



The Introvert

Michael P. Michaud

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A vacuum salesman by day, the introvert lives a quiet life alone with his dog until a work relationship and a dark secret from his past team up to create an uncomfortable imbalance in his otherwise ordered life, one that soon finds him squarely at the center of a murder investigation. With his thoughts continually urging him to make people "red and open" and to "achieve it" with his girlfriend Donna, what follows is a sometimes brutal, oftentimes hilarious, and absurdist account of the life of one very anti-social and unexpected anti-hero.

The Introvert Details

Date : Published November 26th 2016 by Black Opal Books

ISBN : 9781626945470

Author : Michael P. Michaud

Format : Paperback 160 pages

Genre : Fiction, Mystery

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From Reader Review The Introvert for online ebook

Philippa McKenna says

They say the best things come in small packages, and that is certainly true in the case of this smashing little novella. With a penchant for 'achieving it' with his girlfriend, Donna, and wanting to see anyone who winds him up as 'red and open', The Introvert is a strangely likeable character. Gruesome, dark, funny; I was only disappointed that this wasn't twice as long! Loved it.

Minx -The Genre Minx Book Reviews says

True rating 3.5 stars

This is my first time reviewing black humor which is a genre of comedy that usually touches on themes that are taboo or usually considered too serious to touch on. It is usually sardonically humorous involving morbid or grotesque situations that deal with suffering, anxiety or even death. This book is a perfect fit within that genre.

The story is told from the view point of the main character. The first thing that struck me is that I read the entire story and not once was the protagonist named. You know that the story is all about him but not once is his name mentioned. That is actually really well done because even without the basic descriptions that I have come to expect this story was interesting and carried me through to the end.

His deal with the "red and open" for me was, at first, funny because I took it in the sense that he was being facetious. Hmmmm, then it took a turn into crazy land. I love that he is passionate about certain things (yes, being vague) and that he is willing to go to great lengths to "right some wrongs" and all but there are so many other ways in which the goal could have been achieved that this "black humor" was pretty much lost on me.

The character himself basically spends his life either trying to keep his calm on so that no one ends up "red and dead," which I actually enjoy how he rationalizes everything, or he filters every life situation he encounters through his company handbook. The handbook has situational guidelines and he uses it as a mantra for most of his conflicts that arise. Hilarious! So for me the best parts were his inner thoughts where he rationalizes everything.

As a whole this is a great story. Written in an easy to read manner. You get caught up in the story and can't help but to want good things for the main character. I do not think the character is shy or an introvert, I think he is a psycho that has been given good coping skills and is adult enough to be able to keep himself, for the most part, contained. I was not able to really form any other opinion on the main character. For that reason, I am not in love with this book ***but*** if you enjoy this genre of fiction then dang it will knock your socks off and I highly recommend it to you.

Thank you to Author Michael P. Michaud for this eARC of The Introvert

This review is based on an eARC I received from Author Michael P. Michaud. It is an honest and voluntary review and the advanced receipt of it in no way affected my review or rating.

Miriam Smith says

"The Introvert" by Michael Paul Michaud.....Oh how I loved this! I read it in just one sitting, there was just no way I was putting this down! I am growing to like this type of genre - black humour - more and more and found this quirky book just brilliant. It was so easy to read and follow and you find yourself engaging with the story and the main character immediately. You never find out his name which adds to the intrigue, he's such an adorable anti-social, anti-hero even when he's having his 'red and open' incidents. He's funny, awkward, serious and I loved the 'I see' moments in the book; truly funny but then there were so many funny moments like this. It's a well paced book that doesn't drag, isn't slow, just keeps going making you want to continue reading.

I could easily have read a full length novel based on "The Introvert" and hope one day Michael does develop this novella further. I highly recommend this book and award it 5 wonderful stars.

Cheryl says

This is one of those books that you can both love and hate it at the same time. Ok, maybe hate is a strong word. More like a "what am I reading". This is a train wreck but it is so good that I can't stop reading. This book is told from the first person. I am mixed on first person books. Some I have read are good and others were not so good. This book is in the good category.

The main character is so socially awkward that again this was a situation where it was both painful and funny to watch how everything played out. However, my favorite parts were when the main character would be interacting with someone he could not stand and thoughts of killing them would play out in his head. The results were always the same "red and open". The next time I watch a murder show or read a book with a murder scene I am going to think "red and open". I enjoyed reading this book more than I thought I would and the end results were magical.

Mrs Mac McKenzie says

This is a quirky and quick read about a young man's quest to get through his life without causing too many dramas that upset him. Similar in vein to "The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night time" where the protagonist is slightly dysfunctional and whose behaviour can be triggered by certain actions by others, leading to unexpected, possibly life changing events.

I would recommend it to people who like a bit of black humour, quirky characters and a plot where you are not really sure where you will go.

Thank you to Michael P. Michaud for reaching out to me to read and review your 2nd book. It was a pleasure!

Colette Lamberth says

Well that was short and sweet but maybe that was part of its charm. When I'm reading first person it's really important to me that the voice sounds right and this was spot on. No surprise I suppose given that I am an introvert and while I don't ever think about making people "red and open" I could definitely relate to the idea of being "only quiet with my words" and "usually loud in my mind".

I like a quirky or oddball character but jeez Louise, *The Introvert* is all that and then some more.

I received a free copy of *The Introvert* via TBCOnFB and my thanks to the author for that.

Jules says

I love how even before the story starts, it says "For the weirdos", which made me think, this sounds promising.

The Introvert is a novella about a man who generally keeps to himself, but has issues when it comes to controlling his urges to harm certain people. Luckily, he's reasonably selective, making him more of an anti-hero. This story is a mix of crime and dark comedy, which I thought worked well. The main character is certainly a bit quirky. Oh how I love getting into the minds of weirdos.

As a dog lover, there were certain aspects of this story I could relate to, although I've never gone to quite the lengths described in the novella.

I also found it somewhat entertaining that this story reminded me to look up vacuum cleaners. I saw an advert on TV a week or two ago claiming that 3 out of 4 people preferred the Shark pet vacuum to the Dyson Animal. I meant to investigate this online, as I've never heard of Shark vacuums before, but completely forgot about it until reading this. An example of fiction crossing over into real life.

Overall, an enjoyable read. I read it in two sittings. Probably took me about two and a half hours, and I'm not a particularly fast reader, so this is ideal if you fancy a quick read between full length novels.

Linzie Aucote says

This story has left me confused... With myself. I found the writing style not to my taste at all, very repetitive and just a little uncomfortable yet the story had me intrigued, so much so, I started this an hour and half ago and I've finished it.

This is definitely different to anything I've ever read before and although I found the writing style difficult, that could just be me and this is why I've given this story 4 stars.

Thank you to TBC and the Author for sending me a copy of the book.

Sheetal Maurya - Godse (Halo of Books) says

Black humor is a genre which I started loving after reading the book Susanna's Seven Husbands. But after that, I have never actually picked any book of this genre. So when the author provided me an advance copy of this book to read and review then I can't resist my joy. Big thanks to the author for giving me chance to read this book.

Plot summary:

The Introvert is the Vacuum Salesman, whose life revolves around work, completing the target, getting his dog Molly for a walk. He seldom talks to anyone but in his own words his mind 'always keep talking'. His thoughts are sometimes funny but sometimes totally weird as he wants to see the people 'Red and open'.

Even though he has absurd thought process but for some, he is an awesome man and one of them is Donna, his colleague. She fell in love with him, the introvert doesn't confess any love to her but he loved it when she makes him to 'achieve it'.

Things were going fine until one day the landlord of the Introvert disappeared in mysterious circumstances. He is the prime suspect and what unfurl next is a combination of humor, suspense, and brutality.

Writing style:

The language is very easy and you can read this book in one sitting. The author has not created many characters and that make this story a simple and seamless.

My perception:

I simply loved this book. One thing which I find interesting is that the author has managed to narrate the whole story without mentioning the name of the protagonist. This book narrates the story of anti-hero but you will simply fall in love with his character. At first, I thought that this book is like the American Psycho but after reading it entirely I've found that this is totally different. This book also reflects the other side of human persona. One star goes to the attractive and perfect cover page. This book is purely entertaining, thought provoking and ultimately beautiful! A perfect weekend read.

You can also read this book review on my blog [The Introvert by Michael P. Michaud – Book review](#)

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Overall, an enjoyable read. I read it in two sittings. Probably took me about two and a half hours, and I'm not a particularly fast reader, so this is ideal if you fancy a quick read between full length novels.

Ellen says

Now, I love an anti-hero and *The Introvert* is definitely one of those. A quiet, unassuming vacuum salesman who loves nothing more than keeping himself to himself and walking his rescue dog Molly. All is not as it seems and we have clues to this quite early on in the novella. With comments about imagining people "red and open" and a mysterious event that happened two years ago, I knew I was in for some surprises. There are laugh out loud moments and a little gore; I really enjoyed this book. A fantastic read - more please!!

Simon Leonard says

this is a very dark novella which I enjoyed lots. I started reading it last night and got to chapter 20 before I even realised it. it follows a man who has very dark thoughts about evil people and wants to make them open and red. at the start he lives alone with his dog in an apartment and works as a vacuum cleaner sales man but as the story progresses he meets a woman and dates her but his dark thoughts keep coming. it is a brilliant read which I enjoyed and would recommend

Lori Tatar says

I won *The Introvert* from Goodreads and received a bookmark as well, and I must say, contest or no contest, *The Introvert* is wholly original. I found myself immediately immersed in the story of a man who truly loves animals, and perhaps takes that affection and care for their well-being a bit too far.

I found myself completely understanding the discordance of his exterior with what was going on in his head; it's pretty much how we all become socially acceptable and functioning human beings. The difference is, he acts out on what he wants to do, where most of the world does not.

In the long run, the animal lover learns to have his own special brand of compassion toward humans, too and....well, I don't want to include any spoilers but, read this and live in the mind of an honest psychopath for an hour or two.

Sarah says

I have to admit to start with I found *The Introvert* slightly slow and didn't really know if it would be for me. The further into it I got though the more interested I was and by the end I loved it.

The Introvert himself, we never actually find out his name, I found quite odd. He lives in an apartment with his cocker spaniel mix, Molly, and works as a vacuum salesman. He pretty much keeps himself to himself and doesn't really like to talk a lot. To be honest you can understand why I wasn't really gripped at first as even though odd, he is very boring. That soon changes though!

I couldn't quite see the attraction myself, but Donna, the Introvert's work colleague, has her sights set on him. She badgers him until he agrees to go out for a drink and then a relationship of sorts starts up between the two.

When his landlord goes missing the police seem to be very interested in the Introvert. The police seem very keen to keep chatting to him as well as Donna and his work colleagues. Even though he seems to be the prime suspect, nothing really seems to faze him.

By the end I have to admit to being totally won over by the Introvert. He certainly may be a bit of an odd ball but I just loved everything about him. He is sure to win readers over.

The Introvert, though a bit of a slow burner to start with, is a brilliantly clever tale. I have to admit to not quite expecting what was coming which thrilled and excited me. If you love a dark tale with an underlying sense of humour, you are going to simply devour and very much enjoy this book.

My thanks to the author for a copy of this book. All opinions are my own and not biased in anyway.

Noelle says

My thanks to the author and to Black Opal Books for an ARC of this novella.

Well OMFG! What a fantastically weird, twisted and absolutely quirky novella *The Introvert* was! So much so, I am not even sure where in the world to begin! The cover is simple, yet eye-catching and pretty much gives you a feel of the wickedly wonderful writing you will stumble across as you delve into the world of *The Introvert*!

The majority of this book takes place in either an office, The Introvert's home/neighbourhood or the local area – which pretty much gives you a clue about the way “*The Introvert*” does not do much outside of his comfort zone. Within the pages we find a twisted reality, where evil is done for good, where lust becomes love, where the unreal is...well real...or real in the mind of “*The Introvert*” himself.

The plot is well paced and builds up superbly to the WTAF moments! And there are a few of those! Believe me! I love things that are depraved and abnormal and figuratively grab you by the throat. This novella did just that! It was bizarre in the nicest possible way!

I really enjoyed the fact that it was not overloaded with characters and for a short novella, the ones that were included were well written and likeable. Even the anti-hero! I found myself drawn to him despite his inability to grasp that what he was doing was oh-so-wrong! A few stood out and are worthy of a mention. Donna Wintergrass– she is “The Introvert’s” girlfriend. I have to be honest, she annoyed the hell out of me at first. She is needy, comes across as desperate and frankly, quite naive! But as the story unfolds, these characteristics endear the reader to her. I wanted to shake her at times and scream “snap out of it lady!” – but then, I shrugged my shoulders and thought “more fool you” – sometimes we only see what we want to see, right!?

The Inspector was also another fab character. He played a cat-n-mouse game with The Introvert who always seemed to frustratingly outwit him! But it was The Introvert himself who stole the show. Dark, deep and down-right deviant, everything he said and did just repulsed and enthralled me at the same time! He is anti social, blends into society almost unnoticed, but he is someone you definitely need to take notice of! He has child-like qualities that instantly makes the reader protective of him and his love of animals pulls you in and makes you believe he is harmless. He is not!! See what I mean? WTAF is going on!

Would I recommend this wee novella? You bet your arse I would! I found it's originality refreshing, it's quirkiness addictive and the strangeness was absolutely awesome! Well worth checking out, #bookjunkies!
