romance genre, parts of this book left me wanting to poke my own eyes out. Not that it was poorly written, it's just not my thing. It might be another reader's favorite element of the book. My humble opinion, this type of novel could have successfully fleshed out their relationship without the romance-type writing style.

All in all, however, I did enjoy H10N1 very much and I think Marsha Cornelius is definitely an author to watch. Her writing style is fluid and easy to read, the characters well-rounded and likeable despite -- or because of -- their faults. I loved the Biodome scenes, and despite the fact that it was a tad cliché I really enjoyed the ending. Perhaps I'm a little bit of a romantic after all. ;)

Ghostleegirl says

I love these types of stories. This one was no exception. It was a really interesting read, and was original enough that I didn't think at any point 'I've read this before'!

The author quite successfully takes the subject matter and makes it new and fresh. It was believable in the way it was written, and although we all hope that nothing like this will ever happen, we are all too ready to believe it might.

The characters are all very different people, and each had a unique back story. The discoveries made along the way in the book allowed each character to be more believable as the story progressed. Not all the characters were nice, or likable, which only added to the depth of the plot. The events and dangers that they faced through the course of the story were very well written and all too likely. At no point did I find myself thinking 'Oh, give me a break, that would never happen'.

A definite recommendation if you enjoy the genre!

Craig DiLouie says

In H10N1, synthetic plagues rip the world apart, resulting in the hopeless, gradual implosion of America. As the nation collapses and the elites bunker down in well-stocked medical facilities, a female epidemiologist who loses her job connects with a "guy who gets things done" type who has his own plans for riding things out. The result is an unlikely collaboration and road trip across what's left of America, fighting bandits and crazies in an effort to find a safe place. The guy who gets things done starts off pretty darn unlikable, and later in the book the interaction between some of the characters is sometimes excessively cute, but these were minor quibbles for me. This is a solid effort by a good writer—a nuanced vision of America dying of plague and a strong character-driven story, more thoughtful than your usual apocalyptic fare. I liked it.

Emily S. says

Received review copy from the author in exchange for an honest review

From Goodreads: *A deadly influenza virus rages out of control. There is no easy-fix vaccine. No eleventh-hour containment. Only death. With no workforce, power plants have been shut down, police and fire departments have collapsed, crops lie unpicked in the fields.*

When Dr. Taeya Sanchez finds herself unceremoniously dismissed from an emergency medical facility in New York, she decides to steal the hospital's armored van for a midnight escape. Unfortunately, Rick DeAngelo, a driver for the hospital, has already stocked the van for his own getaway.

Thrown into an unfriendly alliance, these two must pick their way across the dangerous wasteland of America in search of a safe haven. And as the miles roll by, they discover that the living should be feared much more than the festering corpses out there.

Raging infections, death, the end of the world...pretty much that's what you get here. Not a pretty scenario, and I *really* hope it never comes to that, because I'm a wimp and I'd be one of the first to go.

I feel like there was a lot of potential here. I was intrigued by the Goodreads synopsis and eager to read. Sadly, I didn't love it. Don't get me wrong, I didn't hate it either. I just didn't ever really get to the point where I was sucked in and riveted. The characters never connected for me and I found their love story a little on the 'huh?' side. (of course, it could make perfect sense if there were few viable people out there to have a relationship with...then I could totally see it.)

I think Cornelius is a talented writer and I think she's got loads of great things to come. I wish this one had been THAT book for me, but it wasn't.

HOWEVER

I KNOW it'll be THAT book for someone else. It IS well-written and I think it just needs the right audience.

For that reason, I'm giving away my SIGNED copy. You want it, right?! Of course you do! To enter, just fill out the Rafflecopter form. Giveaway starts now, ends in a week, winner will be contacted and have 48 hrs to get back to me, blah blah blah. You know the drill, so go fill out the form!

<http://www.emsreviewsbooks.com/2012/0...>

A.B. Shepherd says

Book Blurb:

A deadly influenza virus rages out of control. There is no easy-fix vaccine. No eleventh-hour containment. Only death.

With no workforce, power plants are unmanned so there's no means of communication; police and fire departments have collapsed so no one is safe; looters are scavenging everything from big-screen TVs to

canned peas.

When Dr. Taeya Sanchez finds herself unceremoniously dismissed from an emergency medical facility in New York, she decides to steal the hospital's armored van for a midnight escape.

Unfortunately, Rick DeAngelo, a driver for the hospital, has already stocked the van for his own getaway.

Thrown into an unfriendly alliance, these two must pick their way across the dangerous wasteland of America in search of a safe haven. And as the miles roll by, they discover that the living should be feared much more than the festering corpses out there.

My Review:

First of all this book blurb (taken from Amazon.com) doesn't do it justice.

When author M.R. Cornelius asked me to read this book, she likened it to the movie Contagion and she sent me the first chapter to read as a sample. I haven't seen that movie, although I do understand the gist of it.

The first chapter of H10N1 sent chills down my spine so of course I told her I'd love to read it!

This is the story of two people who reluctantly join forces while struggling to survive a world-wide pandemic in the near future. It is a chilling tale in part, full of the violence that ensues when people are hopeless and it is a kill or be killed world. If there was a pandemic and no place was safe where would you go? What would you do?

M.R. Cornelius put a lot of thought into that situation and the story she has written is, in my view, quite a believable one. Dr. Taeya Sanchez and Rick DeAngelo do all they can to survive. This is a novel of good and evil, an epic journey, a destination, and hope.

Books says

I downloaded this book quite a while ago, and I'm really happy I did. It turned out to be such a fantastic and enjoyable read!

Most of the books I've been reading lately had paranormal elements in the story, so reading "H10 N1" which has no supernatural creatures or beings or anything paranormal in the story line, was a welcome relief. The plot is quite original in that the virus in this story was manmade and spread by the Koreans. What made it an even more gripping and nerve-wracking read is the frighteningly real possibility that this could happen in the world as we know it.

Usually, in some of these post-apocalyptic novels, you'll find zombies or some form of the walking dead or undead. Not in this story. The author gets your heart racing out of control with vivid descriptions of the terrifying journey the two main characters had to undertake to get to a place of safety away from the virus; and their fight for survival along the way - from being attacked by road gangs and not being infected by

carriers of the virus, to driving through a burning forest and dealing with many more heart-stopping confrontations.

I'm a big fan of explosive action in books and there's no shortage of that in this story. Think rocket launchers and gun fights, edge-of-your-seat suspense and a few unexpected plot twists, and you'll only have a slight idea of what you're letting yourself in for. My fear of rabid dogs was thoroughly preyed upon in one disturbing scene in this riveting novel. As I'm not a fan of romance books, I enjoyed that the two main characters didn't fall in love instantly, and the way they got on each other's nerves had me laughing out loud at times.

The writing flows well and the story cruises along at a comfortable pace. I very much enjoyed the author's sense of humor which was evident in the dialogue between a few of the main characters. All in all, this is a terrific novel which I won't hesitate to recommend to my family and closest friends as one of the best reads of the year.
