



Death Storm

G.S. Wright

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A Dark Fantasy Zombie Apocalypse

A great evil descends upon the kingdom of Medanholm. A necromancer in the service of a fallen god leads an army of undead to extinguish all life. In the village of Briar's End, there are few survivors. They are scattered and hopelessly outnumbered, with dwindling options for sanctuary. Hidden away within their mountain temple, the gods are oblivious to the horror on their doorstep...

...and it's coming for them.

Death Storm is book 1 in the Hungry Gods series, a Dark Fantasy Zombie Apocalypse that brings the nightmare of Armageddon to a high fantasy world.

Death Storm Details

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Author : G.S. Wright

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Strange, I think to myself, how we have seen so much death in the wars and we know that two million of us have fallen in vain - how come we are so stirred up by this one man and have almost forgotten those two million? But that's just how it is, because one man is always the dead - and two million is always just a statistic.

Horror is not when a plague ravages a country on the other side of the world. Horror is when your wife dies of cancer. I need some kind of connection to the characters before I can feel horror at their demise, and everyone I had a connection to came through okay.

Well, mostly okay. It is a zombie apocalypse after all.

The perfunctory worldbuilding also meant that I was never sure why the zombie apocalypse was so successful. So, the gods not answering the cleric's undead attempt is a plot point, sure, but a few paragraphs after that the elf is using wizardry to incinerate dozens of zombies singlehandedly. Are wizards super rare, or stigmatized in some way, such that there aren't enough of them around to deal with the zombies? And on that note, the party of adventurers in the beginning holds the gates of Briar's End by themselves against a huge horde for quite a while, so the D&D trope of adventuring parties as wandering WMDs is in full effect. How come no other kingdom offered huge cash rewards for zombie bounties to draw adventurers down on the zombies? Why did the invasion even get this bad? This is a fantasy world with man-eating ogres and dark elf goblin queens, so it's not like "there's an army of marauding monsters" is the kind of unbelievable

Maybe there's an explanation for all this, but I don't have enough information to determine what it is.

Oh, and as another example of the great care and creativity put into the worldbuilding, the goddess of death is named "Calli." The god of undeath--and why is there even a god of undeath if there are only a hundred gods, anyway?--is named "Skul." There's some intimations that the gods were superpowerful wizards in Ye Olden Dayes who gave themselves divine powers which I actually kind of liked, which would imply that Skul is the creepy kid who thinks he's being edgy that no one really likes but everyone is too polite to actually kick out, but I'm getting this interpretation from *maybe* three lines of dialogue.

I did like the beginning, and I felt like the initial attack was pretty good at conveying the horror of a zombie attack from the Dorian's perspective even if I didn't care about his neighbors. But pretty soon he's smashing skulls and chopping off heads with nary a mental breakdown in sight, and then the book just devolves into to-hit rolls and aimed shots to the head.

I'll give it an extra star for the intimations of backstory and the the opening attack scene, but the rest of it is forgettable. I think it's possible to tell an interesting zombie apocalypse set in a fantasy world--for example, I'm hoping that *The Winds of Winter* finally gives us the zombies hordes that have been teased since *A Game of Thrones*--but *Death Storm* isn't it.

Michael Collins says

Okay, I'll admit, I'm over zombies. I have been for awhile and will pass by zombie lit with stunning speed. Yet I was intrigue with the premise of *Death Storm* so I decided to give it a chance. I was immediately sucked in and and disappointed when I hit the dreaded "end part 1". A highly enjoyable read into an immediately imaganitive and contagious world.

Sharon Stevenson says

'Death Storm' is the story of one necromancer and his undead army and the handful of survivors trying to figure out what's happening and stay alive.

This is an excellent zombie story, getting off to a start that hooked my attention instantly. It's a high fantasy novel with a brilliant horror twist. The characters were well written and there's a lot of edge-of-seat material in there. I was gripped quickly by the story and found it a fast read, well paced and action-packed.

There was nothing I didn't enjoy about this book! The bad guy was creepy, the good guys were thoroughly likeable, and everything felt believable so I just got absorbed in the story. This is the beginning of a series and I look forward to the next part.

Overall this is a fast-paced and thoroughly enjoyable start to what looks to be a well thought out and exciting series. I would recommend this to just about anyone as it has a little bit of everything; action, horror, fantasy, romance. An excellent zombie novel!

Jen says

Death Storm is a page turner of a novel. G.S. Wright places you right in the middle of the action as a zombie army marches through an old world kingdom. But this novel is not just a zombie story. Wright weaves the action with other fantastical creatures. But what really pulls you in are characters that you really care about.

Mike Pospichal says

Find your favorite reading chair, grab some food, and settle in. You're not going to want to go anywhere until you're done with this book. G.S. Wright does an amazing job of crafting a new world, placing you into it, and having it not be completely alien. You don't feel like an outsider watching people in a movie; you feel like the action is happening all around you. Go on, look out the window to double-check that there aren't zombies... This is a world with gods, giants, zombies, and yet, enough humanity to make sure that you can relate. There is fear, love, hope, joy, disappointment, but you never feel like any of those emotions were shoehorned in to advance the story. They what the characters are feeling. The characters are living things. Hopes and dreams, life getting in the way. They are relatable because even though they are being forced to do great things, they are not great. They are the everyman stuck into an awful situation. So, dive into a new world without fear that it is a derivative work. Explore something new, because here is at least one last world you haven't seen before.

Katy says

G.S. Wright has done it again! Another fantastic novel showing what an excellent story teller he is. Death Storm is so different than any other book I have read. It is a mixture that I would never have thought of. It's

unique but it has all the right elements to make this a fantastic read. It combines today's rage with zombies with old world kingdoms. It's a fantasy land with mythological gods and scary zombies. This book will have you on the edge of your seat but it's not all action, there is a love story and the love of family. This story has depth and shows the important things in life and the sacrifices that are made for loved ones. Death Storm has so much detail that you feel like you're in the action. G.S. Wright has an amazing ability of describing the senses. You can imagine the sounds and places easily but you can almost taste and smell it as well. That kind of detail really pulls you into this story. I did not want to put this book down starting with the very first page. My only complaint is that I have to wait for book two of this series.

Gemma Farrow says

Firstly this book is worth more than it's price and the ultimate read. I read it in a day, couldn't help myself, I absolutely love Death Storm, Book 1: Hungry Gods.

The writing is clear, concise and no word is wasted or over-used. Wright controls the story well, knowing what to bring in and when, his imagination is out there...merging Gods, spirits, people and zombies in a story line that would have failed terribly in the hands of a lesser writer. He gave the zombies their OWN god, Undeath, called Skul (this was a masterful stroke, I actually muttered WOW, as this was revealed).

The characters are well developed, believable and you actually care for them. My favourite characters are Dorian and Mykel (I love Mykel, and this worries me (you'll find out why when you read the book.)

Right now, moments after finishing the book, I still feel great sympathy and horror at Dorian's, current situation at the end of the book. I'm going to buy the next one, as I need to know what else awaits the mixed-bag of survivors who are living through the nightmare of Death Storm. A MUST read for horror lovers, zombie lovers, god lovers and let's not forget the spirits.

Julie Hillman says

Heroes and zombies

Dorian our reluctant hero needs to get the attention of the Gods in order to save the world from ravaging zombies. Unfortunately he gets the attention of the wrong one. No living creature will be spared. Lara the love of his life is fighting battles of her own to stay alive. Will they be reunited soon or will Taegar, the new hero on the block steal her heart? Fae , dwarves, ogres and more will keep you turning the pages to read what happens next.
