



Ravaged

Jason Brant

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Welcome to the mountains of Pennsylvania, one of the last vestiges of the human race.

Lance York, a self-described loser in another life, has rediscovered himself in the midst of the apocalypse. Along with a cadre of other survivors, including the hardened, sexy Cass, Lance has taken refuge in a compound, struggling to survive the onslaught of monstrosities descending upon them each night.

The horrors that have devoured mankind are changing, their minds rebooting like a computer. Intelligence, the lone advantage of the humans, is returning to the infected. They ravage the compound with calculated, precise strikes, chiseling away at the defenses Lance and his friends have erected.

With the help of new ally, Major Frank Colt, the flickering flame of the old world must fight to stave off the extinguishing tidal wave of the new one.

Ravaged Details

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From Reader Review Ravaged for online ebook

Darren says

2nd in a Post-apocalyptic series.

Susan says

Book 3 picks up roughly 1 month after Book 2 ends. Our heroes are still at the compound they wrested away from the maniacal Ralph. Other survivors continue to join them and the camp's resources are starting to strain. Add to that, the infected monsters seem to be getting smarter and are targeting the camp. Even with the arrival of a new ally, they might not survive.

Our main foursome continue to face the odds. Each one of them has a demon or three to face in this installment of The Hunger series. Lance York, the man who started the apocalypse in nothing but a hospital gown, has gone from being a sad couch potato to a man of action. He's at that point where he can look at himself and see the changes – both physically and psychologically. The world has gone to crap and he has risen from it, becoming a man he can respect. I have really enjoyed his story arc because he is just such a normal guy. Perhaps we would all benefit from an apocalypse.

Cass continues to grow as a character too. She was use to fending for herself before the infected covered the Earth. However, her time spent with Lance has shown her the benefits to being a little soft around a few select humans. She's still a bad ass with a war axe and has her own dress code, but now she has opened a bit to Lance and even Emmett and Meghan.

Speaking of Emmett and Meghan, they play more central roles in this book as well. The group as a whole face some difficult decisions, but both Meghan and Emmett, who have trained and served in their own ways to protect and preserve life, must face the decision to take life. They were fine sidekicks in Book 2; in this book, they are integral and I would miss them if they weren't there.

The plot line keeps us moving along. There's still plenty of action and savagery from the infected, but those are punctuated with moments of reflection or humor. One of the things I really like about this series is that the dangers change with each book. We have the human dangers – humans like to be jerks to each other and that probably won't change. Also, the infected – those savage monsters – have started to show more than bestial reactions to stimuli. They are already incredibly deadly, but now imagine them able to reason and problem solve! It makes for a very exciting plot!

With new foes and dangers, I was concerned for more than one of our foursome throughout the book. The ending was very satisfying and I can only hope that the author continues on with these characters. I am not ready to let them go.

Narration: Wayne June once again was THE voice for Lance York. I like his average guy in a crappy situation voice. It really suits Lance's humor. As usual, Wayne had a good array of male and female voices for all the other characters. He even pulled off a Pittsburgh-specific accent for one side character that I

thought was very well done.

Eva Husky says

Good

Really enjoyed this book almost as much as *Slow Burn*. Wish there was a fourth book. Will wait for it.

Ebony Irby says

So much better than book 2!!! This book was more about the fight for survival, not only from the monster, but from the humans as well. I love how the author went more in depth with the other characters, not just Lance and Cassie like it was in book 2. I truly enjoyed this series and am glad I stumbled upon it. I loved the whole vampire aspect of this book, and how they were different from traditional zombies series, but in a way still the same.

John Podlaski says

This is the first series in this genre that I've given 5 stars to each of the books comprising the series; each book better than its predecessor! I thoroughly enjoyed *Ravaged*, yet it seems to be the most gruesome of the three. Daywalkers are almost extinct - each having evolved into wicked Vladdies - the most fearsome and dangerous of the mutants. They're creating underground nests - sleeping during the day and going out into the night to hunt and Ravenge.

The foursome have managed to take over Ralph's compound and have brought with them a hint of hope and civilization to the people living there. It was pretty much self-sustained with natural gas generators for electricity, water, planted gardens and an array of lighting that kept the Vladdies at bay. They were comfortable and started to think about the future. Unfortunately, the Vladdies were getting smarter and could communicate among themselves, coordinating attacks and using human bait to spring ambushes on the defenders of the community.

The "crazy" guy on the radio had eyes everywhere and seemed to know everything going on. Of course, he boasted that he has a shortwave and communicates with others around the world to get his information. Yet, he doesn't want to help any particular group and wished to remain neutral. He does warn everyone that a military convoy is en-route to the compound from Annapolis (which was destroyed by the same group) and he didn't think their intentions were going to be good. They soon learned that the military had arrived and were setting up camp up the road from the compound. Readers will finally learn more about this guy and his intentions in the story.

That night, Vladdies attacked the compound - throwing rocks to destroy the bright overhead spotlights that had been keeping them at bay. The compound was completely surrounded and falling quickly in the darkness to the ravaged creatures when the military suddenly appears to save them. Were they good or bad? What were their intentions? Lance is the first to learn the truth a couple days later when he accompanies the Major

on a recon mission to check on all these mysterious tunnel entrances that are popping up all over.

The "crazy" radio guy is also discovered by the Vladdies who are working day and night to tunnel into his underground safe room...he had recently saved a couple of people - their identities will be a surprise to all.

Occupants of the camp were sneaking out daily and going out on their own, no longer trusting the compounds defenses and feeling they were safer outside. Things were about to turn hairy for everyone and battles would rage on several fronts. Who will survive? Is there any place on earth safe? Will the vladdies die? It also makes me sad that the story's finished

This is by far the best zombie series that I've read to date. Highly recommended...you won't be disappointed! Thank you Mr. Brant for a fun-filled week. Your series had likable characters, snarky remarks that made me laugh, scary scenes filled with tension and suspense, and a plausible theme. Well done!

John Podlaski, author
Cherries - A Vietnam War Novel

Greg at 2 Book Lovers Reviews says

This is third installment in The Hunger Trilogy. Wrapping up one of the best PA series I have read. Please note I will assume if you are here you have read Devoured and Consumed.

Well after the shocker epilogue in Consumed where I cursed Jason Brant for having killed Lance, and then brought him back to life, doesn't he realize that it is cruel and unusual punishment to do that to his readers. We care about these characters, we are not ready to have them killed. Things had settled down at the camp, but then things change again, the Vladdies are evolving, getting even more dangerous.

Ravaged is one of those books that I could not put down, the story is fast paced and exciting. The final action scenes are described better than how I've seen many Zombie movies end; the visuals created by Brant are second to none.

It was nice to see Doc Brown come into his own along with Eifort, they really had to take charge back at the camp. Of course Lance and Cassie's relation grew into something that was completely unexpected, but then again they have been saving each other's butts since the garbage pile in the alley behind the meth lab back in Pittsburgh.

Ravaged was a Brantastic way to end The Hunger series. Everything came to satisfying close. There could be room for more, but it really isn't needed. I foresee this series being among my top picks for the year.

Terri Baldwin says

I was lucky enough to be chosen to beta read this book by the author. This is the third book in The Hunger

series, and I didn't think he could top book two. Book two was a fast-paced Hell ride through an apocalyptic nightmare. I was wrong. Book three blew me away and had me thinking of the book when I had to put it down and walk away and deal with real life. I desperately wanted to lock myself away from everyone and read this book in one sitting.

The "Vladdies" as they're referred to in the book are changing yet again. They're becoming more than just killing and eating machines, they're thinking and communicating with each other. Lance, Cass, Eifort, Doc Brown and the rest of the bunch found safety in the second book, but their safe haven became more of a trap once the Vladdies started planning ways to breach the security measures. A rouge but small band of "military" also moves in to complicate things. Making matters even worse, Cass is pregnant, making Lance's need to protect her even stronger.

This book had non stop action, from beginning to end. I barely had time to catch my breath before being dragged into the next crisis. This is definitely a book for those who hate filler fluff, as there is absolutely none in this entire series. I held my breath one minute, and laughed the next. I was terrified to read the next page, and even cried a little at the end.

My fiance, who doesn't read at all, paid rapt attention to my narration of this entire series as I've read it so far and insists that Jason needs to find a way to make these books into a movie. I usually balk at those comments, but I tend to agree with him on this one. I'd love to watch this and the last two books as movies... as long as:

1. Jason writes, directs, produces and casts said movie
 2. It's a huge epic movie leaving absolutely NOTHING out.
-

AudioBookReviewer says

ABR's original Ravaged audiobook review and many others can be found at Audiobook Reviewer.

Is this the end of the human race? Ralph and most of his men were dead. It was several weeks later and Lance was still hurting from the knife wound in his shoulder. Now he had the added job of running the camp. Cass was second in command and Doc Emmett Brown took care of the camp's sick and dying. Night patrol guards armed with guns and powerful flashlights watched for the Vlads. But something was happening to the monsters and it was bad news for the humans. They were starting to evolve, to think and communicate.

I particularly enjoyed the banter between Cass and Lance. They loved each other but still had to squabble. It added some lightness to the darkness of the story. It seems that Lance just can't catch a break. Everything is going so well but then the Vlads begin acting differently. Then a General shows up with a tank and soldiers. He acts like he wants to offer them protection but his real reason is quite different. He dislikes Lance but acts friendly enough yet Lance doesn't trust him. Cass is also concerned about the soldiers and the tank. When the General comes back after a scouting run and tells them Lance was killed by the Vlads, Cass doesn't believe him.

Tanks, choppers, and murder keep the story moving forward. Just when things look blackest the writer throws in a twist. Keeping the reader guessing as to what will happen next. I just loved this series and the ending leaves a hint for more books.

Wayne June did an excellent job of narration. His voices were good, he spoke clearly and concisely. He really got into the characters to inflect danger, fear and excitement in his telling. Wonderful job!

There were no production issues.

Audiobook provided for review by the narrator.

April Dawn says

Book one was slow, but started getting me more toward the end.

Book two was a lot better and kept me hooked and ready for the next.

Book three was the best! I was captivated and involved all through it. Even griping to people around me on if so-so was really dead I was going to freak out! LOL

I am glad I stuck with book one!

Soobie's scared says

Well, I finished this morning at 3.15... When I woke up I was a *zompire* myself.

Again, in this book is more about crazy humans rather than *zompires* and I don't like this that much. I mean, when I read I prefer reading about fantasy creatures rather than crazy humans: the world's full of them!

While I was reading, I thought: jeez, this novel can only be set in the US. No European country - except maybe Finland* - would have that much fire power at home. My grandpa used to have an old unregistered rifle and two boxes of ammo but we called the police to take it away when he died. It tends to get hairy when people find out about unregistered guns. So, yeah, I guess I'll be the perfect sitting duck in case of a *zompire* attack.

In the novel every one has guns and can shoot; the only exception is the poor doctor who's judged very badly for that. The author seems to say that only people not believing in guns would follow Ralph and his twisted ideas. Since they don't want to defend themselves, they rely on the first person they find, even if that person is totally out of his mind. Really?!

For the first time in my life while I was reading I thought: «This novel was written by a man!» OK, I should say that I usually read novels by women and comics by men but this is one of those times I thought I was reading out of my gender.

All in all, it was an entertaining book. I really enjoyed reading it, even if the author uses some weird words. I mean, I had to use the Kindle dictionary way more often than usual. I like the characters and I like what was going on. My favorite character was Eifort... Megan. She seemed to be the sanest of all. Cass doesn't seem to be a real woman; she's just a man's fantasy. I'm not sure about the virus thing because there wasn't any real explanation of it. But I really, really wanted to know how it ended. And that's a plus.

I'll surely read more books by Jason Brant.

According to this article also Switzerland and Serbia are well placed in the top ten. While Wikipedia places Serbia, Norway, France, Austria, Iceland, and Germany before Finland. As you can see, Italy is well behind: 53th with only 12 weapons every 100 people. So, I guess we make easy cannon fodder.

Rosemary says

It has been 173 days since I read Consumed (yes I counted the days) and was surprised, as it felt like just the other day, and yet, on the other hand it felt like forever as I waited anxiously to find out what happened to our motley crew. Ravaged, I am happy to say, was worth every second of the wait.

I wish I could tell you about everything that happened in this book as there was a lot of really, really good stuff happening all the time - I obviously can't - but what I can tell you, is that you will not be disappointed. It was brilliant, it was mind-blowing, and it was also downright scary 99.9% of the time and I loved every nail biting minute of it.

There has been a noticeable change in each of the main characters, specifically Lance, Cass, Doc and Eifort. Some of the changes are subtle, but they are there and they add to the believability of the story while also adding depth to the characters which is so important when reading a series. Their story has changed them, and that, is life.

I did wonder how Jason Brant would maintain the momentum from Consumed (which I loved), but he has done a great job. It is well written, with great style and the characters are all well developed and compliment a storyline that is truly unique.

This was a heck of a read. I loved it.

Mr. Matt says

Lance and Cass and the rest of the crew are back. After taking care of Ralph, the crazed militia leader, and taking over his camp, things seemed pretty good for the survivors. True, Pittsburgh and the rest of human civilization were overrun by ravenous hordes of the infected, but at their little compound east of the city they had carved out a little bit of security. They even had power back up! It seemed to good to be true. And, of course, it was.

The infected were continuing to change and mutate. There were increasing signs that they were more than mindless killers. They were setting traps. They were using distraction and misdirection to capture hapless survivors. Clearly something very bad was happening. And then (almost predictably) a megalomaniac major with the US army shows up. He believes bold action is needed to save the remnants of humanity. And he'll be damned if he lets anyone stand in his way. The final confrontation is loads of fun. There is a shoot out between groups of survivors, a descent into the depths of an infected warren/hive, and a final, desperate race to safety.

My knock on the story remain the same. The progression feels very formulaic. If you've read one undead/zombie/infected survivor story, you've read them all. The worst enemies are the humans, etc. The author makes this work because he's so darn good, but I would've liked to see some other twist. The infected

growing intelligent was intriguing and I kind of wish this had been explored more. It could've been that thing that made this story deviate from the blueprint.

Another knock is the 'OMG I can't believe he survived' factor. The author intervenes in the story too often to save his characters. One or two of the major characters really should've been dead. Everyone gets one miraculous save, but multiple? Come on!

All in all a fun read. Four out of five stars.

Michael Loring says

Ravaged is the third in Author Jason Brant's The Hunger series, the one where an infection has turned everyone into bloodthirsty monsters – or Vladdies (vampires).

It's been a few weeks since the end of Consumed (the second book in the series) and everything has fallen into relative peace. Well, "peace" isn't the right word to use when you spend the night fighting off mutated humans who could tear your freaking head off. That "peace" is disrupted with the realization that the Vladdies are learning, growing. They aren't done mutating, their minds starting to boot up like a computer. They're laying traps, baiting the humans out of the light, and even communicating. With this realization comes a new wave of devastation to the main characters.

On top of it all, a small group of army men appear in the camp offering help, but Lance isn't sure they are to be trusted. As time goes on, he learns the depth of insanity and how far someone is willing to go to make the hard decisions.

There's a lot happening in this novel, starting right off the bat with action and horror. The intensity in this novel does not let up, not even for a second, as the survivors of this new horrific world struggle to survive with a slew of unknown variables. Jason Brant adds yet another fantastic book to his collection of published works and I cannot wait to see what he comes out with next!

#vampiresdontsparkle

Theresa says

4.5 Stars

This is the final book in this series and, in my opinion, the best one of the bunch. Some of the slower pacing from the first two installments was gone and this one was very fast paced... more gory too, but what do you expect in a horror novel? Lance and Cass both have definitely come a long way from where they started and Brant did a great job developing them, especially Lance. He gave just enough detail to their relationship to show it without letting it take over the plot. The new villain, Colt, was a great addition and particularly sinister, but not quite as creepy as the now evolving Vladdies. The double conflict really upped the stakes. Hopefully the Vladdies won't learn to swim next. There's a part just shy of 50% in that is completely unexpected, but I won't spoil that surprise for you.

Jamie says

I just now finished reading *Ravaged* (The Hunger #3) which is the third and final book in the *The Hunger* and I was simply blown away. I think I'm coming down with the flu, my throat is sore, my nose won't quit running, my heads pounding and I feel miserable but none of that mattered. I could not put this book down today. At around the 78% mark I noticed something very odd, my pulse was literally pounding, not from being sick or anything but from sheer excitement as the plot was nearing its incredible conclusion. I could take my pulse just by touching my neck with one finger, hehe. I was on the edge of my seat through most of the book and the suspense was just killing me. I've said this on every single book review I've done of Jason Brant's books but it's always true. This author doesn't mess around. His stories don't beat around the bush, they just start out with one big bang and the explosions never stop. You just ride the shock-waves all the way until the very end. It just doesn't get any better than this. *Ravaged* had more than enough suspense, action and well rounded characters that you grow to love more and more with each passing book plus the pacing was beyond perfect. This series from start to finish was just a pleasure to read and one I have no doubt I'll be rereading it in the future.

After the end of *Consumed* our heroes barely survived their encounter with the madman militant-psycho Ralph and ended up taking over his camp and now in *Ravaged* they're trying to keep everyone alive and survive the best they can. So far the lights have kept the Vladdies at bay but somethings happening, things are changing in the world and once again they find themselves fighting for their lives. Will Lance and Cass ever find a bit of peace and a safe place to bring their child into the world? Will people ever stop making fun of Doc Emmett Brown's name? Will Greg ever stop saying Bro? Well great news! All of those questions and more will be answered in *Ravaged*.

I am so sad to see this series end. I've really grown attached to all of the characters especially Lance and Cass. I enjoyed watching Lance's evolution as he went from a depressed, self-loathing loser who couldn't hold down a job nor keep his marriage together to the hero he eventually became. All of the bad things in his life began to change the second he met Cass and he quickly became someone I liked and admired. Cass also had a very nice evolution even though it was a little more subtle than Lance's. Slowly she started becoming softer and started showing her emotions. Yeah she was still a badass but Lance helped her to see that not all men are jerks and helped to slowly peel away those layers of the shell that she had built around herself. Together the two of them were awesome and one heck of a team. I still love their banter and loved the fact that her term for Lance which is "dumbass" sort of became a term of affection. They were perfect for each other.

I was also really glad we get to spend more time with Doc Brown and Eifort on this one. I loved both characters and thought they were both interesting. Doc has always been a smart man as well as the wise leader that everyone went to for advice while Lance was just the natural sort of person that everyone looked up to because of his general good nature as well as his deeds. All four of our main heroes were instrumental in leading the group of survivors and I don't think they could have done it as well without every single one of them. You really get to see Doc and Eifort take charge and Doc Brown becomes so much more a man of action than he's previously been while Eifort who is still the best sharpshooter of the group shows her softer side. The characters were all well rounded, even the side characters. Adam along with some new additions were all extremely likable. Greg, well Greg is still a dumbass. I'm pretty sure he was dropped on his head a few dozen times as a child but really we owe ol' Greg a huge debt of gratitude because if it wasn't for the

short story Lotion then Jason Brant might not have ever written this series. After he wrote the short story a lot of people sent feedback asking if he'd ever write more about this world so in a way we owe Greg everything. Doesn't that just really suck when you think bout it like that? Hahaha, I'm pretty sure Greg's response would be, "Awesome, Bro!".

I just cannot recommend this book or author enough. He's quickly become one of my favorite authors He along with another author who's books I love are the only two that I will completely drop whatever I'm doing to read. If I'm in the middle of another book then I'll just push it to the side to read one of theirs. They're just that good. I love how his books have so much action yet still have characters that you just absolutely love, characters that you can't stand the thought of losing and every time something bad happens you find yourself flipping ahead to make sure they're okay. Plus I totally love this cover. Cass looks freaking awesome with the Anarchy symbol and mohawk. Alas I've had to abandon all hope that she'd leave Lance for me. Lance is just way to awesome and I admire him too much. She's just way out of my league besides after all this time they now feel like family to me. I'd love to tell you about the end but I can't so instead I'll just say if you love a great zombie book then do yourself a favor and get this book and series. You have no idea what you're missing out on if you don't. Ravaged and the whole The Hunger series has all the classic makings of a legendary piece of zombie fiction. If they were made into movies today they would seriously be right up there with Day of the Dead and Dawn of the Dead, maybe even a bit better. They're just that good!

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