



The Demon Inside

M.L. Sparrow

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Darcy was a perfectly normal teenage girl, enjoying the summer after completing her A Levels with her boyfriend Alec. Until the night strange creatures begin falling from the sky, infecting people and transforming them into crazed, animalistic cannibals.

Having lost everything in one foul swoop - her parents, her home and all future plans - all Darcy can do is try to protect the people she does have left. Together, she and Alec, along with her younger sister, sarcastic best-friend, Alec's alcoholic father and the family dog, set off on a journey to find somewhere safe in a world where everything is different.

However, when they do finally discover a haven, a place to call home again, can they remain? And who will survive?

The Demon Inside Details

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Author : M.L. Sparrow

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From Reader Review The Demon Inside for online ebook

Laura Furuta says

The Demon Inside

By: M.L. Sparrow

5 out of 5 stars

The story The Demon Inside by M.L. Sparrow is a YA/adventure/romance book. What would you do if your life turned upside-down in just one night? That is the question that Darcy has to answer when a wonderful night out with her boyfriend Alec turns into the start of a journey that she never expected to take. It started with streaks of light in the sky and people being infected by creatures. They are turned into crazed, animalistic cannibals. Darcy along with Alec, Darcy's younger sister, her best friend, Alec's alcoholic father, and Darcy's gray hound dog set out to find a safe place to live. Can Alec and Darcy keep everyone together and what will they find on their journey?

I like reading stories about the end of the world and how people survive. It shows the resilience of the human spirit. This story is an example of how an author weaves a tale that is harrowing, heartbreak, and hauntingly beautiful all at the same time. The main reason that I loved this book so much are the characters of Darcy and Alec. Darcy is just a normal teenager who is looking forward to her life and is head over heels in love with her boyfriend Alec. Then in one night she loses her parents and begins to understand her life will never be the same. Alec is with her that night and they begin to gather those they care about together. Darcy has an inner strength that she calls upon to survive and she also leans on Alec. Alec would do anything to protect Darcy. He loves her with all his heart. His relationship with his father is very strained, to say the least, and while he uses his father's knowledge to survive, they are always at odds.

As the story progresses and the group finds a place they can defend, they also find other survivors as well. The tension is high when everyone meets. Most of the other survivors want to isolate themselves instead of working together. Alec and Darcy take on the major role of gathering supplies and learning new skills so that they all can survive. Darcy is also the one that tries to get everyone to stick together and the main peacekeeper in the group. Will this small community learn to work together to ensure their survival?

This is a book that had me quickly turning pages to find out what happens next. I have read other books by the author and love both her writing style and the way she develops her characters. This is one book that stayed with me long after I finished reading it. I highly recommend this book to anyone who loves an amazing story of survival.

Michael says

I received Demon in exchange for an honest review and I almost stopped reading it. The romance in the first half didn't interest me and seemed to clash with what I thought the book was about. I kept going and then the world went sideways and suddenly Sparrow was able to shift into horror mode. The initial storm, and its after affects were well written and designed to shock you. You feel as if you're a part of the story. As the novel wore on it shifted into the mode we've all come to expect from books like these. These are the survivors, this is their story. It's a novel geared toward the young adult audience, and it shows. Trust me, it's

not a bad thing, but for me, I expected more horror, more violence. What I got was something you might expect from this type of story. A lot of action from the views of characters who are still struggling to find their place in this new world.

You would think I hated this novel, but I think it's a solid read, and there's plenty of curveballs thrown to keep it interesting. The problem is I've read this type of story before, I was hoping for something different. Sparrow is a decent writer, and her writing style is what kept me reading. She knows how to hook an audience, and Demon is saved because of it. I may not have liked parts of this book, but overall it's certainly worth checking out. She wants us to care for these characters, you want to see them survive. As a writer, you want your readers to connect with your characters, to care what happens to them. Sparrow has certainly done that. While there are parts of the novel that follow the rules, there's a lot here that saves it from being just another end of the world, we are going to survive type of book.

For fans of this genre this is certainly a must read. Sparrow has written a story that combines a lot of different elements to get the story entertaining and interesting. My issues are my own and have nothing with Sparrow at all. I've read books like these and this is one definately a solid one. She throws a few curveballs that keep it interesting, it doesn't feel like your normal, run of the mill young adult novel. Sparrow took risks, and I applaud her for that. I like writers who try and do something different. Most don't succeede, and for the most part, Sparrow succeeds.

Bob Platypire says

I was given a copy of this book in exchange for an HONEST review.

Wow! This book blew me away! It was very unique, and kept me on the edge of my seat most of the time. There were characters I loved, and characters I would have "accidentally" tripped so that the others could get away, and it felt like I could really hear them speaking to me. I thought I knew the end, but NOPE! I was not expecting that. I love zombies, but I loved this twist even more. I strongly urge anyone who loves zombies, post-apocalypse, or paranormal of any kind to read this, and do it soon!

This is the first book I've read in 2016 to go on my favorites list for the year.

Bob says: 5 Platypires until it's possible to give more!

Francis says

The Demon Inside by M L Sparrow is set during an alien invasion that effectively brings about a zombie apocalypse. The protagonist, Darcy, is enjoying a summer of partying and dating when, in the midst of a potentially very romantic date, bright lights start falling from the sky. After encountering some particularly gory scenes (featuring the obligatory brain eating zombies), Darcy goes on the run in her boyfriend's van, with his father, her sister, her best friend and her dog.

The story takes place over a span of several months as the group find ways of surviving and overcoming their conflicts and struggles. Darcy's relationship with her boyfriend, Alec, develops significantly over the course of the book but there are also developments in the relationships between almost all of the principal

characters. Sparrow addresses many of the practical issues the group face whilst on the run, which helps make the story feel more realistic. The characters develop over the time, but as they grow stronger the aliens and the people possess also grow stronger and more desperate.

Sparrow has chosen to give the reader a glimpse forward at a particularly dramatic and perilous moment in the prologue. Because of this, I was never fully able to relax and get lulled into a false sense of security. I was still caught off guard by the ending, though, as it turns out there were still plenty of twists that the prologue didn't reveal!

I would have liked to learn more about the aliens, such as how they got to Earth and whether they invaded other planets in similar ways. It made sense in the context of the story, though, that the characters weren't able to access much information or have a proper conversation with any of the aliens.

I give this book 5 out of 5 stars. I found it an enjoyable and immersive read and, with the attention to detail (and also the decidedly British setting) felt like it conjured up very vivid and familiar images which added to the drama. If you like a good Apocalypse survival tale, and don't mind the occasional alien zombie and rather a lot of gore, this is definitely worth a read!

Cheryl (I Heart Fictional People) says

This review can also be seen on my blog I Heart Fictional People

Eighteen-year-old Darcy had her whole life ahead of her. She had her loving family, the grades she needed to get into the university she wanted, and Alec, her devoted boyfriend who she saw her future with. Then, things drastically changed. In *The Demon Inside* by M L Sparrow, creatures begin possessing humans, turning them into soulless cannibals that will attack and kill without hesitation. Suddenly, Darcy loses her parents, her home, and the world she once knew. She and Alec must now learn to survive and keep their loved ones safe. Even after finding what seems like a secure place to live, they struggle to adapt to their new life. And are things as safe as they seem? Can they survive in this world that is rapidly filling with dangerous monsters?

This book had me hooked from the very beginning. It started out as almost a young adult romance novel. I was so immersed in Darcy and Alec's new relationship that I forgot what the book was really about and was so surprised when people began transforming into crazy monsters. I absolutely loved that because it wasn't your typical zombie book that jumped right into blood and gore and carnage. We got to know and care about these characters first, and we were completely taken by surprise right along with them when the world took a turn for the worse. I'll be the first to admit that I cried a few times along the way, which isn't usual for me in an apocalypse-type book because I don't usually care about the characters as much as I did with this story, so I give M L Sparrow credit for doing such a fantastic job of bringing the characters to life. Yes, there was action and violence, but the focus wasn't on that. It was on this group of survivors trying to live in this new world, which makes this book stand out. With unforgettable characters and an imaginative plot, *The Demon Inside* is a must-read. I can't wait to read more from this fantastic storyteller.

Reviewed by ME for Readers' Favorite

Aly says

I really enjoyed this book. I think Zombie books have been done quite a bit but this book had a new twist on things. Possessing people, turning them into cannibals, I don't want this to be my future but I enjoyed reading about it. Creepy but I liked it a lot. * I received this book from the author in exchange for an honest review*

Christina says

This book is part *Dawn of the Dead*, part *I am Legend* (the book, not the movie), and part *The Day of the Triffids* with just a smidgen of *Zombieland* thrown in (I mean who doesn't like big houses, right??). When lights start raining chaos all over England, causing people to become like cannibalistic zombies, Darcy and Alec run. Along the way they pick up her sister, Hope, her best friend, Callie, and his dad, Mac. From there it's basic survival.

The book did start out a bit slow. But once the action got going it picked up rather quickly. In a very recently post-apocalyptic world, things can get very stressful. And things don't always run smoothly. Even the most solid of relationships have their bumps.

At first, these zombie-like creatures seem just like normal zombies. Eat people, shoot them they die. Right? But it soon becomes clear that something is different about them. It's never revealed exactly what they are. Were they aliens that came from the lights in the sky? Who knows? But they aren't your typical zombies. And that means this isn't your typical zombie book.

I really liked the relationship between Darcy and Alec. We got to see them when they met for the first time. And then again after they were dating for a month. No, it wasn't more teenage inst-love (I have that, really I do). It was a mutual attraction with love developed over time. We just didn't see some of that time, because really who wants to read about that when they can read about zombies attacking? And yet, the romance was very central to the book. Alec was very protective of Darcy. As was she of him. Even if they were fighting, they were each others' first priorities. It's no surprise that this book nearly made me cry.

So what's my opinion

I really enjoyed this. I'm not usually one to read horror. But I liked the story and the romance that came along with this one. If you like horror and/or romance, I recommend this to you.

Jenni Bishop says

Darcy and Alec are normal teenagers who are enjoying their life, enjoying falling in love and looking forward to their future together and wherever life takes them. However on a nice night out they never expected their lives to change in the blink of an eye but that is exactly what happened. That was the night when strange lights began streaking across the sky, like a meteor storm and came crashing to the ground. Mayhem came with them and from them came creatures that infected the human race changing them into soulless cannibals, animals causing death and destruction in their wake.

In that one night they lost everything single thing except for a hand full of those closest to her, her younger sister, her best friend, the dog and Alec's alcoholic father. After deciding that they could no longer stay

where they were as it was no longer safe, they packed up and headed off to try to find a safer haven. After many long days and terrifying nights they find themselves in front of a place they could maybe finally make their new home. A place where hopefully the vile creatures would not stumble upon any time in the near future.

What happens when the world is no longer one you recognise? Have they found a safe place? How will they learn to survive? Will they survive themselves let alone the creatures? Will the world ever recover? Do they find more than they bargained for? What happens when the threat is now closer to home than they thought? What happens when the evil looks just like your family, your friends the one you love?

This book is for Young Adults with a hankering for Sci Fi, Zombies, bloodshed, chaos, action packed, with a little hope and romance. It is a book about survival and just how far you are willing to go to ensure that the ones you love are safe. It has an ended that no one sees coming. To me this book is similar to the Walking Dead, so if you enjoy that you will enjoy this.

Bethany Mcvay says

The Demon Inside by M. L. Sparrow is a paranormal romance/adventure story with zombies. I'm not going to lie, when I first started reading this I wasn't sure if I was going to like it. It's zombies, they've been done to death so to speak, but I actually really enjoyed this. Here was a really good story with awesome characters, a good plot, and the writing was very well done. I won't go into many details, as that would spoil a lot of the book.

The characters were awesome, they were very well written and they made me feel connected with the story. There were a couple I really liked, Darcy is my main girl in this, and there are others I would happily trip and continue on about my day, read the book and you'll know who I'm talking about. I liked the way our main characters interacted with each other and their surroundings, it all felt genuine, like the author put a group of people in this situation and then wrote down what they did and said.

The plot was really good as well. As I said earlier, zombies have been done so many times in so many different ways; there's the slow ones, fast ones, human looking ones, weird skeleton shadow looking ones, you name it they've probably been done. And those stories are all more or less the same. But the author took that zombie story and gave it a new twist, which I really, really liked. It was a little slow in the beginning, but by the third or so chapter it goes from zero to sixty real quick, but it's not jumping from thing to thing to thing with no time to breathe in between either. It was a refreshing take on an old school story.

I've never read anything by Sparrow before this book, but after reading it I'm going to have to be on the lookout for more of their works. This was written very well, the pacing was nice, if a little slow in the very beginning. I'd have to say that's my only complaint about it, everything else worked well together and I really liked how the story flowed. It was quick during the action scenes but slowed down a bit during the quieter moments, it was just very well done.

Overall, I would give this 5 out of 5 stars. I can't wait to read more from Sparrow, I'll have to start looking around to see if I can find more of their works!

Bobbi Wagner says

The Demon Inside by M L Sparrow is a paranormal story that revolves around zombies. This story is about basic survival. This story has action, suspense and even a little romance in it. I found this story hard to get into until I hit the third chapter then it just flew by until the end. You will enjoy the journey that these character will take you on, they go from living a normal life to just trying to survive. You will enjoy how this author has created characters that will keep you engaged throughout the story and you will feel for them. Find out if these characters will survive or if fate has other things in mind for them.

Darcy is a young girl enjoying her normal summer after completing her A level classes with her boyfriend Alec. What will happen when one night changes everything? Will they find themselves fighting for survival? When strange creatures start falling from the sky and turn into cannibals, will they be safe?

She has lost everything, including her parents. All she has left is her sister and Alec. How far will she go to protect what she has left? What will happen to this group as they go in search of a world where everything will be different? When they find a few other survivors, will they be able to create a community to keep everyone safe? They just want a place to call home again, will they find it? Who will survive and who will suffer? The characters in this story are all strong in their own way. You will find that you will either love some of these characters or hate them. Darcy is strong willed and knows what she must do, she is willing to do it. Alec is our hero in this story as he will stop at nothing to save everyone. The other secondary characters really do make the rest of the story flow. Though Darcy and Alec are main characters, the secondary characters place a huge part in this story. You will enjoy how they all connect and relate to each other. Find out how far these characters are willing to go to protect everyone.

I think that this is my favorite book by M L Sparrow as of to date. I can't wait to see what she will come out with next and the one thing that I know is that she hasn't let me down yet. Her stories are always unique which is what pulls me in for her books. ML writes pretty much anything that comes into her head. She loves how she can keep her readers on their feet by changing up the genres that she writes, you never know what she might write next. She also loves to travel and has been to other countries. You will enjoy how she has created a story that you will not be able to put down. You will totally lose track of time once you get into it. This story was fast paced once it picked up, you will find yourself at the end before you know it. I highly suggest this story as I know you will want to see what happens at the end of this story as you will never believe it.

Kelli Delp says

The Demon Inside by M L Sparrow is a unique and creative twist on romance and zombies. Darcy and her boyfriend Alec are the two main characters in this imaginative novel but, there are also several characters who are highly involved in the story with large roles.

Imagine a life where you were just a normal teenage girl falling in love with her boyfriend; and, then out of nowhere, you were fighting alongside each other trying to survive in a world where humanity no longer exists but rather creatures have taken over. Death is around every door that opens and you wonder when the food and ammo will eventually run out and love is the only thing motivating you to fight for your life.

Based in England, Alec and Darcy along with a few family members and friends are trying to survive the widespread epidemic. Traveling and squatting in any house that seems safe is only realistic for a while. Eventually, they decide to put down some roots and try to live life as best as they can.

Even though, zombies and blood are all around them creating chaos, Alec and Darcy doesn't let that put a damper on their love for each other. Together they try to stay alive and keep their family and friends safe.

But, in a world full of flesh eating zombies, are they the only things to be afraid of when every human is trying to survive and fighting for food? Will humans turn against each other?

“This is England, not Iraq.”
“Look outside...what's the difference?”

Is love enough to help Alec and Darcy both survive the epidemic? Or will they realize their only hope at survival is to become a monster too?

“Sometimes you have to become a monster to survive.”

This was my first novel to read by M L Sparrow and I thought it was action-packed and inventive. With an ending that I definitely did not foresee and an epilogue from the heart, I recommend if you enjoy romance and suspense and are ok with some bloodshed. It had my heart racing on far more than one occasion.

LZW says

The Demon Inside by M L Sparrow is a YA paranormal fantasy that I gave 4 out of 5 stars. This novel is written in third person point of view following the main character, Darcy, as she fights to survive in a world she no longer recognizes. This novel was a fresh take on the horrors of an impending zombie apocalypse, and the fight for survival that ensues.

Darcy is a just another teenager having fun, not worrying what tomorrow may bring. She had it all: brains, beauty, family, friends, and an amazing boyfriend. It's crazy what you take for granted. In an instant all is gone, life as she knew it-shredded completely. People are becoming animalistic zombie-like creatures at a rapid pace decimating others. Darcy steps up to protect all she has left after the turn-her sister and her boyfriend. They band together with a few others to fight their way to sanctuary where they can be safe. But is there such a place? Will they even survive the next day? Read to find out!

For me, this was a fast paced read-I couldn't wait to find out the fate of Darcy and Alec (her boyfriend). Darcy transitions from happy bouncy teenager to survivalist by the end of this novel, her strength is genuine. Alec's love for Darcy shines through, all he wants is for her to be safe while Darcy wants to save the human populace;) This is a definite page turner, with twists and suspense galore! Anything can happen in their new world, and you feel their fear while reading. This author is gifted at connecting the reader with the characters. I can't wait to read more by M L Sparrow.

Maura says

The Demon Inside by M L Sparrow 4 Stars

“Hope is the embers still smoldering beneath the ashes when the fire appears to have burnt out” – Greg Evans.

Based on the introduction in this story, it appears that this is the first book M L Sparrow wrote. Wow, I would not have guessed that. I’ve read M L Sparrow’s other books and have enjoyed each one in a different way. What an imagination this author has.

The Demon Inside is the story of a world gone a little haywire. From the moment this story started, it took turns that I did not expect nor envision and I kept turning pages (and at times held my breath) to see what was coming next. What I thought this book was and what it actually is are two different things. I was happily surprised. The story is written in a way that has comedic timing (“we are in England, not Iraq” “Have you looked outside lately?”), spine tingling drama, young romance , idealism that everything is going to be ok and jumping out of your skin surprises

Darcy and Alec, his father, Darcy’s sister and fabulous best friend set out to find out what exactly has happened in the, now, post-apocalyptic world. Their world flipped upside down in one fateful night and trying to figure out what is going is proving daunting. Nothing is really clear as to the why, but it is known what they must do to survive. This is the story of their adventure.

The story is a bit familiar as I’ve seen movies with a similar “theme” but it was told in a refreshing way. If this is ever made into a movie, I really think Simon Pegg should play Mac.

A side note: If you are someone who reads the last page before you begin, please don’t. Enjoy the ride of the tale in the time line it is told. You won’t be disappointed.

Anna | mybookishdream says

Full review on my blog, **My Bookish Dream**

***The Demon Inside* wasn’t what I expected it to be** and I meant that in both a good and bad way. **I have read quiet a few zombie and apocalypse books before** and they tend to fascinate me. I just find the whole concept interesting, plus it’s always exiting to read survival stories.

When I’m reading apocalypse and zombie books I expect them to be thrilling and action packed. Sadly this wasn’t the case with this book. There was action in some parts of the book, but I found it mostly lacking in that department. The story felt very slow, especially towards the middle. **Another thing that comes to mind when you think about zombies is horror**, and I expected to find it in this book as well. Don’t get me wrong, **there were horror elements, but you can definitely see that it’s aimed at a young adult audience** – I just expected a lot more gore and violence from it.

I liked most of the characters. Darcy, Alec and Callie definitely stood out to me and I liked them the most. The other side characters were rather forgettable and I didn’t care all that much about them. **There**

was insta-love in the beginning of the book (~~I seriously dislike that trope~~), though I enjoyed the relationship between Darcy and Alec more as the story progressed.

Overall I liked this book, but I wasn't blown away by it or anything like that. **I would recommend you to check this book out**, especially if you enjoy those types of books!

Lastly I would like to thank the author, M. L. Sparrow, for sending me a copy of her book!

These Violent Delights (Robin) says

Note: I received a copy of this book from the author in exchange for an honest review

Review will be posted July 22nd!

Hint: I very much liked it!
