



The Dead Years - Volume 1

Jeff Olah

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Mason wasn't prepared when the devastation began that afternoon. No one was. He now needed to get to his family before the infection did.

No one knew how or where the end of the world started.

The infection took hold quickly and destroyed everything in its path. Millions perished every hour. For those who survived the initial outbreak, finding a safe haven would prove to be a battle all its own.

Mason, along with his family and new found friends struggle to avoid the infected and find a way out of the city.

In this initial 76 page volume of The Dead Years you will be introduced to the main characters as they fight the ravenous creatures trying to devour them and each other.

The Dead Years - Volume 1 Details

Date : Published March 20th 2013

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Author : Jeff Olah

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Genre : Horror, Zombies, Apocalyptic, Post Apocalyptic, Fiction



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From Reader Review The Dead Years - Volume 1 for online ebook

deidre garrett says

I enjoyed it so far

I'm big into zombie apocalypse books because the movies they are making arnt scratching the itch anymore but anyway love it ready for book 2

Andrea Payne says

An amazing read

I've read this series before and it's an amazing read. It was like 2 years and several hundred books ago, I m enjoying it as much this time as I did the first time!

Traci Chapman says

Good series start

I really like the story and characters in this book and look forward to moving forward with the rest of the series. My only criticisms would be the need for proofing (although not nearly as bad on typos as some other stories I've read); more important, it's the dialogue that holds this back - in fact, I almost rated it 3 stars because of the stilted dialogue and, at times, story narrative in general. I believe a good technical and substantive editor could elevate this to an excellent rating.

Theresa Filibeck says

So good, Jeff Olay knows how to keep you reading, he's so good you'll feel like the zombies are coming to get you!

Savannah Mae says

The Dead Years is a post-apocalyptic thriller broken down into several volumes. The cover is creepy and the content is freaky. Early on in this book the terror begins. Mason is the main character who just recently separated from his wife. He is avoiding her phone calls because he just knows she wants to give him hell about something he must have done to piss her off. While he is working out at the gym, he notices everyone is gathered around the tv watching seniors attacking each other.

Mason doesn't have a clue what is going on but all the sudden everyone decides to up and leave the gym.

They all head out and he is left alone in the gym. He decides to finish up and head out himself. This begins the struggle to escape the crazed people in the parking lot. But they aren't human anymore, they seem to be animals. Ripping the flesh of people trying to escape leaving nothing but a fleshy, bloody mess behind.

This book really got my heart racing. It literally engaged my fear for the characters. Each scene is descriptive and gruesome. The writing is clear and easy to follow. But this book is not for those who are easily scared. Personally, I love thrillers and love the gore. I have never read an apocalyptic title so this is a first. I was entertained, freaked out and left wanting more. Good thing volume 2 and 3 are ready!

I give Jeff mad praise for his work! I really, really loved this book and encourage everyone to put it on their one-click list. Get your fingers ready because Jeff is pumping out the volumes. I am hoping for at least 10. Join me as I follow Mason, his wife and son while they try to escape the Feeders.

TP says

The dead years-threshold-book 1 by Jeff Olah didn't meet my expectations.
The writing style was less than average.

At chapter 14 the writing style turned from ok to bad. It was like a grocery list, distant and not nearly like reading a book as it should be.

Mason did this,

Justin did that,

then they told that,

then they went there, ...

It was horrible to read.

I previously read the series Safe Haven by Christopher Artinian and the Alpha Plague by Michael Robertson. And there are oceans, more like worlds between the writing style of those series and this one .

The reactions and dialogues of the characters, are short, superficial and more often than not unnecessary, as well as weird and odd. Humour where it isn't funny. Compassion where it is not needed. Stupidity at times, I don't want to find in a zombie apocalypse, especially not from the main characters.

It is irritating that a 14 year old boy calls his mum and dad by their first names at times.

Same goes with the shortness of the chapters, you can't even be in the story with the characters, because you get confronted with another chapter and another POV before you even turned the page.

The whole first "book" is not even worth reading, as nothing really happens, to be considered a whole plot. It is merely a plot threat.

Scenes, I could have lived without. Of course the clumsy female runs and stumbles, ending up spraining her ankle. Being overly dramatic. The male character the wanna be hero and leader. And it just so happens, when he gets on the internet, types in a search engine, and puff, we have a winner.

Popping up In the first few results, is the possible origin of the virus, he hits the jackpot in one go. A Simple side on the internet. Not in the darknet, not shut down by the government/ military, all there for the taking, infos from the past till now. Not really believable.

I stopped reading this series and am not interested in going further. I scrolled through the last part, in hope it

would improve. It was a good start, but needs much more improvement in my opinion. In the writing style, the personalities and characterisation of the characters, the focus on what is important to write and what not, especially with writing normal dialogues between people and not those short and facile sentences we got. Much the writer listed like a shopping list, could have been done through dialogues, which wouldn't have interrupted and ruined the flow of the story.

The new covers on amazon are a really good improvement for starters, compared to the ones you find on GR.

chucklesthescot says

Reading this prequel had me rooting for the zombies and that is never a good sign in a short story. I didn't like a single character that appeared in this and would happily have seen them all eaten.

Jason is a psycho who uses the excuse of the apocalypse to rob then murder his aunt and uncle while his pathetic family Lance and Savannah stand around being all outraged by what he does yet do nothing to stop him. Savannah in particular does nothing but whine. Randy struts around like The Big I Am revelling in the excitement as zombies appear because he has seen this before-but the author decides not to tell us anything about that, and has the character acting all arrogant and superior instead. William is so under the thumb that he wanders out into danger to check on his wife's parents and his wife hardly seems bothered that he could die out there on a fool's errand.

What a lovely bunch of people! I hope they all die but I won't be reading on in the series to witness it.

Cianna Sunshine & Mountains Book Reviews says

Jeff Olah's first part of the Dead Year's series is interesting and fast paced. This volumes are definitely a quick read and include everything a zombie lover would want. I am excited to read the next one to see what happens to the family as they wait for the sun to rise on the next day.

Check out this book, it's got zombies, kettlebells as a weapon, and roof jumping. It's action packed and is full of zombies who currently, their cause is unknown! :)

John says

This review is for the omnibus edition on Kindle which comprised of the first 3 volumes and I was so absorbed by these books that I went and immediately bought the 4th volume and I am eagerly awaiting further volumes.

Jeff Olah has joined my list of fantastic authors.

Angela says

It is the end of the world as we know it and it is not fine. There has been an incident that has caused people

to attack & eat other people. When those people are left for dead, some of them rise from the dead as zombies and hunt the living. No one knows where or how it started, but everyone wants out. Now.

Jeff Olah has written a serial story about people going through a horrific tragedy with very low odds of surviving. He puts them in situations that are real, with emotions that are real and believable. While reading about the people in this serial, I questioned myself about the things that I would do in their situation. I was in agreement 100% with the lengths that I would go to and the obstacles that I would overcome to get me and my family to safety. Jeff has promised that this is not just another zombie series and that each serial will be out every month or so. I was lucky that I got a copy of the first and 2nd serial from the author so I didn't have to wait in between volumes. But, after reading 1 & 2, I now have to wait. I hope that he does not keep me waiting too long!

David Potocnik says

A good read. Fast-paced, but short. It left me wanting more-I cannot complain about that! I look forward to the next installment.

Jo says

Action filled survival story about a world turned crazy. There is a cliffhanger ending but the book is so exciting that I hope to read more!

Netanella says

First line:

No one knew how or where it all began. There were only rumors at first, spreading from one city to another.

"The Dead Years - Volume One" is the first in a series long set of novellas that follow Mason, his wife, and teenaged son as they try to survive and find refuge from the devastation that is the zombie apocalypse. I enjoyed the author's preface about his inspiration for this book much more than the actual story itself - I felt the author's voice was much more authentic then. The zombie story itself is not bad, but it is standard fare and nothing new is delivered in a particularly clever or inspired way. Volume One could be summarized as First Day Hell - let's get home from work and school and figure out what to do next. Bash a few zombie heads, make all the right moves, make plans with a new partner who's sure to appear in Volume Two. There's lots of zombie killing in this first volume and not a whole lot of character development, despite the author's statement that it's the characters who drive the plot. Of course, this is only the first novella - we need action to get sucked in! In addition, there were grammatical and syntax errors that could have been caught with a good read through.

Jann Weinrich says

Great read

Not a dull moment as the survivors battle against the odds that are stacked against them. On the edge of my seat with anticipation.

S Mares says

I liked the book but it was too short.
