



Infinity

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The story of four very special people and the man that brought them together, Infinity is an adventure book like no other. Enter a world where life is what you make of it, luck is subjective, and sometimes YOU are the only thing keeping you from going under.

Infinity Details

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Author : Ellen Louise Curtis , Matthew Robert Ledrew , Janelle Donahue (Editor)

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From Reader Review Infinity for online ebook

Jay Paulin says

Boiled down to its core, Infinity (Engen Books, 2010) is a story of good versus evil. Bad things are happening to a group of individuals and it's up to the plucky heroes (with 'powers' at that) to save the day. Sounds trite, doesn't it? In the hands of less talented writers, the answer would be 'Yes' but Ellen Curtis (Compendium) and Matthew LeDrew (the Black Womb saga) take this book into wonderfully deep waters.

Mere minutes after I finished the final page, I cracked open a notebook and scribbled my thoughts. There are two points in particular I wish to share here:

"The concept of the spiritual infinity is a powerful one – in scope and life direction. In each character and theme, I see hints at unity and duality. By having characters 'save the world' by (possibly) condemning themselves, we see heroes who cannot win. An endless, looping cycle: Infinity."

These two writers managed to wring out something powerful from many familiar elements. One possible way to describe the tale is X-Men for theology and psychology students.

The plot sees a shepherd of sorts help a few wayward youths realize their true potential and band together to save others from persecution and the world from the danger that lurks in the shadows – and in the hearts of men. Yes, that is a simplification of things but with so many interconnected threads, anything more would risk spoiling the fun of experiencing this novel first-hand.

As with the other Engen Books I've read so far, their usual strengths are out in full force: descriptions and pacing. Likewise, the occasional hiccoughs are also here: typographical errors, mostly. Furthermore, with so much happening, things did get a little overwhelming at times.

Thankfully, the speed bumps are few and far between and other aspects are taken to brand new heights to overshadow the flaws. The characters (even the minor, one-offs) are three-dimensional and each one's voices are spot-on. Finally, I must (again) mention the thoughtfulness and the care that went into the plot. For anyone looking for a thought-provoking thriller, this is mandatory reading. I rate this an extremely high 4/5.

Larry says

From 42webs.com

Quick survey: who wishes that they had a superpower? That's right – everybody does. We all want to have some supernatural ability. Whether it be the ability to fly, teleport, or even the all powerful brick-vision, we all wish we had some ability that put us above the average person.

But what would the world be like if we actually had them?

This is an issue that was examined in the latest book from Engen Publishing. The book, called Infinity, is penned by the Engen all-star team of Matthew LeDrew and Ellen Curtis. Infinity tells the tale of a small band of seemingly regular people who discover they are in fact nowhere near.

The book begins down a very traditional path, making sure to hit all of the required items on the ‘Urban Meta’ (42 Webs exclusive) genre checklist.

Enigmatic mentor: check

Mysterious School: Of course

Growing conspiracy: You betcha

The difference is in the writing skill of the two authors. In lesser hands the story could have become bland and uninteresting but with the skill wordmanship (I swear that’s a word) we have a stellar story that doesn’t feel old or rehashed. The building mystery of Victor, Port Haven and the growing conspiracy is touched on in the book just enough to wet your beak and leave you wanting more much like how Lost or Morning Glory would tantalize us.

A crucial scene in the story, and one of my favourite, is a poker scene. Without giving much away our characters are participating in a crucial poker game with the life of an innocent in the balance. The trouble with many card games in books is that they tend to be very dry and drag on, the inevitable importance and tension of the game lost to the details. Infinity manages to keep the tension strong while not letting the game go by the wayside. It felt reminiscent of Ian Flemming’s writing in Casino Royale.

One of the benefits, and strengths of this story, is how the written work was separated. The two authors each had their own character that came together as the story progressed. The benefit was that the characters felt entirely different. Some times when a writer creates multiple characters they have a tendency to blend together, to be similar and to sound identical to each other (Joss Whedon). With the two authors sharing the writing responsibilities we see a stronger variation in the characters.

Another notable plus with Infinity is the smoothness of how the two writing styles fuse with each other. Often with joint projects one person writing style dominates the other but that isn’t found here. LeDrew and Curtis writing styles compliment each other’s perfectly, their individual characters becoming the strength that counteracts the others weaknesses.

All in all a powerful book that tackles more issues then just powers and conspiracies, it also tackles issues like spiritual infinity and the responsibility of those with power. This is a must for fans of X-Men and similar titles.

S.S. Yasumi says

This book is an interesting and easy read. LeDrew and Curtis have created their own line of characters with super powers and I’m excited to see where they take it. This book lines up interesting potential and I’m eager to explore more.

The only aspect of this book that had me frowning was that some parts of it seemed rushed. There were some characters and situations I was just not pleased with because I didn’t feel I had sufficient story to understand or connect with them.

Overall the plot left many questions unanswered so I am looking forward to reading the next book to see what answers await me.

Stephen Clarrin says

I don't read a lot of this genre, but I may have to start. This book was more "literary" than most literary books I've read lately. It follows three separate plots that move quickly and seamlessly, and you never find yourself bored or questioning what's going on. There's great dialog and amazing characters, each of them unique and well-developed. These seem like people. Fully formed and three-dimensional each, especially Abby and Chad.

There are some great moments scattered throughout and an amazing ending. There are no wasted sentences in *Infinity...* Everything means something, and nothing is by accident, even if it isn't readily apparent on the first read.

In the contending for one of the best books published in 2010.

Chantal Connors says

Recommended by: Matt & Ellen

Pop sugar reading challenge : A book recommended by someone you just met

Allison ?hikes the bookwoods? says

I read this book since I'll be attending an author event with the co-authors next month. The plot was fairly interesting, but the book needed a lot more polishing. The characters were not well developed and there were many sections filled with inane details.

Erin says

I just finished this book and wow, was it ever amazing. It was different from what I expected but at the same time that was what impressed me the most. I can't believe how well you two managed to blend all of those story lines together and how well you did it. And the fact that you have a group of major characters running around and they're all fully developed believable people is incredible. It's not what I would normally pick up to read - a little gory at times and quite odd - but it's wonderful. Definitely a book I'd recommend to others and I'm looking forward to reading the next one.

(P.S. this is Amy Pond from Sci-Fi on the Rock)

Martin Kirk says

Been going to Hal-Con for a few years now, and have made it my mission to pick up as many Indie books as I can. I'm a huge comics and Batman fan, but beyond that I haven't read a lot of books, aside from what I was forced to in high school or University. But I'm finding things I like in these indie titles.

Point blank: *Infinity* is amazing. A great book. It's funny and exciting and I couldn't put it down. From start to finish, one of the best books I've ever read. Strong characters, a strong story, and some tight prose make this a must-read for any Hal-Con attendee.
