



Odd Billy Todd

N.C. Reed

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Billy Todd was always a bit different. Considered slow by many, his parents ensured that he was capable of taking care of himself. But they never considered that Billy would be left virtually alone by a pandemic that killed the majority of the world's population. Now, working with a handful of other survivors, Billy faces new challenges that will mean the difference between life and death, not only for himself, but for those around him.

Odd Billy Todd Details

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From Reader Review Odd Billy Todd for online ebook

Nevermore says

I have mixed feelings about this book. The author explains why there are the number of typos etcetera; regardless of WHY, I still think they should be cleaned up. On the plus side, the dialect was well done and I enjoyed it. I also enjoyed some of the day to day details. It was interesting to watch the community grow. On the negative side, I get sick of gun porn very fast: it is BORING to read list after list after list of guns and ammo. Not only do we have that gun porn here, we also have to go through just about every single person in the community getting gunned up. Please. Enough already. The pace dragged in places. Day to day detail is okay but don't leave me feeling like I am living through it in real time.

karl Chaplain says

What a book, didn't want it to end.
I very rarely read a book twice and
Usually if I do it's only skim reading to my favorite bits.
This book completely absorbed me so much so I gave up sleep to read on.

Don't know if I can read anymore dystopian novels as this pretty much
Nailed the whole genre.

Read it twice now and it still absorbs me.

Would love to see a sequel a there seems to be more stories for Billy.

Shanna_redwind says

I read this book when it was appearing in installments on the author's blog. I eagerly awaited each installment, desperately wanting to know what would happen next.

This is very much a day to day story of survival in a post apocalyptic setting, showing that the small things can be just as important as the big ones when it comes to surviving.

I'd recommend it to anyone who enjoys reading post apocalyptic survival stories.

Thomas Cook says

Enjoyed the premise, apocalyptic/survival

MsAliceP says

Survivalist fantasy. Ninety-five percent of population dies of a virus; those surviving come to a kill or be killed mode of living. Guns, guns, and more guns. The author clearly has a fixation on guns as he goes into minute detail about every make and model, how it shoots, the ammo it uses, etc., etc. I glossed over that to move the story along.

Initially Billy Todd is an interesting, well-developed character before the author descends into survivalist mode. By the middle of the book, the original Billy is only a faint memory and becomes more patriarchal and quietly dictatorial on each successive page.

Rhonda, his survivalist partner, begins as a strong character who is quick to voice her opinions. This strong character is slowly eroded by Billy's changing character.

I was reading this on my e-book reader when I was alerted to recharge my battery. Broke the spell I was under from the compelling story line, so I have been disinclined to return to it.

Patiscynical says

Y'all come back now, ya hear?

Another apocalypse book. In this one, a young man survives the plague and is worried that he may be the last person left alive. Billy Todd is a simple sort of southern man, who has an automobile repair shop in a small town. Billy had a learning disability, and most people thought he was slow, but he has some excellent skills perfectly suited for living through the apocalypse.

One thing I really liked was that this is a more or less 'book-length' book, and not part of a trilogy. (Something I wish more authors would try.)

This is set in rural Tennessee, and all the characters have a strong southern accent, something that occasionally gets on your nerves. Although if there were no tv or radio for a very long time, I expect that regional accents would become more pronounced. Being from Georgia I do hear southern accents, but I would have preferred a little less.

Anyway, it's a very decent first book. There were a few errors, but I could live with them. Results: although a little more colloquial than I would have liked, it's an interesting story.

Dman004 says

Good read

This was nothing short of a fun way to spend a weekend. Thanks for sharing this story with all of us.

Steven Sheeley says

To be honest I didn't want to put this book down and spent about 7 hours reading it almost non stop before

realising that i actually needed to get some sleep.

Unlike some authors N.C. Reed ensures that all of the characters in the book have a reason for being there and that there is consistent character growth throughout. Billy is the main character and is considered an Odd man who was "born out of his time" before the SHTF and most of the world is killed by a virus, however thanks to his parents training from the time he was young he is well prepared for the new world he finds himself in.

Over time people come to rely on him and lessons are learnt about the true value of a person. He is honest, hard working, fair and would do anything (and often proves it) for those he cares about and sees as family.

Well worth a first and second read.

Carol says

Very interesting book

I got lost in this book at the beginning, which means I hope the rest of the book would not disappoint. It did not. This was a post apocalyptic story, which revolved around one main character Billy Todd. After a plague destroyed the world and most of all the people, Billy was one of a few to survive. Even though he was known as "being slow", which was a stigma he carried throughout his life, he was destined to be a leader. His struggles with pain, mentally and physically was a problem he tried to overcome. However, being able to prepare himself as his parents had taught him, he was able to save a bunch of worthy people and start a brand new community with the help of others. Finding love, on top of gaining the respect of his neighbors, showed Billy the self respect that he had always craved.

Not only was this book very exciting during all the trials and tribulations of everyday life, but it was very helpful in teaching how to be ready for every possible turn of the day. Hopefully, this story would never happen in the U.S.A., but that's what Billy thought too!

There was only one criticism that I had for the book. There were a lot of misspelled words and grammatical mistakes. Even those idiosyncrasies did not keep me from continuously turning the pages.

I recommend this book highly.

Donna Bell says

Wow. Just wow.

Incredible that this was the authors' first work and he originally meant it to be a short story. The characters, the storyline completely captivated me. I've read a lot of apocalyptic novels, but I rank this one at the top of the list.

I too have some "Odd Billy Todd" characters in my life. Never underestimate them! Billy is a character I'll

never forget. No spoilers, but if you finish this story, you'll feel like celebrating afterwards. I did.

Debbie was another unforgettable character, because I could relate to her plight. Paxil, the devil's drug of choice. I was on it once. Managed to wean myself off it with no help, but I went through mortal hell in the process.

Overall this is one of the most suspenseful, realistic, and entertaining novels I've ever read. Since I've only read 25,000 or so, maybe I'm not an authority, but do believe I know a good book when I find one. This is it.

Marilyn Groves says

While I wait (impatiently) for book #6 of the Sanders Saga, someone suggested I read this stand-alone novel. I'm glad they did.

This one came close to five stars, which I rarely give. Great unusual characters, skillfully developed and a well thought out plot. Once I started reading this, I gave up on all my chores & just binge read the entire book. An excellent mix of prepper and post-apocalyptic story

Editing: some errors, rarely so glaring that it stops the flow of the book

Sex: Implied, not graphic

Violence: There is fighting, skirmishes, death. Only a couple scenes would I put into the possible gory category

Page Turning Factor: Extremely High

Other notes: I don't remember the cursing being a huge factor in the book - sure there was some, but not constant. Religion - yeah, Christianity/Bible was in there, but not so much that it will turn folks who don't like that theme against the book. More just a couple of paragraphs here and there, easy to skim/skip.

mckinsey lackenbacher says

Wow

New favourite author his stories are descriptive interesting and complete that is very satisfying to me ,thanks it's been a while

Lavonda says

Great book

I have read many books over my lifetime and this one goes right up there with the best. I didn't want it to end. I have read so many serial books on kindle and was beginning to think I'd never see a real novel without spending more money than I can afford. For the first time in a long time, I wish there was a sequel.

Pam Shelton-Anderson says

How refreshing to have a full-length book that is a stand-alone story as well. First my quibbles: Billy starts out as someone who has "challenges" and almost seems like a Forrest Gump-like person in the beginning of the story. It became clear that he had a learning disability and was not intellect challenged, but it became a little tedious how often the other characters had to comment on how amazing Billy was and how he could see solutions others could not. It was a bit surprising how many actually obvious solutions former soldiers, farmers etc missed until Billy said it. I also found it rather against the odds that so many people from one family and so many people from a group of friends would have survived this pandemic, especially in Franklin. There are also writing errors in grammar, word usage (read face instead of red face) and phraseology. It took me a bit to get used to what appears to be a regional dialect in Tennessee in the dialogue but there were a lot of phrasing and language issues outside of the dialogue. A good editor could have helped all that. While that all sounds negative, I found this to be a first rate story. It is not a high octane action novel but moves long as the characters have to figure out how to solve some problems and improvise and I really enjoyed that a lot. There is a lot of this gun vs that gun but some of the other items that they had to think about in the new environment was very interesting. While the gender roles tended to break down along somewhat traditional lines (very possible in a real scenario, I'm afraid), the women are also good at seeing and solving community problems. I would have loved to have given 5 stars, but the editing issues made that a tough call.

kendra bales says

This book drew me in and left me wanting more

I clicked on this book and went to read the description but ended up reading the about the author instead. N.C. Reed's personality drew me in and so I began to read this book. I fell in love with the characters and the story. It really had me thinking too, about what living in Billy Todd's world would be like. I was truly invested in his little ragtag community. Each struggle and battle, i was fascinated to see how they would get through it. I wish this was a series but then again i feel like it was exactly the right length. The only negative thing I have to say is that the book needed proofread a bit more. Lots of little spelling mistakes. But in closing I want to say, i will miss these characters and wonder how they are doing now. But isn't that what you want in a good book?
