



# Under the Black Clouds

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*Having attained near total control of his Earthly elements, humanity perceives itself as a master without rival. Man ignores his roots. He forgets that he himself is part of the world.*

*How can we dare to challenge nature's raw powers when we still know little about this universe?*

*Yes, mankind managed to survive the first Flood. Given our technological advances, we might have been able to survive this Second flood too. But, this is no mere rain. Raw fury lurks within the depths. The water which sustained life for uncountable centuries has come to wipe the slate clean. Mankind, in his once unrivaled splendor, has forced to take shelter, no different than a colony of ants during a spring shower. This is the final chapter of man, unraveling before us as we stand powerless.*

But, there is a very small glimpse of hope. Daniel realizes it. He feels it. He sees it. He, his girlfriend Milena, and his friend Edward seek out the high ground as they wait for the waters to recede. However, as time passes, Daniel begins to understand that there is something strange in the water, an evil entity. He senses it - he feels it from within. Daniel knows that mankind is doomed. Evil has come with the rain. It has come for their souls.

**This time there will not be a second chance...**

## Under the Black Clouds Details


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## **From Reader Review Under the Black Clouds for online ebook**

### **Wendy says**

Actually, this book made me angry, right from the first pages. What was the editor, Haig Norian, doing? The Kindle version was littered with errors: formatting issues, grammatical problems, strange syntax, odd translation-like terminology. It was strange to have the hero, Dani, referred to as a 'boy' when he is clearly a man. I am sorry to be giving it such a negative review but if the writer could please go back, remove the Kindle version, add corrections, tighten up the narrative so that the story flows as fast as the water in the flood, then I will do a re-examination of the book. This book is written in English, but I do believe that the writer considers it as a second language. Full marks for trying as I think that is really tricky. But Suren, you really need someone who is an English editor to re-align your use of the language so that it makes more sense. At present, it doesn't. 'He couldn't even feel himself to drowning ...', '... he felt the singularity for the first time ...' 'Mirhan' spelt 'Mohran' later on, 'The boys got into the poor living-room', '... 'Take off your cloths quickly' '...violently and turbulently thrashing their forlorn hope ...' Trust me, there is such an error on every page. While the concept has potential and the cover is well-executed (is that the writer? Note - not a boy, but a man with facial hair), the story is ruined by a lack of craft and diligence in the writing. Just remember, as a writer, sparseness is preferable and what we all strive for in our books. Redundant words are no favor to your reader. And for heaven's sake - proof-read! I know this is hard and my own books have a few of things that have sneaked through but, for me at least, this book is rendered truly unreadable by its sloppiness. But, Suren, go back and re-edit with care. The concept is an interesting one especially in the light of the east coast superstorm.

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### **Terri Christie says**

This new twist on Noah and the Arc plays to the mind of the dark and wicked. When the rains begin all assume that it will stop by daybreak and the flooding will subside. When the rain grows stronger and the flooding has covered the 1st floor of his apartment building Daniel, Milena and Edward head out into the storm with a borrowed boat only to find themselves trapped in another apartment building. This battle between good and evil cannot be seen by the naked eye, what the water brings is not life but death.

I enjoyed this novel, great story line, really liking that Suren Fant chooses to bring religion into his plots. I can relate to the characters and their struggles to stay off the evil. I can tell that the book original format was not English and at times is difficult to understand the author's point.

Keep up the good work and thanks for the good read!

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### **Suren Hakobyan says**

This is a very deep book. It makes the reader to think about how he or she lives.

Man thinks he is the lord of Earth. But nature will no longer stand for man's excess, greed, and hubris.

In a single night, everything is wiped clean. No planes flying overhead. No radio signals. No light.

Everything is gone. The flood has erased every road, every house, and countless memories.

The book has been re-edited and has been republished on 7th of December.

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## **B says**

Suren gave me an e-copy of this book to read in return for an honest review.

I tip my hat to anyone who can sit down and write an entire book, so I applaud the effort.

I liked the concept of the book and the overall storyline, but some writing efforts made me feel distracted as I read.

First, the timeline. Right off the bat there are cliched references to the bible when all that is happening is a strong rain storm. This is happening as Daniel gets out of work and rushes to meet his girlfriend. An hour later the water is waist deep, the next morning it is to the second level of an apartment. Seems rushed. Same thing with when the three main characters get to the second building, the people they find their have names for what is going on, have picked leaders, the leaders are at differing ends of the spectrum, have sent out a rescue party, etc. This is all stuff that takes time to develop, but in the storyline, basically 12 hours have passed, and the rain is already up 20+ feet.

Second, there is no real developement of characters. I feel like the story is told to us instead of shown to us, if that makes sense. Instead of just telling us everything matter-of-factly, show us with description. To explain why the old fisherman didn't know it was raining, it was just said, "He watched TV till the electricity went out, then went to bed." It's almost an aside and just put in there to explain, but not really part of the story. This happens often. Also, Daniel seems bi-polar, and if this is the case, ok, play it up. One minute he seems to put his girlfriend in her place and be almost abusive, and then the next he is stunned by her beauty. Also, I didn't get that she was a virgin till well into the story, I thought she was just scared of Daniel.

I don't remember who the writer was, I think an Eastern European one, but I remember them saying that they would write an entire story, cut it in half, throw out the first half, and start fresh rewriting with the second half. I fell that would work best here. The storyline is being crunched to get into the point of the story, but then suffering for lack of detail and explanation.

Lastly, I like genre-bending books that can't be put in one category, but is this an end of world style book, a horror book, or a religious themed story? I feel that the end of world side of it could go further and the explanation of how the world is functioning and looks would be great, but still have the religious spin on it.

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## **Kenechi Udogu says**

I don't usually breakdown ratings when I review books but I have to this time. Why? I loved the story and it freaked me out so much that I had to occasionally look up to remind myself that it wasn't real. But (and this is a humongous but), whoever translated and edited the story massively let it down. In fact, if I wasn't hooked from pretty early on in the story, I would have dropped the book after a few chapters in. The edition I read was riddled with spelling and grammatical errors and additional random words that had no business

showing up where they did. If you can take a deep breath and ignore the editing, there is a fantastic story hidden in there. Sometimes it felt like there was a lot more narration than necessary but I was too caught up in finding out what would happen to Danny and his companions that I didn't really care. Despite the poor editing, I would read more from this author (but he needs to get someone else to read his translated work). So here's my breakdown as promised (out of 5):

Story/Plot – 5/5

Pacing/Writing – 3.5/5

Editing – 1/5 (someone needs to be fired)

Overall – 3/5

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### **Joan Spanser says**

The book is very intriguing. Daniel is determined young man I liked him. He is the one who never gives up. I like the way the author presents the mystical things in rainwater. He really has a good plot of imagination. The moment comes you think you know the end, but it's unexpected. I don't like the relationship between Daniel and Milena. It's weird however maybe because of that she's virgin. Anyway I think this is a good book to be read.

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### **Jakenv says**

This is a "black" story which drew me in for the long haul. Author has interesting plot line without your usual happy ending. Will read more from this author.

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### **Annleire says**

“Under the black clouds” mi è stato gentilmente regalato dalla sua autrice Suren Hakobyan, una scrittrice armena in cambio della mia recensione. Generalmente non dico mai di no ad un libro, io adoro leggere e mi interessa praticamente di tutto. Certo ho anche io delle preferenze, distopie e romance in primo luogo, ma generalmente non dico mai ad un libro che parla di soprannaturale. La trama di questo mi aveva incuriosita ma non avrei mai immaginato quello che poi mi sono trovata di fronte.

La storia è quella di Daniel che insieme alla sua ragazza Milena e il migliore amico/vicino di casa Edward si ritrova a vivere in una sorta di secondo diluvio universale che ha lo scopo di punire gli umani che si sono prese troppe libertà. Non c'è solo la pioggia e l'acqua che si va lentamente accumulando e che sembra essere dotata di una propria volontà ma anche strane creature che la abitano e che minacciano continuamente la vita dei pochi superstiti. Riusciranno Daniel e gli altri a salvarsi?

La Hakobyan ha avuto un'ottima intuizione. In un mondo, come il nostro, sempre più sconvolto da cambiamenti climatici imprevedibili e catastrofici quella di una alluvione di così immense dimensioni non è totalmente irrealizzabile. Certo il fatto che sia mandata da un essere superiore può essere non condivisibile

ma in linea di principio l'accanimento dell'uomo contro la natura può provocare eventi del genere. Ovviamente ci vuole l'eroe della situazione, il personaggio capace di correre in aiuto di una comunità irrimediabilmente spezzata, capace di affrontare il nemico più volte e uscirne vincitore in una battaglia che si fa sempre più accanita. Ma Daniel non è semplicemente il supereroe, l'uomo buono, la salvezza e un essere umano. Ed è proprio qui che sta uno dei punti forti della storia. Daniel è un uomo comune con tutti i suoi difetti e le sue mancanze, con una parte forte e una debole, con uno spirito che si può ergere a scudo. Ma è anche un uomo egoista, spinto dai suoi interessi personali che non sempre coincidono con il bene comune. Ma proprio per questo Daniel è vicino a chiunque. Ognuno di noi ha pregi e difetti che lo rendono unico e irripetibile.

Edward non è un personaggio ambiguo, anche perché ci sono delle incongruenze all'interno della vicenda. All'inizio ci viene presentato come un semplice vicino di casa e poi, quasi improvvisamente diventa il migliore amico di Daniel e quindi sono piuttosto scettica nei suoi riguardi. È un aiuto per il ragazzo ma in effetti ha un ruolo pressoché marginale e mi ha deluso molto il modo in cui si evolve la sua vicenda. E Milena? L'unica donna a volte sono rimasta sconvolta dalla sua debolezza e dalla sua ingenuità. Altre volte avrei voluto sbatterle la testa contro qualcosa per svegliarla. La sua storia d'amore con Daniel è molto tenera e intensa e da forza a tutti e due per affrontare il male che imperversa per la città devastata dal male. Purtroppo ho delle riserve. Prima di tutto un appunto: la Hakobyan ha scritto il libro nella sua lingua madre ed è stato poi tradotto in inglese. Questo ha fatto sì che nascessero delle incongruenze e degli errori che sono difficili da ignorare.

In secondo luogo la scrittrice narra la vicenda in terza persona, alternando la visione di Daniel a quella di Milena e Edward, anche se indubbiamente il protagonista è lui. Questo va ad appesantire la vicenda, già aggravata dall'uso di un linguaggio troppo formale, molto biblico e colloquiale che allontana ulteriormente il lettore. È difficile immedesimarsi nei personaggi perché il punto di vista è troppo lontano da loro e limitato. Non sono sempre pro prima persona ma in questo caso sentire Daniel narrare la vicenda avrebbe sicuramente dato una marcia in più ad una storia fin troppo cupa e catastrofica. Per non parlare della fine. Fine che non approvo minimamente e che mi ha distrutta ancora di più.

Il particolare da non dimenticare? Un albero...

Se vi piacciono le storie cupe, misteriose e piene di lotte di volontà contrastanti questo è il libro che fa per voi. La pioggia e il male la fanno da padroni.

Buona lettura guys!

Io ringrazio Suren Hakobyan per avermi concesso di leggere il suo libro in cambio della mia onesta opinione. Grazie.

Recensione anche sul mio blog:

<http://pleaseanotherbook.tumblr.com/p...>

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## **Vicki says**

I received a digital copy of "Beneath Blackened Clouds" by Suren Fant from the author in return for a honest review.

To start things off I should say that this story is a quite interesting take on the great flood from the Bible happening again and something else being the cause other than God's wrath.

This is how the story goes, Daniel, our main character, and his girlfriend Milena are on a date and the weather starts to turn bad, pouring down buckets of rain. So they decide to go home. Soon they arrive at Daniel's apartment, cold, wet and tired. They are both think that the rain will go away in the morning so they decide to go to bed, thinking nothing of it The problem is that the rain doesn't go away. It instead starts to rise and with it strange things start to happen. The water is unnaturally dark and seems to be able to affect a person's mind. Also there are things living in the water, things that are not meant for this world.

Due to the rising waters, they are forced to find a boat in which to get to higher ground before they are swept away, alongside other characters such as Edward, Daniel's best friend. I won't reveal much more for it does get worse for our band of characters, but at the same time more interesting. Also the ending is definitely is one that you wouldn't expect.

All in all, I have to say that this was a dark read, but a very good one. I would recommend it to anyone looking to read something out of the ordinary.

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### **Jola says**

Review also on [www.jolasbookshelf.wordpress.com](http://www.jolasbookshelf.wordpress.com)

It was an interesting story with a promising idea, but it felt rushed to me. I liked the references to the Bible, though I would like it more if the flood started more slowly. The main character, Daniel, wasn't very likable, but I think I get why he was written that way, especially considering the ending. 'Beneath Blackened Clouds' is a nice story, but needs a little more work to get it better.

Thanks to Suren Fant for sending me an ebook!

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### **Brenda Seaberg says**

This wasn't a knock-your-socks-off kind of book for me. The concept was great, so I was pleased with the uniqueness of the storyline. However while the book had some really good fast-moving spots for me, it seemed there were others where I felt mired down in details and just wasn't getting anywhere fast with my reading. I have lots of things going on right now in my life, so it's possible that it's just the timing for me reading this book. I did enjoy it enough, however, that I would look for more books by Suren.

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### **?Joycedale? says**

The blurb to this sounded really good but then I started it and Daniel was just a jerk. His mood swings reminded me of my bipolar friend when she was off her meds.

The world is flooding but of course they don't realize that at first. Daniel and Milena are on a date when they decide they should get home. They fight their way through the storm only to get stuck at Daniel's apartment. Daniel's best friend Edward lives in the building (which we don't find out that for awhile. I just thought they

was neighbors) and has the idea to get another neighbors boat and get to a taller building. They don't tell this neighbor what is going on because they don't want to be burdened with the older man. Daniel has to swim into the basement to get the inflatable boat and finds out its not just normal water.

Daniel excuses all the horrible things he does throughout the book saying its to protect Milena his love. It kind of came off as more a obsession than love. But even when Milena acknowledges that Daniel's not right shes still determined to stay by his side.

I do like the justified ending.

I was given this copy by the author in exchange for an honest review. Thank you.

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## **Cat says**

First of all, this book needs a good editor, as many of the errors I found are easy to fix (missing words, missing punctuation, unnecessary spaces, etc).

Other notes about this book that I didn't really enjoy:

- odd formal tone
- don't like that Daniel is referred to as 'the boy'
- repetitive or stating the obvious
- random tense changes, many of which are mid-sentence
- lack of flow
- zero chemistry between the two main characters
- story is too drawn out

The good news:

- the cover art is nice
- concept is interesting

Below are some notes I took while reading; I had to stop after awhile, since it was slowing me down too much and the errors are repetitive:

typo: "She could move hardly."

explanation unnecessary: "Sorry for the car," Daniel said, meaning their wet clothes, to the driver.

"It soon became difficulty to walk."

"frozen to the core frozen."

"an enchanting charm." doesn't quite make sense

pg 16 Old home phones don't require power signals, just phone lines - I guess this needs to be more specific. Also, should he be worried about all the food in the refrigerator going bad?

"They even avoided at each other"

Seriously has Milena never experienced a blackout before? It's only been a few hours and she's already in a



full-blown panic.

"don't such a decision at once."

"Night had again given today."

"Edward doesn't answer me" tense problem

"Lifeless, he was there."

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### **Alannah Clarke says**

I recieved this book from the author to review. There are a few small points that annoyed me a little. There was odd tone throughout the book that made it far too formal. I understand that the book has been translated to English but I felt the book was a bit repetitive plus the lack of chemistry between the two characters, which for me did ruin the book a little.

However, the concept of the book was really good, there was some good explanation but the errors did ruin it for me. I think another look by a different editor is needed for this one.

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### **Luc says**

This book was very surprising, autor created a very interesting dark story. I like it. Author keeps the the reader guessing long enough even though it comes to the moment when the reader knows what is happening. Suddenly the heroes come to the story.

Daniel is a hero whom you have to love. He is able to see the things with a cool head.

The book is written in a very easy understanding language and style. Its reading should not make any troubles even to beginner readers. This book is one of the books that are worth reading it.

I highly recommend the book to you.

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