



Jed the Dead

Alan Dean Foster

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Ross Ed Hager is a good ol' boy from Texas, headed to the coast and expecting to see things he's never seen before. Jed is something he's never seen before--a three-eyed, six-limbed, alien corpse. And even though he's dead, he's still the life of the party.

Jed the Dead Details

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Author : Alan Dean Foster

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From Reader Review Jed the Dead for online ebook

Dale Rosso says

Good read, Foster at his best.

Emilade says

There were times when I found Ross Ed to be such a mind numbing stereotype that I wanted to vomit, but overall the book was entertaining. I enjoyed the various adventures and problems that were solved with bigger problems. Also, marijuana and hemp are not the same thing, just sayin'.

Its an ok book, and its short and easy to read, so if you have an afternoon to spare, you might want to read it.

Greg Crites says

One of the best books I've read. Likeable protagonist who you'd allow your daughter to marry... because the guy is just, simply, a decent, loyal human being. Excellent plotting. Really, it rarely gets any better than this for a reader who likes good story.

Peter Tillman says

Alien corpse found in Texas! Amusing and well- done. 3.4 stars. Recommended for frivolous relaxation.

Per Hoffmann Olsen says

First time i read it, i thought it was great. I still do.

But a do agree that it's slow starter.

Im revisiting the book to compare it with "Paul" the movie.

Portobellord says

It's a book about a man traveling around with a dead alien. What's not to like?

David says

This was without a doubt one of the slowest moving books I ever wrote. Foster appears to have been trying to write a parody of society, and since that plays a part in "Jed's" identity, I guess he sort of succeeds.

Ross Ed finds a dead alien in the back of a cave and begins to carry it around. Why anyone would carry around a dead alien body is beyond me and it isn't long until I felt the basic premise was silly, but kept plodding away at it anyway. It isn't long before Ross Ed discovers that the alien's suit is somehow alive and communicating in strange ways. He pretends the alien is a ventriloquist dummy and develops and act, but soon gets the attention of Army intelligence, as well as a few other folks.. most of them wackos.

There are moments of sheer genius in the novel-- like the New Age Circle that Jed reprimands for their odd behavior. along the way, the suit offers some protection from those who would do Ross harm. The cleverness of Foster's writing manages to skewer Alien afficianados, Hollywood, the music industry, and those who don't like parody type writing. The revelation at the end of the novel of who and what Jed is ties closely to some of Foster's apparent purpose.

This is not a terribly funny book, but it has its moments. It is not very exciting. It probably is worth reading for its parody value, but is not all that entertaining.

Someone likened it to the silly Alien movie "Paul" but in comparison, even with its vulgarity and crudeness and stupid earthlings, "Paul" was much funnier and much more entertaining.

Eduardo Torres says

An enjoyable read with some funny moments. A bit on the odd side and maybe a bit unbelievable the reactions of some of the folk that are encountered, buy hey, this is sci fi.

Hank says

This was exactly what I expected. Some light adventure, a little PG romance, some vague humor. It wasn't bad, it wasn't good, it was a book.

Sara says

I quite like this book. It's not one of those have-to-read-in-one-sitting sorts, but I quite like it. Mostly, I think, because of the conceit behind it: a down-home country boy who takes a mostly-dead alien on a cross-country trip--just because. It's an odd, quirky kind of book, and to be completely honest in the five or so years since I last read it I don't entirely recall the whole plot (there were, I think, Agents of some Agency who wanted Jed-the-Dead-Alien's corpse), but the concept of a nice country boy and a dead alien in a spacesuit in a car

together was...strangely charming and quite funny. I still prefer Mad Amos, if I'm going to read Alan Dean Foster, but this was an entertaining read.

Foxtower says

This was a fun book! Our hero and his dead companion end up in one situation after another and it's fun all the way! This was a real page turner for me and I got so caught up in it I couldn't stop reading!

Jared says

This book was okay. It's about a regular guy who finds a dead alien and decides to carry it with him all over, and the effect this has on his life. The story was okay, but the characterization was a little flat, and the anti-mysticism was rather thick (especially when contrasting mysticism with something "scientific", like UFOlogy).

R.K. Goff says

PG

A delightful candy book from the Prince (Jester?) of science fiction. Highly recommended for relaxing.

Jacob says

This is a fun romp through several alien encounter tropes. The first fifty pages are slow - the author seems to have just been through a "show don't tell" clinic. There's a point at which you are reading so much detail that you don't actually know what's going on, kind of being prevented from seeing the forest because there's so much detail about each tree. In addition, there's only so much plot that can be driven by a dead alien before it starts to get stale.

It only starts to get stale, though, and then gets interesting again. The author pulls in a number of different alien interaction ideas to keep things fresh, and the dry humor is gently funny. The pacing, explanations, and detail are a bit uneven (e.g. there's too much description of the main character up front, and then next to none about another main character later), which is surprising for a veteran author. Still, it's worth a read, particularly if you enjoy the alien science fiction genre and have a sense of humor.

Jennifer says

Moves a little slow but it was a fun diversion. Not necessarily your typical Texas roughneck finds a dead alien. Unpredictability ensues. Cute ending fitting of a fun silly book. Foster's writing talent keeps it from turning completely cheesy or stupid.

If you're looking for something to completely take your mind off of everything with no crazy plot twists nor complex characters, check this out.
