



## Darlings of Decay

*Tamara Rose Blodgett, Chantal Boudreau, Laura Bretz, Tonia Brown, Catt Dahman, Mia Darien, C.M. Doporto, Jacqueline Druga, more... Vanessa Booke ...less*

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**Darlings of Decay** Tamara Rose Blodgett , Chantal Boudreau , Laura Bretz , Tonia Brown , Catt Dahman , Mia Darien , C.M. Doporto , Jacqueline Druga , more... Vanessa Booke ...less

Chilling tales of zombie horror from thirty of your favorite female writers. Sit back as your favorite authors of zombie lit take you on a wild, horrifying ride that will leave you breathless! Come and meet the women who love to entertain you with their own unique versions of the zombie apocalypse.

Featuring:

Tamara Rose Blodgett

V. Booke

Chantal Boudreau

Laura Bretz

Tonia Brown

Catt Dahman

Mia Darien

CM Doporto

Jacqueline Druga

Dana Fredsti

Belinda Frisch

April Grey

Michelle Kilmer

Rebecca Hansen

Lori R. Lopez

Suzi M

Shannon Mayer

Tara Maya

Lyra McKen

Cynthia Melton

Kristen Middleton

Chrissy Peebles

Jeannie Rae

Suzanne Robb

Julianne Snow

Rebecca Snow

Anna Taborska

Ally Thomas

Christine Verstraete

AR Von

Annie Walls (Blackballing the Dead)

Jen Wilde

## **Darlings of Decay Details**

Date : Published June 30th 2013

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Author : Tamara Rose Blodgett , Chantal Boudreau , Laura Bretz , Tonia Brown , Catt Dahman , Mia Darien , C.M. Doporto , Jacqueline Druga , more... Vanessa Booke ...less

Format : Kindle Edition 849 pages

Genre : Horror, Zombies, Short Stories, Anthologies, Fantasy, Paranormal

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## From Reader Review Darlings of Decay for online ebook

### Thomas says

It's very hard to rate a book like this. On one hand some of the stories were amazing, on the other... well, there's a zombie werewolf vampire demon. I'm incredibly sick of zombies, at least for the moment.

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### Victor \*we were on a break!\* says

The Zombie genre has been done to death and back... but it's still one of my favorites. Every now and then you get lucky and an author comes along with a different take or perspective and breathes new life into a stale story. If we're really lucky, the author delivers a great story via that new perspective.

This anthology had a few stories that had us looking at zombies and the apocalypse in a new light. Which I think is to be expected when you gather up these many writers because - *virus, outbreak, head to the mall to gather supplies* would get tiring very quickly. Sadly the majority of the stories failed at delivering a great story. First off, some of these were short stories and others were just ads to get you to buy the full novel (not cool). Some of the unique perspectives were wasted while a couple could easily be full novels.

Some characters were flat and unremarkable and the stories followed suit. Some authors tried too hard - to be funny and I don't know the writing felt, off.

I enjoyed a handful - the ones I remember:

What Zombies Fear by Laura Bretz

Bob by Tonia Brown

Eva Wilde Vs The Zombie Apocalypse\* by Jen Marie Wilde \*nothing unique here but a nice book to end the anthology.

There was least one more that I enjoyed but the title escapes me.

I hate DNFing books and I didn't come close with this one, but man I had to turn the "time left to finish book" counter on the bottom of my Kindle Fire off because it was depressing me. There was a chapter that was going to take me over three hours to finish, wait, what? Three hours?!? You'd think I was reading backwards.

After all this mudslinging I still recommend this if you love the genre. I mean, we're talking zombies here :) Read one story a week in between books or when you're in a slump. Some of these stories will have you running to a good novel in a heartbeat.

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### Jeff Vandivor says

In a world where the zombie anthology well is scraping the extremes of low, and finding a good one I have not read or do not already own that isn't mostly garbage has become a daunting hunt, "Darlings of Decay"

smashes the tedium with a sleek and refreshing fucking sledgehammer. Paradigms be damned, this isn't a book of good zombie stories by women; this is a perspicaciously engaging and original collection of stories by great authors, regardless of gender. "What zombies fear" was my favorite, incase anyone is wondering, but the entire book is not to be missed.

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### **Chris Haught says**

What more can I say? OUTSTANDING! I can't put it down. Each story is amazing. 30 of the top female authors of the genre all together in one incredible book. It's FREE, let me say it again, FREE! I personally want to thank each and every author for giving this to us. I just added many new authors to my fave list.

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### **Tammy K. says**

I am shelving this as a DNF at 42%.

There are a couple interesting stories, but not enough to push through to the end of the book.

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### **Vix says**

A pre-warning, the blurb for this says "stories & excerpts" maybe I missed the excerpts bit because quite a few of these chapters were just lumps of other stories, enticements into buying the full story from the author. Not sure I like that style of anthology.

What Zombies Fear by Laura Bretz: it all started with a weird phone call, then a mad bite laden drive through country lanes, as the main character (Ryan) struggles to get home to his beloved wife - LB really ratcheted up the tension and the emotions felt by this perfect couple. She also gave a great sense of despair and there was a real element of spook. Ryan's "journey" did make me smile a few times. The ingenious use of duct tape - its a fix-all!! I didn't really understand the end but thought the premise would make a great full length novel. I also want their house! great load of links at the end of the story, and I look forward to her first novel.

Bob by Tonia Brown: a humorous, zen thinking zombie but with no set un-life desire to reach the top of the munching pile, until poor work shy Bob finds his true calling. brilliant! TB really manages to inject some humour into the grotesque.

Just Another Day by Chantal Boudreau: supermum in the ZomPoc, its a hardship juggling so much, but Margot does well. CB really draws you into this little family unit and then does a big WooHoo at the end. Very enjoyable.

Mr Romero's Warriors by Catt Cahman: very short but also very haunting, I was left with an "omg what did I just read" feeling.

Descent by Mia Darian: a very strange little tale of Gods, zombies and sacrifice. I did not really get into this story as felt the "telling" of the story odd and the mix of genres too weird; for me!

Flesh Seekers by CM Doporto: I loved the clever way that CMD conveyed information without long spiels, just little infobombs. The dystopian world that she depicts is filled with horrors, and her gore descriptions were grossly wonderful. I felt a bit cheated on this one though as it ends with an advert for the continuing of the story. meh, not good, IMO if I want to like the authors work and buy it I will do but not because I was lured in during an anthology.

Zombie Battle by Jacqueline Druga: another temptation piece to get you hooked on the author, without a complete story. Not impressed. Although I was with the story and the writing.

You'll Never Eat Lunch in this Town Again by Dana Fredsti: lots of film references, which if you like movies you will enjoy. The blasé way the zombie issue is dealt with is hysterical and the "show must go on". I really enjoyed this.

Payback by Belinda Frisch: again, this is merely a little stuffed in short to entice you (the reader) to buy the bigger novel. Sorry, I already paid for an anthology and I expect full stories.

I'll Love You Forever, But... by April Grey: I had to snort when its the slimy mud covered socks that really miff our Lady regarding her zombie husband and that is only the start of this brilliant short story. I will definitely be on the look out for more. MY favourite.

Excerpts... Michelle Kilmer & Rebecca Hansen: NOPE! I wont half read a story, sorry.

The Fruit of Thy Womb by Lori R. Lopez: I'm glad this lovely, well known to me, author came next or I would have given up on this book. However the story is not lovely, the world has gone to poop and poor Ziggy has had a tough time, the dejection and gloom in his world so delicately chronicled by LRL. Flies with teeth, aaah thats almost as bad as spiders with wings! As the story flits back and forth in time zones and the stories of the three main characters revolve, it really gives you a sense of what has occurred as the horror unfolds. Its certainly a unique take on the zompoc!

Scarred by Suzi M: short and snappy! thankfully I have read ALL the stories by this author so feel I know her well, this was a very short show of her talent.

The One in the Basement by Tara Maya: Marlie is the Queen of Kitsch. I was in giggleheaven with PooTube & Twatter. A "lovely" little story of family love - really enjoyed this.

Sundered by Shannon Mayer: another advert, and SO much of a story to end nowhere.

Zombified by Lyra Mcken: aw what a sad little zombie tale of two children slowly turning into zombies, very clever writing shows off the confusion and emotion. The prologue was inspired.

Zombie Awakening by Cynthia Melton, Hope for A Happy ending by by Kristen Middleton, The Zombie Chronicles by Chrissy Peebles & The Sickness by Jeannie Rae: more short stories enticing to you buy the novel - I bought this one, this function of testing a book is available via Amazon.

At this point I am NOT wasting any more of time reading. I am sorry to the remaining authors who contributed.

In future I will be a little more careful in what anthologies I buy and not just go on the few names that I recognise.

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### **Mia Darien says**

This is a lot of zombie apocalypse in one place! There are too many stories for me to review individually (at least and keep my head from breaking), but over all, a pretty cool anthology for the z-apoc lovers out there. But what the heck is that Mia Darien chick doing in there? :P

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### **Monica says**

Love zombies!

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### **Cyber Killer says**

I usually treat anthologies as samplers of different authors, though I like when they include completely new works, specifically written for that anthology. This is not the case here - nearly all the included works have been published before, so there's nothing new for fans of the genre who read it all.

There are some great stories/novels here (like Annie Walls' companion story to her Famished series) and some outright bad ones (e.g. the paranormal romance with part werewolf part zombie part vampire with healing blood and a part demonspawn on top of that protagonist - damn! 8-), overall the whole selection is quite good. I have one serious criticism though - including samples of novels which are cut at some point with a message "buy the book to read more" is really a no-go for me. I mean, seriously, this is an anthology of complete works, not a sales catalogue - sadly there are a couple (~5?) of works included this way inside :-(.

Overall I recommend this book, though it might be a bit too much zombies for some people if read in one go. I know I need some proper break from zombie fiction for a while myself :-).

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### **Kym Hewick says**

For a free book this was freakin awesome! Have discovered some new authors I am really keen to read more of.

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### **angie says**

I've not read enough yet into Darlings to write a decent review, but I will say this: so far I'm very impressed. In this anthology you will find lots of different approaches to the zombie fiction genre. Of particular greatness is Laura Bretz's "The Ballad Of Ryan Fullerton" and Tonia Brown's "Bob." I expect there will be more to mention as I go along. :)

One thing I really like about anthologies (especially great ones like this that you like to draw out because you're afraid it will end too soon) is that you can read one or two stories at a time and then go back to reading novels or non-fiction as well.

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### **Katya says**

It seems like I'm going against the current here, but... this was a really hard read for me. A couple of stories were absolutely outstanding but the majority felt like they'd actually been written by zombies.

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### **Joline Novy says**

Wow! Wow! WOW!! This was an absolutely FANTASTIC anthology!! I would highly recommend this to anyone who enjoys reading books about zombies and/or the zombie apocalypse! There are many many great stories in this book. Some are as short as 2 pages while some are full length first installments. While I do have my favorites, there's no way I could pick one story I liked the most. When I heard about this project and saw some of the authors that were submitting stories, I was so excited about this coming out. Not only did I really enjoy what I read by the familiar writers, I found some new wonderful authors to follow as well!! I am not disappointed at all with this anthology!! Well done ladies!!

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### **Jacqueline Loudan weister says**

Awesome book! I read it in one day I could not put it down. I recommend this book it took me a while to get to it as I was behind in my reading but as they say you save the BEST for last. A few of my favorite authors are in this book and I also added a lot more to check out once I Finish a few more books.

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### **Eleanor says**

Loved Annie Walls Chapter in this book. Controlling the Dead tells Mac's Story. If you haven't checked out her first book the series, "Taking on the Dead" You should really check it out.

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