



The Final Race

Oliver Chiapco

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FIRST, THE STRANGE CREATURES FROM THE RIVER. THEN THE Hordes OF KILLER MOSQUITOES. THEN THE RAGING PLAGUE. AMIDST THE RAVAGES OF DEATH AND PESTILENCE, ONE DOCTOR TURNS TO AN ANCIENT CURE.

In a warming world, the stage is set for malevolent storms, deadly diseases, and human conflict. As the death toll rises and vital resources thin out, bigotry rears its ugly horns and racial tension ignites. When life-saving drugs run out and hospital morgues turn into mass graves, Dr. Jamal Jackson hatches a contentious plan: unleash a beast to kill another beast---extinguish the plague with a genetic anomaly that he, ironically, had long since vowed to purge from the face of the earth. Then it occurs to him. The very race that history had once condemned could very well be the most resilient of all---and the very gene that he had so reviled could be the very cure that could save all.

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The Final Race Details

Date : Published August 14th 2012 by Mill City Press, Inc.

ISBN : 9781938223280

Author : Oliver Chiapco

Format : Paperback 290 pages

Genre : Thriller

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From Reader Review The Final Race for online ebook

Kristina Franken says

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I received this book for free and am in now way bound to give a good recommendation.

Craig says

Goodreads First Reads giveaway winner

I found 'The Final Race' to be good when taken as an author's first novel. While I certainly don't agree with all of the author's political viewpoints as portrayed in the story, I can certainly overlook that aspect. I did find that the author had a habit of continually introducing new characters in many of the chapters, even as the reader came to the last 15-20% of the story. Furthermore, most of these characters only had one chapter where their 'story' was told. I found it made the overall story a little weak. I wish we could have known more about what happened to several of the mentioned characters.

I also found the development of many of the characters to be formulaic. There would be a single parent, and two children. Very rarely did you see a two parent family. The absent parent was always either dead or in jail. Perhaps a more varied group of characters would have helped the story along.

I also found the ending to be a bit fortuitous. No real reason was given as to why one major country in the world would be willing and able to assist another in surviving such a plague while also protecting their own population.

I did enjoy learning more about the different viruses and diseases. The author showed tremendous knowledge as well as an obvious joy when conveying the medical aspects.

I would recommend 'The Final Race' to any reader who enjoys apocalyptic style stories that is looking to give a new author a try.

Joanne says

This is a fabulous, fascinating book! A medical, scientific, and apocalyptic thriller all rolled up into one riveting and exciting book that was both entertaining and informative. It is so well written that I would never have guessed that this is the author's first novel, and quite frankly, I thought it was a lot better than the fluff the more well-known medical and scientific thriller authors have been putting out lately. I kept wanting to read just one more page to see what happened next! It combines both the horror of a disease set to eradicate mankind with the very human interactions of those trying to avert the disaster and those who are affected by the rampantly spreading virus, as well as discussing what has brought these events to life.

It begins as a young boy brought into a hospital is diagnosed with having been exposed to a life-threatening amoeba by swimming in a river, one of several victims in southern states. The warmer weather is thought to be a contributing factor to the parasite's appearance. As this is happening, Professor John Garrett of the Department of Meteorology and Atmospheric Sciences is delivering a thought provoking lecture on global warming and its causes to meteorology students in Daytona Beach, Florida, little suspecting that said global warming has already begun to wreak havoc by promoting the spread of disease-carrying mosquitos, and that a deadly outbreak has already begun.

Dr. Jamal Jackson, a specialist in treating sickle cell patients, has delivered a fascinating lecture on sickle cell when he finds himself on the front lines of another disease as his hospital is overrun with patients infected with something that had formerly been mostly eradicated in North America, and his controversial treatment to save lives will cause racism to rear its ugly head as he unveils it.

In addition to all the wonderful science in the book, the characters just jump to life as the doctors battle the disease and others begin to experience the massive die-off of the human race. The burgeoning apocalypse predictably begins to bring out the best and the worst in people as they struggle to survive in a collapsing world, and their stories alternately saddened and angered me. I would highly recommend this book to anyone who likes books by the likes of Michael Crichton or Robin Cook, or who just enjoys a unique apocalyptic novel. I received this as an ARC from Goodreads and I just loved it!

Madonna says

I found "The Final Race" to have fascinating possibilities. Glad to see a medical drama based on real happenings instead of being totally science fiction. I realize the book is fiction, but it is so well written that you feel like this stuff can really happen. And, the author shows very believable actions by the people. Hoarding, fighting, blocking others from treatment, etc. may not happen due to a medical catastrophe, but will, and does, happen all the time in different parts of the globe. Whether the spread of the diseases would be caused by global warming or by travelers or shipment of goods from other countries. We know this happens. We live in a very small world.

I liked the historical references and the very real idea that we may have to find completely new ways to treat diseases since even though we have so many medicines, some are already not quickly available and some just don't work anymore. I found the reactions of the different individuals to be very realistic and really enjoyed reading "The Final Race".

I agree that we are all one "under God" and that we should act accordingly. Thanks to GoodReads for making this book available to me.
