



Gil's All Fright Diner

A. Lee Martinez

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Bloodier than *Fried Green Tomatoes*!

Funnier than *The Texas Chainsaw Massacre*!

Welcome to Gil's All Night Diner, where zombie attacks are a regular occurrence and you never know what might be lurking in the freezer. . . .

Duke and Earl are just passing through Rockwood county in their pick-up truck when they stop at the diner for a quick bite to eat. They aren't planning to stick around--until Loretta, the eatery's owner, offers them one hundred dollars to take care of her zombie problem. Given that Duke is a werewolf and Earl's a vampire, this looks right up their alley.

But the shambling dead are just the tip of a particularly spiky iceberg. Seems someone's out to drive Loretta from the diner, and more than willing to raise a little hell on earth if that's what it takes. Before Duke and Earl get to the bottom of the diner's troubles, they'll run into such otherworldly complications as undead cattle, an amorous ghost, a jailbait sorceress, and the terrifying occult power of pig Latin.

And maybe--just maybe--the End of the World, too.

Gory, sexy, and flat-out hilarious, *Gil's All Fright Diner* will tickle your funny bone--before ripping it out of its socket!

Gil's All Fright Diner Details

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Author : A. Lee Martinez

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From Reader Review Gil's All Fright Diner for online ebook

Melissa ♥ Dog/Wolf Lover ♥ Martin says

Oh my Lord! I needed this laugh today!

We have Duke who is a werewolf and ole Earl who is a vampire. They end up stopping at Gil's Diner because Duke is hungry. They meet Loretta who owns the place for reasons and she offers them a job when they help kill off some zombies. ?

I loved the pictures in my head of the old diner in the backwoods next to a cemetery in a small town. We have ALL kinds of supernatural creatures! What fun ?

I loved the ending! Omg! It was perfect ? I want to read more of this author's books! I want to read more about Earl and Duke and the little extras added to their family when they left town! I don't think there are any more books with them though. I need to check for sure.

Mel ♥?

Jeffrey Keeten says

"Loretta outweighed him by at least a hundred pounds. Nonetheless, Sheriff Kopp held his ground with the courage of a man who had seen sheep explode spontaneously and lived to clean himself up later."

Any apocalypse is about living to tell about it, right? The interesting thing about this small community is that spontaneously exploding sheep aren't the strangest things that happen.

When Duke and Earl saw the glowing sign of Gil's All Night Fright Diner appear, they had no idea they were about to stumble into a vortex of hell. They couldn't have been more in the middle of dark nowhere if they had just driven up the ass end of a giant troll. All Duke wanted was a big greasy meal, but what he got was a full order of zombies with a side order of a horny, lascivious waitress. *"She wore a T-shirt and jean cutoffs that hugged her jiggling behind, but only barely. Cellulite rolled down her legs in flapping waves with each step. A soiled apron stretched across her immense breasts. Her hair, a frazzled bleached-blonde mess, slung to the left of her face and past her shoulders. She smiled, revealing teeth the size and color of corn kernels."*

Duke didn't know which was more dangerous...the zombies or Loretta.

Now Gil, the owner of the diner, just disappeared. Loretta had taken it upon herself to keep the diner open, despite the infestation of zombies. She had killed well over a hundred already and figured sooner or later the graveyard down the road was going to run out of bodies. Duke was particularly adept at tearing apart zombies. It brought out the wolf in him, or should I say the werewolf in him.

What?

Oh, yeah, Duke had himself an encounter with a lycanthrope, which left him with a predisposition for back hair and the strength of ten men. Rotting corpses were just giant toothpicks. Now, his buddy Earl had a different problem. I'll give you a couple of hints. He liked to drink blood, and a sunburn was deadly to him.

For \$100 and all the beer they could drink, Loretta just hired herself some supernatural help for her supernatural problem.

The problem all originated with a bored seventeen year old named Tammy, who decided the vortex to hell swirling beneath Gil's Diner was just too interesting to leave alone. She had a Magic 8 ball which was a little different than the one I used to have. Mine didn't have a trapped, malevolent spirit inside who just happened to be addicted to the show *Bonanza*. Little Miss Tammy was of Japanese descent, exotic in this small town, and pert and curvy in all the right places. She was fully aware of the impact she had on the opposite sex and what better way to recruit male minions to your dark, magic ways than to dangle the black triangle.

To add a bit more stir fry to this sizzling skillet, there was also a pretty, very needy, spirit who proved a distraction for Earl, along with her ghostly Scottish Terrier who played hell with the musty, dusty ankles of zombies. Will all these supernormal phantasmic creatures prove to be an equal match for one pissed off, power hungry, diabolical teenager?

You'll just have to read it to find out.

I had intended to read this for Halloween, but the best laid plans of ghouls and goblins foiled my time schedule. I also really enjoyed another book by A. Lee Martinez called *The Automatic Detective*.

If you wish to see more of my most recent book and movie reviews, visit <http://www.jeffreykeeten.com> I also have a Facebook blogger page at: <https://www.facebook.com/JeffreyKeeten>

Noran Miss Pumkin says

The first page had most of the 7 famous words, driving while drinking, and the phrase "yellow puddle formed around my groin". I really do not think this is a youth book! The curse words got worse from there, and graphic underage sex was also included. The obese werewolf, describes the fatty woman's butt. as it jiggles--like the last time he disemboweled someone--lovely. Just what we want to teach teens today to think about large people--new insults!

The only reason for a star is the lovely romance between the vampire and the girl ghost--he does not like ghosts--so is even more sweet.

More cussing, graphic underage sex, killing, poorly excuse for plot line, interesting zombie cows though. This book has a real cool premise a vampire and werewolf are friends--they travel together--they pull into a diner one night and find some trouble----that is why i tried it----i am ripping it up into the recycling bin now.

I had such hope for the series too--too bad.

Chloe says

I'll be the first to admit that there's been a glut of books like this on my reading list lately. Humorous takes on horror archetypes seem to be all the rage right now, which is more than fine by me. They're quick, light and entertaining- just the break I need in between the other books that howl at me from the shelf, trying to guilt me into reading them next.

Gil's is a buddy adventure starring Earl the Vampire (think Dwight Yoakam with fangs) and Duke the Werewolf (think Jesse Ventura with fur) who spend the years prowling the backroads of America in a beat-up truck with Earl's home/steamer trunk strapped in the bed. One night their wanderings lead them to an all night diner (fortunate when you travel with the undead) located far from any major highway and directly next door to a cemetery where the dead just won't stay dead. The diner's proprietress, a lovingly obese woman named Loretta, cajoles the duo into sticking around to assist with the zombie problem in return for some much-needed gas money (the employment opportunities for vampires and werewolves being few and far between).

What follows is a hilarious romp through a small desert town plagued with far more than their fair share of supernatural oddities from zombie cows (I'm not kidding- zombie cows) to mirthful ghouls as a result of a nubile teen's attempts to open a portal through time and space (and a few other dimensions) to call back the long-banished Old Gods of Lovecraftian lore. Helping Tammy, errr... sorry... Mistresss Lilith, is her feeble-minded henchman Chad who is more interested than what lies beneath her blouse than in any of the graves that Tammy has him robbing.

Like I said, it's a quick read. I'd be surprised if it took most longer than a day or two to consume. Yet that day would still count as one well spent as evidenced by my aching ribs once I finally stopped chortling long enough to put the book back on the shelf.

? Irena ? says

3.5

Gil's All Night Diner is a weird place. It's way too big to be in Rockwood. 'Unfettered by the laws of normality, the unnatural ran rampant in Rockwood County.' Its owner, Gil, disappeared a while ago and nobody knows where he is. Today Loretta is the one who is managing the place and she needs all the help she could get. She and her shotgun can't keep up with all the zombies that have been trying to enter the place every night.

Enter Duke and Earl.

Being paranormal creatures themselves (werewolf and vampire), they decide to deal with those pesky zombies and help Loretta. A couple of days in Rockwood couldn't hurt. The universe heard the challenge and answered.

The beginning is great. The interactions between Duke and Earl are hilarious.

"Now me, I've got goals, and my mind acts upon those goals in an enlightened manner. I've achieved myself a state of clear. Whereas you just act on whatever impulse enters that fool head of yours." "Least I got myself a shadow."

...

'Duke kicked Earl's trunk. The lid cracked open an inch. "Dusk already?" "Yep." The trunk slammed shut. "Get your ass up, Earl." Earl's muffled voice moaned, "Just ten more minutes."

Of course, *Gil's All Fright Diner* has its own villain in the form of a seventeen-year-old Tammy, who *really* wants to get inside the diner.

Even the Sheriff is a great character. He had his own experiences to add because Rockwood always has something weird going on.

"Oh, I've had plenty of experience with this sort of thing. 'Bout seven years back, had an outbreak of vampire turkeys. And four years before that, Charlie Vaughn's daughter got herself possessed. And the Stillmans's scarecrow took to wandering around at night and scaring the bejeezus outta the kids. Point is, Rockwood has itself an unusual history, and being sheriff means dealing with those problems."

There are references to the old gods. Unlike some authors who use lovecraftian titles to draw in readers (read: cheat; I won't bother linking their shitty books), you won't be disappointed with that part here. Sure, the author gives you his own take on the old gods and what they can do, but it works well enough for this type of story.

So, what can you expect here? There are zombies, hauntings, ghouls, a manipulative and annoying (for me) teenager, aggressive cows, suicidal vampires, lots of gore, likable and not so likable ghosts, successful and unsuccessful seductions and many more. And not in that particular order.

There are a couple of grammatical errors, but as a debut this is a pretty good and entertaining story. Overall, I liked it and I would recommend it. Just be in the right mood for it and it'll be fine.

My favourite is still *Too Many Curses*.

Jocardo says

What a fun read!!!! This would make a HILARIOUS movie. It's silly, it's goofy and has plenty of horror and gore to go around. It's marketed as a young adult novel, don't know if I would go that far...but it was just a good time. I read it in a day. I would like to see further adventures of Duke, Earl, Cathy and Napoleon. I liked this book so much I reserved a copy of A. Lee Martinez's *In The Company of Orges*.

Mimi says

3½ out of 5 stars

The writing is light, fast paced, and doesn't take itself or anything else seriously. It's funny at times and somewhat poignant at other times when you least expect it. The humor is not what I'd call sharp or hilarious, but it's absurd enough to carry the story through to the end and unusual enough to hold my attention.

A better review is posted at Wordpress and Booklikes.

Veronica says

Earl and Duke are just a couple of rednecks, driving along in their pickup truck minding their own business until one night when they pull into an all night diner. What they find is a diner owner with a bit of a zombie infestation problem. This doesn't fluster anyone nearly as much as one would expect since it seems that weird stuff isn't a new phenomenon in the small town. Did I mention that Earl is a vampire and Duke is a werewolf? And that they have their very own meet-cute story? Well, they are and they do. So naturally they fit right in with all the bizarre goings-on like zombie cows, Shakesperean ghouls, a headless ghost dog, and a 16 year old trying to start her own cult. It's all a part of the Law of Anomalous Attraction.

This was a fun, kooky read. I listened to the audiobook and the narrator did a great job with all the voices, even the female ones - and that's something I almost never say about male narrators. Earl and Duke made the story and I wish the author would write a second book featuring them. I'll be checking out more books from this author.

Tabitha says

Gil's All Fright Diner - the title makes you think WTF is this? - and that cover! I admit that is why I bought it. Come on just look at that baby - There is a huge one eyed monster coming out of that Diner! I love monsters. As soon as I saw it I was like "Oh jeezuz I have to read this!" Maybe that's just me but I'm a total cover whore and I never can tell what I'm going to be attracted to. One thing for sure this had just the right amount of playful and monster for me, and not your atypical traits that you would normally associate with the paranormal creatures that are so popular right now.

I considered this a paranormal comedy (maybe it's a spoof or parody I don't know) but whatever it is - it was exactly my cup of tea. Our two heroes, Duke and Earl - a werewolf and Vampire, heck if you could even call them heroes haha - are the saddest examples of the famed werewolf and vampire species I have ever read and yet they were PERFECT! Imagine a redneck and you have Duke (werewolf), then picture a greasy dirty looking guy no one wants to date because he just looks that sketchy and that's Earl (vampire). Toss some zombies in the mix and how could I not love that? Yes I know zombies are a bit overdone these days but this isn't about zombies they are just the bonus cream on top of this pie in your face full of laughs. Plus I have a thing for zombies, I can't seem to get enough.

What works is the crazy teenage girl with visions of grandeur and taking over the world trying to call some pretty nasty funk into our reality. She has a her horny lapdog of a boyfriend who will do anything for her...most likely just for a bit of a hump. But the world could come to an end and our unlikely pair has what it takes.

There is even a tad bit of romance in here for you folks who like a little bit of star crossed love. That's right I'm talking ghosts and flesh - how the hell is that going to work out? It just does.

This one will give you some damn good laughs and some 'ah shucks that sweet Wilbur' type moments. Alls well that ends well I say and I walked away wanting more. I will be looking into more of this A.Lee Martinez!

Felicia says

I really liked this book. Very fluffy, but a nice tone and funny. Makes fun of the vampire/werewolf genre that has become ridiculous lately with the swoony man-chests. Would recommend to people who like Christopher Moore and other tongue in cheek fantasy adventures.

Jennifer says

Originally posted at The Book Nympho

Read It, Track It is a way for me to track books for my reading challenges and they will be super short. I've wanted to read *Gil's All Fright Diner* for a while now. My husband has it on his bookshelf but after I saw it was available on audio and that Fred Berman was the narrator I had to request it from the library.

Gil's All Fright Diner features an unlikely couple of friends, Earl (vampire) and Duke (werewolf). These two rednecks drive into town and find themselves in the middle of zombies, ghouls and some freaky black magic going on.

Next time I'm in the mood for quirky I'll be picking up another A. Lee Martinez book!

Lori says

Loved Loved Loved this book!

I am a big fan of campy fun novels. Books that make the unbelievable seem like, yeah.. ohkay... that could happen.

Meet two unlikely best friends: Earl (a vampire) and Duke (a werewolf). Throw in an all nite diner run by a very large, very spunky Lorreta. Sprinkle in a teenage wanna-be mistress of the old gods, a few ghosts, and a ton of zombies/ghouls and slimy, tentacled, oozing things, and you have yourself one helluva kick ass novel!

This was one of those books i just couldnt put down! Finished it in just under one day.

Thumbs up for Martinez. And count on me grabbing a few more from him on my next trip to the bookstore.

Lyn says

Gil's All Fright Diner, first published in 2005 (and was Martinez' debut publication) is a fun, no strings

attached, steaming hot cup of have-at-you! urban fantasy.

Earl and Duke, vampire and werewolf respectively, arrive in Rockwood, a town in the middle of nowhere that has had more than its share of occult goings on – most of which seem to surround the vicinity of the all night diner.

Along the way, Martinez introduces us to zombies, ghosts, ghouls, a teenage sorceress and references to the “Old Gods”. It was this allusion to Lovecraft (along with a snazzy new interpretation of the Necronomicon) that I found most endearing.

There are many smiles while reading this, a couple of chuckles and maybe one or two actual laugh out loud scenes, and all due to the talent of Martinez. Fans of Christopher Moore’s work will probably enjoy his books, as I have, being a fan of both.

Also, Martinez shares a distinction with Snow Crash author Neal Stephenson as having one of the best character names in fiction. Hiro Protagonist was the character from Stephenson’s book and Martinez describes the exploits of Sheriff Marshall Kopp.

Carol. says

Fast, fun read. Solid four stars for cleverness and silliness--the book blurb was right, this was silly in the style of Hitchhiker's Guide, and that's a high compliment indeed.

It starts off like a buddy movie of the anti-hero variety, with Earl the vampire and Duke the werewolf driving around drinking beer in a beat-up pickup whose cab holds exactly 76 empties. They stop at an all-night diner run by Loretta, but little does anyone know, the diner is under assault by the most fearsome of opponents-- Tammy, a teenage girl who prefers to be called "Mistress Lilith" by her sole acolyte. Earl and Duke stick around to help rid Loretta of some pesky zombies, and soon find themselves drawn deeper into defending the diner (and our dimension).

There were some definite laugh-out-loud bits, particularly a section involving zombie cows--really, even the phrase "zombie cows" starts me giggling. There's a sweet section that deals with Cathy the graveyard ghost and Earl. Napoleon the ghostly terrier adds a fun kick. The evil is both scary and hilarious: "**The corpses shuffled (or hopped) to collect their weapons of knives, salad forks and camping stakes.**" Of course, the evil of Mistress Lilith is highlighted by her diabolical use of pig Latin and a Magic 8 ball--what more can you say about evil?

Glad it's in my library, because I'm sure to re-read it when in the mood for some fun and fluff.

Cross posted at my blog: <http://clsiewert.wordpress.com/2013/0...>

Re-read September 17 bc I needed something silly and brainless between my other reads.

Marvin says

Melinda raised her head and uttered a low, haunting howl. The rest of the herd joined her in a bloodcurdling moan that seemed to bubble up from the sulfurous pit of Hell itself

"Mo-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-oo."

Gotta love those zombie cows! Rockwood is sort of a Texas redneck version of Sunnydale with its own answer to the Hellmouth. Vampire Earl and werewolf Duke run out of gas in the God-forsaken county of Rockwood and offers to help Loretta, owner of Gil's All-Night Diner, solve her zombie problem. But the problem becomes so much more than zombies with a teenage sorceress and her hormonally burdened assistant, a lonely graveyard guardian, a ghost terrier, and Lovecraftian Old Ones all complicating the matter. The story is both hokey and stomach-cramping hilarious. It kept me laughing and sometimes a little grossed out but I was thoroughly entertained.
